

Acts 10:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him,
Behold, three men seek thee.

Analysis

While Peter thought on the vision of clean and unclean animals, 'the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.' The Spirit's direct speech shows His personal agency in guiding the church. The timing was perfect - while Peter pondered the vision's meaning, messengers from Cornelius arrived. Reformed theology sees God's providence synchronizing Peter's preparation with the Gentiles' approach. The Spirit orchestrated both the vision and the visitors to prepare Peter for this watershed moment in salvation history - the gospel going officially to Gentiles.

Historical Context

This occurred in Joppa circa AD 40-41 at the house of Simon the tanner. The three men had traveled from Caesarea (30+ miles) at Cornelius's direction following his angelic vision. God was working simultaneously in both Jew and Gentile to bring them together.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does the Spirit's direct guidance demonstrate His personal involvement in the church's mission?
2. What does the timing of the vision and the visitors teach about God's providence?
3. Why was this moment crucial in salvation history and the church's understanding of the gospel?

Interlinear Text

τοῦ δὲ Πέτρου ἐνθυμουμένου περὶ τοῦ ὁράματος εἶπεν
G3588 **While** G1161 **Peter** G4074 **thought** G1760 **on** G4012 G3588 **the vision** G3705 **said** G2036

αὐτῷ τὸ πνεῦμα ἰδοὺ, ἄνδρες τρεῖς ζητοῦσιν σε
unto him G846 G3588 **the Spirit** G4151 **Behold** G2400 **men** G435 **three** G5140 **seek** G2212 **thee** G4571

Additional Cross-References

Acts 8:29 (Spirit): Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot.

Acts 11:12 (Spirit): And the Spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house:

Acts 21:4 (Spirit): And finding disciples, we tarried there seven days: who said to Paul through the Spirit, that he should not go up to Jerusalem.

Acts 13:2 (Spirit): As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

1 Corinthians 12:11 (Spirit): But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

John 16:13 (Spirit): Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

1 Timothy 4:1 (Spirit): Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

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