



THE ROCK
of roseville

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MESSAGE NOTES
Acts 29

Acts Chapters 11-12

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Acts 11:20-24 (NIV)

Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. The Lord's hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord. News of this reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord.

Barnabas was "full of the Holy Spirit and of faith." This does not describe a single experience, but a general characteristic of Barnabas' life.

Acts 11:25-26 (NIV)

Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he found him, he brought him to Antioch. So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people. The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.

NOTES:

Acts 10:1-2 (NIV)

At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly.

Acts 10:28-29 (NIV)

He said to them: "You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with a Gentile or visit him. But God has shown me that I should not call any man impure or unclean. So when I was sent for, I came without raising any objection. May I ask why you sent for me?"

Acts 10:44-48 (NIV)

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

Then Peter said, "Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

The Holy Spirit fell in such a powerful way that there was visible transformation of their conversion.

The conversion of the Gentiles showed the power of Christ's sacrifice on the cross to abolish the dividing wall of sin between God and all of mankind, not only Jews.

Ephesians 2:14 (NIV)

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility...

Hebrews 4:14-16 (NIV)

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Baptizing these people would be an outward sign of an inward work of God in their hearts and of their personal commitment to Christ.

2Corinthians 5:20 (NIV)

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

If we are going to bear His name, we must be authentic in our representation of Jesus.

Acts 11:1-3 (NIV)

The apostles and the brothers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him and said, "You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them."

Legalism is adding to, or taking away from, the word of God.

Acts 11:15-17 (NIV)

As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. Then I remembered what the Lord had said: "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So if God gave them the same gift as he gave us, who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could oppose God?"

Proverbs 19:21 (NIV)

Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.

Acts 11:18 (NIV)

When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, "So then, God has granted even the Gentiles repentance unto life."

This report from Peter demonstrates his reputation of authenticity.

Matthew 3:8 (NIV)


Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.

Acts 11:19 (NIV)

Now those who had been scattered by the persecution in connection with Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, telling the message only to Jews.

The persecution caused believers to be scattered and led to the spreading of the gospel among Jews in various outlying regions.

They were Diaspora Jews.

 **The Dis·per·sion** (*noun*) [Gr. *Diaspora*]: **this was a common Jewish expression to refer to all the Jewish people scattered throughout the Roman Empire, and even beyond the bounds of the empire, but not living in Palestine itself.**

John 7:33-35 (NIV)

Jesus said, "I am with you for only a short time, and then I go to the one who sent me. You will look for me, but you will not find me; and where I am, you cannot come." The Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we cannot find him? Will he go where our people live scattered among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks?"