

Notes on the Greek New Testament
Week 42 – Acts 10:9-43

Day 206: Acts 10:9-16**Verse 9**

Τῇ δὲ ἐπαύριον ὁδοιπορούντων ἐκείνων καὶ τῇ πόλει ἐγγιζόντων ἀνέβη Πέτρος ἐπὶ τὸ δῶμα προσεύξασθαι περὶ ὥραν ἕκτην.

ἐπαυριον the next day
ὁδοιπορεω travel, be on a journey
ἐγγιζω approach, draw near
ἀνέβη Verb, aor act indic, 3 s ἀναβαινω
go up, come up
δωμα, ατος n roof, housetop

A quiet place for prayer

περὶ ὥραν ἕκτην 'about the sixth hour' i.e. noon

If those sent by Cornelius had set out first thing in the morning they would have arrived about noon.

Verse 10

ἐγένετο δὲ πρόσπεινος καὶ ἤθελεν γεύσασθαι· παρασκευαζόντων δὲ αὐτῶν ἐγένετο ἐπ' αὐτὸν ἕκστασις, πρόσπεινος, ον hungry

Here alone in the NT. Thought to be a medical term.

ἤθελεν Verb, imperf act indic, 3 s θελω
wish, will
γευομαι taste, eat
παρασκευαζω prepare, prepare a meal
ἕκστασις, εως f amazement, trance,
vision

Verse 11

καὶ θεωρεῖ τὸν οὐρανὸν ἀνεωγμένον καὶ καταβαίνον σκευὸς τι ὡς ὀθόνην μεγάλην τέσσαρσιν ἀρχαῖς καθιέμενον ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς, θεωρεω see

The historic present is rare in Luke.

ἀνεωγμένον Verb, perf pass ptc, m acc & n
nom/acc s ἀνοιγω open
καταβαίνον Verb, pres act ptc, n nom/acc s
καταβαινω come or go down
σκευος, ους n object, thing, vessel
ὀθονη, ης f large piece of cloth
μεγας, μεγαλη, μεγα large, great
τέσσαρες neut τέσσαρα gen τεσσαρων
four
ἀρχη, ης f corner (of a cloth)
καθημι let down, lower

Verse 12

ἐν ᾧ ὑπήρχεν πάντα τὰ τετράποδα καὶ ἔρπετὰ τῆς γῆς καὶ πετεινὰ τοῦ οὐρανοῦ.

ὑπαρχω be (equivalent to εἶμι)
τετραπουν, ποδος n four-footed animal,
animal

ἔρπετον, ου n reptile
πετεινον, ου n bird

Cf. Gen 6:20 for a similar division of the animal world.

Verse 13

καὶ ἐγένετο φωνὴ πρὸς αὐτόν, Ἄναστάς, Πέτρε, θύσον καὶ φάγε.

θυω slaughter, sacrifice, kill
φάγε Verb, aor act imperat, 2 s ἐσθιω and
ἐσθω eat, consume

Verse 14

ὁ δὲ Πέτρος εἶπεν, Μηδαμῶς, κύριε, ὅτι οὐδέποτε ἔφαγον πᾶν κοινὸν καὶ ἀκάθαρτον.

μηδαμως adv no, by no means
οὐδέποτε never
ἔφαγον Verb, aor act indic, 1s & 3pl ἐσθιω
κοινος, α, ον common, in common,
profane, unclean
ἀκαθαρος, ον unclean

Verse 15

καὶ φωνὴ πάλιν ἐκ δευτέρου πρὸς αὐτόν, Ἄ ὁ θεὸς ἐκαθάρισεν σὺ μὴ κοίνου.

καθαρίζω cleanse, make clean, purify
κοινοω make unclean, call unclean

"The *present* imperative implies that he is not to go on doing what he is already doing."
Bruce.

"In Lev 20:24b-26 the laws of clean and unclean are linked precisely to Israel's separation from the rest of the nations. The Jewish food laws presented a real problem for Jewish Christians in the outreach to Gentiles. One simply could not dine in a Gentile's home without inevitably transgressing those laws either by consumption of unclean flesh or flesh that had not been prepared in a kosher, i.e., ritually proper, fashion (cf. Acts 15:20). Jesus dealt with the problem of clean and unclean, insisting that external things like foods did not defile a person but the internals of heart and speech and thought render one truly unclean (Mark 7:14-23). In Mark 7:19b Mark added the parenthetical comment that Jesus' saying ultimately declared all foods clean. This was precisely the point of Peter's vision: God declared the unclean to be clean. In Mark 7 Jesus' teaching on clean/unclean was immediately followed by his ministry to a Gentile woman (7:24-30), just as Peter's vision regarding clean and unclean foods was followed by *his* witness to a Gentile. It is simply not possible to fully accept someone with whom you are unwilling to share in the intimacy of table fellowship. The early church had to solve the problem of kosher food laws in order to launch a mission to Gentiles. Purity distinctions and human discrimination are of a single piece." Polhill.

Verse 16

τοῦτο δὲ ἐγένετο ἐπὶ τρεῖς, καὶ εὐθὺς ἀνελήμφθη τὸ σκεῦος εἰς τὸν οὐρανόν.

τρεις three times

ἀνελήμφθη Verb, aor pass indic, 3 s

ἀναλαμβάνω take up, carry

Day 207: Acts 10:17-23a

Verse 17

Ὡς δὲ ἐν ἑαυτῷ διηπόρει ὁ Πέτρος τί ἂν εἴη τὸ ὄραμα ὃ εἶδεν, ἰδοὺ οἱ ἄνδρες οἱ ἀπεσταλμένοι ὑπὸ τοῦ Κορνηλίου διερωτήσαντες τὴν οἰκίαν τοῦ Σίμωνος ἐπέστησαν ἐπὶ τὸν πυλῶνα,

διαπορεω be very confused, wonder

ὄραμα, τος n vision, sight

εἶδεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s ὄραω see

ἀπεσταλμένοι Verb, perf pass ptc, m nom pl

ἀποστελλω send

διερωτάω learn by enquiry

ἐπέστησαν aor ἐφίστημι come up to

πυλῶν, ὠνος m gate, entrance

Verse 18

καὶ φωνήσαντες ἐπυνθάνοντο εἰ Σίμων ὁ ἐπικαλούμενος Πέτρος ἐνθάδε ξενίζεται.

πυνθανομαι inquire, ask, question

ἐπικαλεω call, name

ἐνθάδε adv here, to this place

ξενίζω see v.6

Verse 19

τοῦ δὲ Πέτρου διενθυμούμενου περὶ τοῦ ὄραματος εἶπεν [αὐτῷ] τὸ πνεῦμα, Ἴδοὺ ἄνδρες τρεῖς ζητοῦντές σε·

διενθυμεομαι think over, try to understand

For similar communication by the Holy Spirit cf. 8:26; 16:7; 19:21; 20:23.

τρεις, τρια gen τριων dat τρισιν three

One ancient manuscript (B) reads δυο rather than τρεις. This more difficult reading (in the light of v.7) is preferred by Ropes, who suggests that the two servants alone may be thought of as responsible messengers, the soldier acting as a guard.

ζητεω seek, search for

Verse 20

ἀλλὰ ἀναστὰς κατάβηθι καὶ πορεύου σὺν αὐτοῖς μηδὲν διακρινόμενος, ὅτι ἐγὼ ἀπέσταλκα αὐτούς.

καταβηθι aor imperat καταβαινω come or go down, descend

διακρινω judge; midd & aor pass doubt, hesitate.

ἀπέσταλκα Verb, perf act indic, 1 s

ἀποστελλω

Verse 21

καταβάς δὲ Πέτρος πρὸς τοὺς ἄνδρας εἶπεν, Ἴδοὺ ἐγὼ εἰμι ὃν ζητεῖτε· τίς ἢ αἰτία δι· ἦν πάρεστε;

αἰτια, ας f reason, cause, accusation, guilt

παρεῖμι be present

Verse 22

οἱ δὲ εἶπαν, Κορνήλιος ἑκατοντάρχης, ἀνὴρ δίκαιος καὶ φοβούμενος τὸν θεὸν μαρτυρούμενός τε ὑπὸ ὄλου τοῦ ἔθνους τῶν Ἰουδαίων, ἐχρηματίσθη ὑπὸ ἀγγέλου ἁγίου μεταπέμψασθαί σε εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ καὶ ἀκοῦσαι ῥήματα παρὰ σοῦ.

μαρτυρεω bear witness; pass be well spoken of

ἔθνος, ους n nation, people

χρηματιζω warn, direct, reveal

Used of instruction by God.

μεταπεμπομαι send for, summon
 ῥημα, ατος n word, thing, matter

Cf. 11:14.

Verse 23a

εἰσκαλεσάμενος οὖν αὐτούς ἐξένισεν.

εἰσκαλεομαι invite in

ξενιζω see v.6

Day 208: Acts 10:23b-29

Verse 23b

Τῇ δὲ ἐπαύριον ἀναστὰς ἐξῆλθεν σὺν αὐτοῖς, καὶ τινες τῶν ἀδελφῶν τῶν ἀπὸ Ἰόππης συνῆλθον αὐτῷ.

ἐπαυριον the next day

According to 11:12, six men from Joppa accompanied Peter.

συνερχομαι come or go with, accompany

Verse 24

τῇ δὲ ἐπαύριον εἰσηλθεν εἰς τὴν Καισάρειαν· ὁ δὲ Κορνήλιος ἦν προσδοκῶν αὐτούς, συγκαλεσάμενος τοὺς συγγενεῖς αὐτοῦ καὶ τοὺς ἀναγκαίους φίλους.

"They set out for Caesarea on the third day; there were ten altogether, and, travelling more slowly than the three messengers had done on the second day, they arrived at Caesarea on the fourth day: cf. ver. 30." Bruce.
 Many MSS read εἰσηλθον rather than εἰσηλθεν.

προσδοκαω wait, wait for, expect

συγκαλεω call together; midd call to oneself

συγγενης, ους m relative, kinsman

ἀναγκαιος, α, ον close (of friends)

φιλος, ου m friend

Verse 25

ὡς δὲ ἐγένετο τοῦ εἰσελθεῖν τὸν Πέτρον, συναντήσας αὐτῷ ὁ Κορνήλιος πεσὼν ἐπὶ τοὺς πόδας προσεκύνησεν.

ὡς δὲ ἐγένετο τοῦ εἰσελθεῖν In the NT this constuction is found only here and in some mss at 2:1.

συνανταω meet

πεσων Verb, aor act ptc, m nom s πιπτω fall, fall down

πόδας Noun, acc pl πους, ποδος m foot
 προσκυνεω worship, fall at another's feet

"The verb is used of paying homage to someone of whom a favour is being asked: cf Mt 8:2; 9:18; 15:25; 18:26; 20:20." Bruce

Verse 26

ὁ δὲ Πέτρος ἤγειρεν αὐτὸν λέγων, Ἀνάστηθι· καὶ ἐγὼ αὐτὸς ἄνθρωπός εἰμι.

ἐγειρω raise

ἀνάστηθι Verb, aor act imperat, 2 s

ἀνιστημι rise, stand up

Verse 27

καὶ συνομιλῶν αὐτῷ εἰσηλθεν, καὶ εὕρισκει συνεληλυθότας πολλοὺς,

συνομιλεω talk with

συνεληλυθότας Verb, perf act ptc, m acc pl

συνερχομαι see v.23

Verse 28

ἔφη τε πρὸς αὐτούς, Ὑμεῖς ἐπίστασθε ὡς ἀθέμιτόν ἐστιν ἀνδρὶ Ἰουδαίῳ κολλᾶσθαι ἢ προσέρχεσθαι ἄλλοφύλῳ· κἀμοὶ ὁ θεὸς ἔδειξεν μηδένα κοινὸν ἢ ἀκάθαρτον λέγειν ἄνθρωπον·

ἔφη Verb, imperf act ind, 3s φημι say

ἐπίσταμαι know, understand

ἀθεμιτος, ον forbidden

κολλᾶσθαι Verb, pres pass infin

κολλαομαι unite oneself with

προσερχομαι come or go to, associate with

ἄλλοφυλος, ον foreign

Entry into a Gentile house would render a Jew unclean (cf. Jn 18:28).

καμοι abbreviated form of και ἐμοι and to me, also to me

ἔδειξεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s δεικνυμι show, reveal

κοινων ἢ ἀκάθαρτον see v.14

Verse 29

διὸ καὶ ἀναντιρρήτως ἦλθον μεταπεμφθεῖς. πυνθάνομαι οὖν τίνι λόγῳ μετεπέμψασθέ με;

διο therefore, for this reason

ἀναντιρρητως adv without objection or hesitation

μεταπεμπομαι send for, summon

πυνθανομαι inquire, ask, question

τίνι λογῳ 'why', 'for what reason'.

Day 209: Acts 10:30-38**Verse 30**

καὶ ὁ Κορνήλιος ἔφη, Ἀπὸ τετάρτης
ἡμέρας μέχρι ταύτης τῆς ὥρας ἤμην τὴν
ἐνάτην προσευχόμενος ἐν τῷ οἴκῳ μου,
καὶ ἰδοὺ ἀνὴρ ἕστη ἐνώπιόν μου ἐν ἐσθῆτι
λαμπρῷ

τεταρτος, η, ον fourth (ἀπο τ. ἡμερας
three days ago or perhaps four days
ago)

μεχρι until

The most natural sense of *μεχρι ταυτης της ωρας* would be 'until this very hour', but in context this is impossible. The phrase must mean 'at this very hour' though this is a strange use of *μεχρι*. Rather than *τὴν ἐνάτην* the TR reads *νηστευων και την ἐνάτην* which gives the sense, 'From the fourth day until this hour I was fasting, and while keeping the ninth hour of prayer in my house...'

ἐνατος, η, ον ninth
ἐνωπιον prep with gen before
ἐσθης, ητος f clothing
λαμπρος, α, ον bright, shining

Verse 31

καὶ φησὶν, Κορνήλιε, εἰσηκούσθη σου ἡ
προσευχή καὶ αἱ ἐλεημοσύναι σου
ἐμνήσθησαν ἐνώπιον τοῦ θεοῦ.

φησὶν Verb, pres act indic, 3 s φημι say
εἰσακουω hear (of prayer)
ἐλεημοσυνη see v.2
ἐμνήσθησαν Verb, aor pass dep indic, 3 pl
μιμνησκομαι remember, call to mind

Cf. v.4.

Verse 32

πέμπων οὖν εἰς Ἰόππην καὶ μετακάλεσαι
Σίμωνα ὃς ἐπικαλεῖται Πέτρος· οὗτος
ξενίζεται ἐν οἰκίᾳ Σίμωνος βυρσέως παρὰ
θάλασσαν.

πεμπω send
μετακαλομαι send for, summon, invite
ἐπικαλεω call, name, surname
ξενιζεται ... see v.6
βυρσευς, εως m tanner, leather worker
θαλασσα, ης f sea

Verse 33

ἔξαυτῆς οὖν ἔπεμψα πρὸς σέ, σύ τε καλῶς
ἐποίησας παραγενόμενος. νῦν οὖν πάντες
ἡμεῖς ἐνώπιον τοῦ θεοῦ πάρεσμεν ἀκοῦσαι
πάντα τὰ προστεταγμένα σοι ὑπὸ τοῦ
κυρίου.

ἔξαυτης adv immediately, at once

"σου δε καλως παραγενομενος 'you were so
kind as to come', an expression of thanks."

Bruce

παρειμι be present

προστεταγμένα Verb, perf pass ptc, n
nom/acc pl προστασσω command,
order

Verse 34

Ἀνοίξας δὲ Πέτρος τὸ στόμα εἶπεν, Ἐπὶ
ἀληθείας καταλαμβάνομαι ὅτι οὐκ ἔστιν
προσωπολήμπτης ὁ θεός,

ἀνοιγω open

στομα, τος n mouth

The phrase is used to introduce a solemn
utterance.

ἀληθεια, ας f truth; ἐπ ἀληθειας 'of a
truth', truly

καταλαμβανω midd. realize, understand
προσωπολημπτης, ου m one who shows
favoritism

"The only NT example of *προσωπολημπτης*, and its earliest known occurrence in Greek literature. This and kindred words are confined to Biblical and ecclesiastical Gk.: cf. Rom 2:11; Eph 6:9; Col 3:25; Jas 2:1; 1 Peter 1:17... They represent Heb. *nasa panim*, 'to lift (someone's) face', i.e., to show favour, and hence in a bad sense, to show favouritism. This was literally rendered *προσωπον λαμβανω*, cf. Lk 20:21; Gal 2:6; and in LXX cf. Dt 10:17 (ὁ θεος ... ὅστις οὐ θαυμάζει προσωπον); Ps 82:2 (LXX 81), *προσωπα ἁμαρτωνων λαμβανετε*." Bruce

Verse 35

ἀλλ· ἐν παντὶ ἔθνει ὁ φοβούμενος αὐτὸν
καὶ ἐργαζόμενος δικαιοσύνην δεκτὸς αὐτῷ
ἐστιν.

φοβεομαι fear, reverence

ἐργαζομαι work, do, perform

δικαιοσυνη, ης f righteousness, what is
right

δεκτος, η, ον acceptable, favourable

"The early church fathers struggled with the question of faith and works in Cornelius, and perhaps Augustine's view offers as good an answer as any. Cornelius, like Abraham, had shown himself to be a man of faith and trust in God. God was already working his grace in him, and it manifested itself in good deeds. Now God would show him his greatest grace in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the gift of the Spirit. The stress on both Cornelius's devoutness *and* his works is perhaps, then, a good corrective to an abused doctrine of grace with no implications for behaviour and a reminder of James's dictum that at base, faith and works are inseparable." Polhill

Verse 36

τὸν λόγον [ὄν] ἀπέστειλεν τοῖς υἱοῖς Ἰσραὴλ εὐαγγελιζόμενος εἰρήνην διὰ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ – οὗτός ἐστιν πάντων κύριος –

Without ὄν the sense is 'He sent his word to the children of Israel, proclaiming peace through Jesus Christ – He is Lord of all.' If ὄν is included (following κ C D E byz ...) the sense is 'As for the word which the Lord of all sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ, you know...'

ἀπέστειλεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s
ἀποστελλω send

τοῖς υἱοῖς Ἰσραὴλ the Gospel was sent to the Jew first – but is also for the Gentile.

εὐαγγελίζω act. and midd proclaim the good news
εἰρήνη, ης f peace

Verse 37

ὑμεῖς οἴδατε, τὸ γενόμενον ῥῆμα καθ' ὅλης τῆς Ἰουδαίας, ἀρξάμενος ἀπὸ τῆς Γαλιλαίας μετὰ τὸ βάπτισμα ὃ ἐκήρυξεν Ἰωάννης,

Cf. 26:26 for similar insistence that Jesus' ministry was a matter of public knowledge.

γενόμενον Verb, aor ptc, m acc & n nom & acc s γινομαι
ῥῆμα, ατος n word, thing, matter
καθ' ὅλης throughout the whole of
ἀρξάμενος Verb, aor midd ptc, m nom s
ἀρχω midd begin
ἐκηρύξεν aor κηρυσσω preach, proclaim

Verse 38

Ἰησοῦν τὸν ἀπὸ Ναζαρέθ, ὡς ἔχρισεν αὐτὸν ὁ θεὸς πνεύματι ἁγίῳ καὶ δυνάμει, ὃς διήλθεν εὐεργετῶν καὶ ἰωμενος πάντας τοὺς καταδυναστευομένους ὑπὸ τοῦ διαβόλου, ὅτι ὁ θεὸς ἦν μετ' αὐτοῦ.

χρισω anoint

I.e. his baptism.

διερχομαι pass through, go
εὐεργετεω do good
ἰωμενος Verb, pres midd/pass dep ptc, m nom s ἰαομαι heal
καταδυναστευω oppress

Found only here and in Jas. 2:6.

διαβολος, ου m the devil

Day 210: Acts 10:39-43**Verse 39**

καὶ ἡμεῖς μάρτυρες πάντων ὧν ἐποίησεν ἔν τε τῇ χωρᾷ τῶν Ἰουδαίων καὶ [ἐν] Ἱερουσαλήμ· ὃν καὶ ἀνεῖλαν κρεμάσαντες ἐπὶ ξύλου.

χωρα, ας f country, region
ἀνεῖλαν Verb, aor act indic, 3 pl ἀναιρεω kill, destroy
κρεμάσαντες Verb, aor act ptc, m nom pl κρεμαννυμι hang
ξύλον, ου n wood, tree, cross

Cf. 5:30

Verse 40

τοῦτον ὁ θεὸς ἤγειρεν [ἐν] τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτὸν ἐμφανῆ γενέσθαι, ἔδωκεν Verb, aor act indic, 3 s διδωμι ἐμφανης, ες visible, revealed

Verse 41

οὐ παντὶ τῷ λαῷ ἀλλὰ μάρτυσιν τοῖς προκεχειροτονημένοις ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ, ἡμῖν, οἵτινες συναράγομεν καὶ συνεπίομεν αὐτῷ μετὰ τὸ ἀναστήναι αὐτὸν ἐκ νεκρῶν· λαος, ου m people, a people
μαρτυς, μαρτυρος dat pl μαρτυσιν m witness
προκεχειροτονημένοις Verb, pref pass ptc, m/n dat pl προχειροτονεω choose in advance
συναράγομεν Verb, aor act indic, 1 pl συνεσθιω eat with
συνεπίομεν Verb, aor act indic, 1 pl συμπινω drink with
ἀναστήναι Verb, 2nd aor act infin ἀνιστημι rise, come back to life
νεκρος, α, ον dead

"The eating and drinking were very important, being among the most convincing of many proofs of His bodily resurrection. Cf. Lk 24:41,43." Bruce

Verse 42

καὶ παρήγγειλεν ἡμῖν κηρύξαι τῷ λαῷ καὶ
 διαμαρτύρασθαι ὅτι οὗτός ἐστιν ὁ
 ὠρισμένος ὑπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ κριτῆς ζωντῶν
 καὶ νεκρῶν.

παραγγελλω command, instruct
 διαμαρτύρασθαι Verb, aor midd dep infin
 διαμαρτυρομαι declare solemnly and
 emphatically
 ὠρισμένος Verb, perf pass ptc, m nom s
 ὀρίζω appoint, designate

Cf. 2:23; 3:20; 17:31.

κριτης, ου m judge

Cf. 1 Peter 4:5; 2 Tim 4:1

Verse 43

τούτῳ πάντες οἱ προφῆται μαρτυροῦσιν,
 ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν λαβεῖν διὰ τοῦ
 ὀνόματος αὐτοῦ πάντα τὸν πιστεύοντα εἰς
 αὐτόν.

ἄφεσις, εως f forgiveness

Cf. 3:18ff; Lk 24:46-48.

λαβειν Verb, aor act infin λαμβανω