

Acts 10:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what is the cause wherefore ye are come?

Analysis

Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what is the cause wherefore ye are come? Peter's immediate, direct response demonstrates readiness to embrace God's revealed will, transitioning from vision's perplexity to obedient action.

Historical Context

This encounter around 40 CE marked Christianity's watershed moment—apostolic recognition of Gentile inclusion without requiring Jewish conversion. Cornelius, Roman centurion, represented Gentile God-fearers attracted to Judaism but excluded from full participation. Peter's willingness to engage these Gentile messengers showed immediate application of rooftop vision's lesson.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does immediate obedience to divine revelation demonstrate genuine submission to God's will?
2. What role does direct communication play in clarifying God's purposes?
3. In what ways did Peter's vision prepare him for this encounter?
4. How should believers respond when God's direction challenges cultural or religious traditions?
5. What does Peter's openness teach about flexibility when God reveals new understanding?

Interlinear Text

καταβὰς	δὲ	Πέτρος	πρὸς	ἣ	ἄνδρας	ἣ	
went down	Then	Peter	to	which	the men	which	
G2597	G1161	G4074	G4314	G3588	G435	G3588	
ἀπεσταλμενοῦς	ἀπὸ	ἣ	Κορνηλίου	πρὸς	αὐτὸν,	εἶπεν	
were sent	from	which	Cornelius	to	him	and said	
G649	G575	G3588	G2883	G4314	G846	G2036	
Ἰδού,	ἐγώ	εἰμι	ἣν	ζητεῖτε·	τίς	ἣ	αἰτία
Behold	I	am	he whom	ye seek	what	which	is the cause
G2400	G1473	G1510	G3739	G2212	G5101	G3588	G156
δι'	ἣν	πάρεστε					
wherefore	he whom	ye are come					
G1223	G3739	G3918					