

Introduction- **"THEY NEVER SOUGHT IN VAIN, THAT SOUGHT THE LORD ARIGHT* BURNS* COTTER'S SAT. NIGHT**

1. Cornelius is the man who sought God, and found Him-
2. Today- few people seek God, and fewer seek him aright -too busy with worldly goods
3. With all our worldly wealth, we have a longing in our hearts for God, and unless that longing is cared for, we don't have to die to begin suffering the pains of the damned

I.- **THE PERSON OF CORNELIUS - Acts 10:1,2**

We need to know ourselves - get on five straight

A. **HIS NAME**

1. Cornelius- a simple Roman name - no great meaning that I could find- but
2. This was the family name of quite a distinguished family from Rome - high in nobility
3. No matter how noble, or how important, were it not for this account- we would not know of ~~it~~. *THIS MAN IN CAESAREA*

B. **HIS PROFESSION**

1. He was a Centurion of the band - an army of Italians in the Roman foreign legion
2. His command was very important- Caesarea was the military center of the area
3. This shows that a professional Soldier can find God- and that God receives such. *WE NEED SOLDIERS - AND POLICEMEN -*

C. **HIS CHARACTER**

1. **Devout**- real piety- and outside the pale of the Church, or Judaism- many good people are!
2. **Feared God**- "with all his home" The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom-
3. **gave alms**- Put his piety and reverence into action-

II.- **THE PRAYER OF CORNELIUS - Acts 10:31, 2**

We need to know to pray NP- 24hr Clean God Prayer, Chain

A. **HIS PRAYER**

1. v.2 states that his custom was to pray to God alway- If you will find God - this is a must
2. What special prayer was answered?- v.31- He had power, wealth, security, what more?
3. He was not satisfied with his present spiritual condition - are you?

B. **HIS PERSISTANCE**

1. He kept on praying- and added fasting (30) self denial- have you?
2. He always supported his praying with giving of alms - not church tithe-offerings-but alms
3. God could not ignore this combination- Jer 29:13-When ye shall search for me with all thy heart.

B. **HIS VISION**

1. He recognized the angel- and acknowledged him- and the angel said "Thy prayer is heard"
2. The angel gave him another job to do- send to Joppa- Like Naaman in OT- more obedience!
3. "He will tell you what to do"- God leads step at a time- don't blame Him if you refuse some very simple step, and loose your way.

III.- **THE MESSAGE TO CORNELIUS 34,35,43**

Will God communicate with us today?

A. **GOD IS NO RESPECTOR OF PERSONS- v.34**

1. Rank, parentage, wealth, wisdom, power in world, especially the arrogant one that demands
2. If you don't seek God personally- and the right way- you will die in your sins! - *Selfishness*
3. Some throw a twist on this matter of respect of persons- being poor, ignorant, etc-gains nothing either!

B. **GOD ACCEPTS THOSE WHO FEAR HIM AND DO RIGHTEOUSNESS V.35**

1. Lacking in many hearts today is the respect for God- If you don't respect God's officers-?
2. There must be a knowledge of righteousness- and a desire to do it- else no repentance-
3. In every nation- God has those who are accepted with Him - do you meet his conditions?

C. **43 WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM SHALL RECEIVE REMISSION OF SINS -**

1. Peter preached peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ- v. 36 *greater opportunity to find God today than Cornelius had - But you must seek Him*
2. If your piety, and good works stop short of this only way to salvation- you are lost!
3. Their hearts were so prepared that they accepted Christ- and were gloriously saved!

And after salvation there is still something to seek- Col 3:1 *Selfish things which are lost-*

Concl. **GOD IS THE SAME TODAY* OUR NEEDS ARE THE SAME* BUT TOO MANY OF US FAIL TO SEEK GOD!**

1. The wrath of our age, grasping after material goods, security- etc- all is lost if we fail to seek God.
2. Come to the Lord today- the way He is found of men- *A Moses "Peter" will show you the way -*
3. If you are a Christian- you can still seek a closer walk- the same way!

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How To Seek God
1 - Be devout
2 - Trust God
3 - Give much alms
4 - Pray always
5 - Fast (v.30)
6 - Obey what you know
Special treatment!