

Acts 10:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing,

Analysis

And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, Cornelius's account establishes chronology while emphasizing spiritual disciplines (fasting, prayer) that preceded angelic visitation.

Historical Context

Four days ago traces timeline: Day 1—Cornelius's vision; Day 2—messengers travel to Joppa; Day 3—Peter's vision, departure with messengers; Day 4—arrival in Caesarea. The ninth hour (3 PM) coincided with Jewish afternoon prayer time, showing Cornelius's integration of Jewish spiritual practices. Bright clothing indicated angelic being. This testimony around 40 CE validated divine initiative in bringing gospel to Gentiles.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How do spiritual disciplines (fasting, prayer) prepare hearts for divine revelation?
2. What role does precise chronology play in establishing event's historical reliability?
3. In what ways does God honor sincere spiritual seeking even outside covenant community?
4. How should believers maintain spiritual practices while awaiting God's direction?
5. What does angelic appearance emphasize about this event's divine orchestration?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ὁ Κορνήλιος ἔφη Ἀπὸ τετάρτης ἡμέρας μέχρι¹
And G3588 Cornelius said ago Four days until
G2532 G2883 G5346 G575 G5067 G2250 G3360

ταύτης τῆς ὥραν ἦμην νηστεύων, καὶ τὴν ἐννάτην
G3778 G3588 hour I was fasting And G3588 at the ninth
G5610 G2252 G3522 G2532 G1766

ὥραν προσευχόμενος ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ μου καὶ ἰδού, ἀνὴρ
hour I prayed in house me And behold a man
G5610 G4336 G1722 G3624 G3450 G2532 G2400 G435

ἔστη ἐνώπιόν μου ἐν ἐσθῆτι λαμπρῷ
stood before me in clothing bright
G2476 G1799 G3450 G1722 G2066 G2986

Additional Cross-References

Acts 10:3 (Parallel theme): He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

Acts 1:10 (Parallel theme): And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

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