

THE GENTILES GRAFFED IN
Acts 11:1-30 - Romans 11:1-36

Introduction:

A. Jesus was a Jew and He came to the Jew

- 1) Matt. 2:2 - "where is he that is born King of the Jews?"
- 2) He was proclaimed King of the Jews
Matt. 21:5 - "Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass."
- 3) He was crucified as King of the Jews
Matt. 27:29, 37 - superscription on the cross.

B. The Jews rejected Jesus as King

- 1) John 1:11-13
- 2) Rom. 10:21 - "But to Israel he saith, All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people."

C. The Gentiles would believe and they would become, through the church, the Kingdom representatives.

- 1) Matt. 21:43 - "Therefore say I unto you, The Kingdom of God shall be taken from you and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof."
- 2) The Gentiles in "times past."
Ephesians 2:11-1 - "aliens" = "foreign", "strangers", Vs. 19
- 3) The Jewish church will, at this point in church history, brighten and then go-out.
- 4) The Gentiles are, "grafted in" Rom. 1:13-26

I. The Gentile Church in Caesarea Vs. 1-3

A. We have studied it's beginning

- 1) Acts 10:44-48 - Cornelius at Caesarea

B. We now notice the Jewish response. Vs. 1-3

- 1) They heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. Vs. 1
- 2) They were bothered by Peter's eating with the Gentiles. Vs. 2
- 3) "contended" = diakrino = "to dispute with", "to strive with", "as in battle." This is the same word translated "nothing doubting" in verses 10:20 and 11:12
- 4) This act would have conflicted with the idea of being set apart for use in God's service. It was not forbidden to have contact with a Gentile. Marriage was forbidden. This feeling was generated by tradition and custom. They felt it to have seriously compromised Peter in regard to, "be ye holy, for I am holy."

C. Peter answers the accusation. Vs. 4-17

- 1) "rehearsed" = archomai = "beginning" - was "setting forth"
- 2) "expounded" = ektithemi = "to set forth"
- 3) "order" = kathexes = "according to the order or succession", "in connected order."
- 4) Verses 5-11 are the same as chapter 10

D. Some things to notice

- 1) He took six brethren Vs. 12
- 2) "shall be saved" Vs. 14
- 3) "God did for them what He did for us" Vs. 15
- 4) Peter remembered Jesus' promise Vs. 16
- 5) It was a like "gift" Vs. 17
- 6) "withstand" = koluo = "forbid", "to cut off", "to prevent", "to restrain" Vs. 10:47

E. The Jewish Response Vs. 18

- 1) "They held their peace"
- 2) "They glorified God"
- 3) The Gentiles can be saved and used as holy vessels to serve Jehovah God.

II. The Church at Antioch Vs. 19-30

A. The beginning of the church

- 1) It was providential Vs. 19a
 - a. "scattered" = diaspeiro = "to scatter"
 - b. "travelled" = deirchomai = "to come or go", "to pass through"
- 2) It was scriptural Vs. 19b
 - a. "preaching" = laleo = "to use the voice merely, without reference to the words spoken" some have translated it, "gossiping", "informal"
 - b. "none but the Jews only"
- 3) It was contagious Vs. 20-21
 - a. Those who knew the language began to speak to the natives of the city - "formal"
 - b. "preaching" = euaggelizo = "to proclaim the glad-message of salvation", "evangelize"
 - c. A great number were saved. Vs. 21

B. The Response of the Jewish Church

- 1) They heard about it Vs. 22
- 2) They sent Barnabas Vs. 22

C. The work of a good man Vs. 23-26

- 1) He came and looked and was glad
- 2) He exhorted them = parakaleo = "to call to one", "call near", "every kind of speaking which is meant to encourage and exhort" Vs. 23
- 3) "purpose" = prothesis = "deliberate resolution"
["If one comes to ask for admission to Israel, he is not received at once, but is asked: Do you not know that this nation is down trodden and afflicted, subjected to many ills, liable to varied penalties for disobedience to the precepts of the Torah? If he persists, he takes a ritual bath and submits to circumcision.... A Book of Jewish Concepts, page 133]
- 4) "cleave" = prosmeno = "to remain towards", "wait still longer", "to continue", "stay near the Lord"
- 5) "He was a good man" He made a good judgment, he gave good advice, he had good results, He sought good help, he did a good job. Vs. 24
- 6) He sought (anazeteo) Saul. Vs. 25 = "to search for", "to seek up and down", "to search until success comes"

D. The work of Barnabas and Saul Vs. 26

- 1) "assembled" = sunago = "to bring together", "to lead together", "to receive to one's hospitality"
- 2) "taught" = didasko = "to give instruction"

E. The Result Eph. 4:11

- 1) "were called Christians" "They had a working faith"
- 2) An example Vs. 27-30 James and

F. The example and order

- 1) Evangelize, presentation of truth
- 2) Assemble, get the people together
- 3) Teach, lay before them God's truth
- 4) Practice, "let your light so shine"