

## CHAPTER 9 98

1 *The conversion of Saul.* 20 *He preaches*  
boldly. 31 *Peter's miracles.*

**A**ND Saul, yet breathing out  
threatenings and slaugh-

Lord in a vision, Ān-a-nī'as. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord.

11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Jū'das for one called S̄aul, of Tār'sus: for, behold, he prayeth,

12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ān-a-nī'as coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.

13 Then Ān-a-nī'as answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jē-ru'sā-lēm:

14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gēn'tiles, and kings, and the children of İš'ra-el:

16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

17 And Ān-a-nī'as went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother S̄aul, the Lord, even Jē'sus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Hō'lý Ghōst.

18 And immediately there fell

from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was S̄aul certain days with the disciples which were at Dā-mās'cus.

20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jē-ru'sā-lēm, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

22 But S̄aul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jewš which dwelt at Dā-mās'cus, proving that this is very Christ.

23 ¶ And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jewš took counsel to kill him:

24 But their laying await was known of S̄aul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him.

25 Then the disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket.

26 And when S̄aul was come to Jē-ru'sā-lēm, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple.

27 But Bär'na-bās took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them

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*Peter restores Dorcas to life*

how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Dâ-mās'cus in the name of Jē'sus.

28 And he was with them coming in and going out at Jē-ry'sā-iēm.

29 And he spake boldly in the name of the Lord Jē'sus, and disputed against the Grē'cianș: but they went about to slay him.

30 *Which* when the brethren knew, they brought him down to Çæs-a-rē'á, and sent him forth to Tär'sus.

31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Jū-dæ'á and Gál'i-lee and Sâ-mā'ri-á, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Hō'ly Ghōst, were multiplied.

32 ¶ And it came to pass, as Pē'tēr passed throughout all *quarters*, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lÿd'dá.

33 And there he found a certain man named Æ'ne-ás, which had kept his bed eight years, and was sick of the palsy.

34 And Pē'tēr said unto him, Æ'ne-ás, Jē'sus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

35 And all that dwelt at Lÿd'dá and Sâ'ron saw him, and turned to the Lord.

36 ¶ Now there was at Jöp'pá a certain disciple named Táb'i-thá, which by interpretation is called Dôr'cas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.

37 And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid *her* in an upper chamber.

38 And forasmuch as Lÿd'dá was nigh to Jöp'pá, and the disciples had heard that Pē'tēr was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring *him* that he would not delay to come to them.

39 Then Pē'tēr arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dôr'cas made, while she was with them.

40 But Pē'tēr put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning *him* to the body said, Táb'i-thá, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Pē'tēr, she sat up.

41 And he gave her *his* hand, and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive.

42 And it was known throughout all Jöp'pá; and many believed in the Lord.

43 And it came to pass, that he tarried many days in Jöp'pá with one Si'mon a tanner.

## 99 CHAPTER 10

1 *Cornelius sends for Peter.* 11 *Peter's vision.* 34 *His sermon at Cæsarea.*

**T**HERE was a certain man in Cæs-a-rē'á called Cōr-nē'-lī-ūs, a centurion of the band called the Ī-tāl'ian band,

2 A devout *man*, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.

3 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, Cōr-nē'li-ūs.

4 And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.

5 And now send men to Jōp'-pá, and call for *one* Sī'mon, whose surname is Pē'tēr:

6 He lodgeth with one Sī'mon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.

7 And when the angel which spake unto Cōr-nē'li-ūs was departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually;

8 And when he had declared all *these* things unto them, he sent them to Jōp'pá.

9 ¶ On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Pē'tēr went

up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:

10 And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,

11 And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

12 Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

13 And there came a voice to him, Rise, Pē'tēr; kill, and eat.

14 But Pē'tēr said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.

15 And the voice *spake* unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, *that* call not thou common.

16 This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.

17 Now while Pē'tēr doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cōr-nē'li-ūs had made enquiry for Sī'mon's house, and stood before the gate,

18 And called, and asked whether Sī'mon, which was surnamed Pē'tēr, were lodged there.

19 ¶ While Pē'tēr thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.

20 Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them.

21 Then Pē'tēr went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cōr-nē'li-ūs; and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what is the cause wherefore ye are come?

22 And they said, Cōr-nē'li-ūs the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee.

23 Then called he them in, and lodged them. And on the morrow Pē'tēr went away with them, and certain brethren from Jōp'pā accompanied him.

24 And the morrow after they entered into Cæs-a-rē'ā. And Cōr-nē'li-ūs waited for them, and had called together his kinsmen and near friends.

25 And as Pē'tēr was coming in, Cōr-nē'li-ūs met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him.

26 But Pē'tēr took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.

27 And as he talked with him, he went in, and found many that were come together.

28 And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God

hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.

29 Therefore came I unto you without gainsaying, as soon as I was sent for: I ask therefore for what intent ye have sent for me?

30 And Cōr-nē'li-ūs 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,

31 And said, Cōr-nē'li-ūs, thy prayer is heard, and thine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God.

32 Send therefore to Jōp'pā, and call hither Sī'mon, whose surname is Pē'tēr; he is lodged in the house of one Sī'mon a tanner by the sea side: who, when he cometh, shall speak unto thee.

33 Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God.

34 ¶ Then Pē'tēr opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

36 The word which God sent unto the children of Īs'ra-el, preaching peace by Jē'sus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

37 That word, *I say*, ye know, which was published throughout all Jū-dæ'á, and began from Gál'i-lee, after the baptism which Jōhn preached;

38 How God anointed Jē'sus of Nāz'a-rēth with the Hō'ly Ghōst and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

39 And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jewš, and in Jē-ru'-'sā-lēm; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:

40 Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;

41 Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, *even* to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.

42 And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God *to be* the Judge of quick and dead.

43 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.

44 ¶ While Pē'tēr yet spake these words, the Hō'ly Ghōst fell on all them which heard the word.

45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Pē'tēr, because that on the

Gēn'tileš also was poured out the gift of the Hō'ly Ghōst.

46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Pē'tēr,

47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Hō'ly Ghōst as well as we?

48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord: Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

CHAPTER 11 100

1 *Peter accused. 5 His defence. 26 Disciples first called Christians.*

**A**ND the apostles and brethren that were in Jū-dæ'á heard that the Gēn'tileš had also received the word of God.

2 And when Pē'tēr was come up to Jē-ru'-'sā-lēm, they that were of the circumcision contended with him,

3 Saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them.

4 But Pē'tēr rehearsed *the matter* from the beginning, and expounded *it* by order unto them, saying,

5 I was in the city of Jōp'pá praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me:

6 Upon the which when I had fastened mine eyes, I considered, and saw fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts,

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*Peter, being accused, defends himself*

and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

7 And I heard a voice saying unto me, Arise, Pē'tēr; slay and eat.

8 But I said, Not so, Lord: for nothing common or unclean hath at any time entered into my mouth.

9 But the voice answered me again from heaven, What God hath cleansed, *that* call not thou common.

10 And this was done three times: and all were drawn up again into heaven.

11 And, behold, immediately there were three men already come unto the house where I was, sent from Çæs-a-rē'á unto me.

12 And the spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house:

13 And he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Jöp'pá, and call for Sī'mon, whose surname is Pē'tēr;

14 Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.

15 And as I began to speak, the Hō'ly Ghōst fell on them, as on us at the beginning.

16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, Jōhn indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Hō'ly Ghōst.

17 Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as *he did* unto us, who believed on the Lord Jē'sus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?

18 When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gēn'tiles granted repentance unto life.

19 ¶ Now they which were scattered abroad upon the persecution that arose about Stē'phen travelled as far as Phē-nī'çē, and Çy'prus, and Ān'ti-ōch, preaching the word to none but unto the Jews only.

20 And some of them were men of Çy'prus and Çy-rē'nē, which, when they were come to Ān'ti-ōch, spake unto the Grē'cians, preaching the Lord Jē'sus.

21 And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.

22 ¶ Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jē-ru'-sā-lēm: and they sent forth Bär'na-bās, that he should go as far as Ān'ti-ōch.

23 Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.

24 For he was a good man, and full of the Hō'ly Ghōst and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

25 Then departed Bär'na-bās to Tār'sus, for to seek Saḷ:

26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Ān'ti-ōch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Chris'tians first in Ān'ti-ōch.

27 ¶ And in these days came prophets from Jē-ru'sā-lēm unto Ān'ti-ōch.

28 And there stood up one of them named Āg'a-būs, and signified by the spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Clau'di-ūs Cæ'sar.

29 Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Jū-dæ'a:

30 Which also they did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Bār'na-bās and Saūl.

## 101 CHAPTER 12

1 Herod kills James. 4 Peter imprisoned.  
24 Growth of God's word.

**N**OW about that time Hēr'od the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.

2 And he killed Jāmeš the brother of Jōhn with the sword.

3 And because he saw it pleased the Jewš, he proceeded further to take Pē'tēr also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)

4 And when he had apprehended him, he put him in

prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Ēas'tēr to bring him forth to the people.

5 Pē'tēr therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

6 And when Hēr'od would have brought him forth, the same night Pē'tēr was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.

7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Pē'tēr on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.

8 And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.

9 And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision.

10 When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him.



11 And when Pē'tēr was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Hēr'od, and *from* all the expectation of the people of the Jewṣ.

12 And when he had considered *the thing*, he came to the house of Mā'rȳ the mother of Jōhn, whose surname was Mār̄k; where many were gathered together praying.

13 And as Pē'tēr knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to hearken, named Rhō'dá.

14 And when she knew Pē'tēr's voice, she opened not the gate for gladness, but ran in, and told how Pē'tēr stood before the gate.

15 And they said unto her, Thou art mad. But she constantly affirmed that it was even so. Then said they, It is his angel.

16 But Pē'tēr continued knocking: and when they had opened *the door*, and saw him, they were astonished.

17 But he, beckoning unto them with the hand to hold their peace, declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, Go shew these things unto Jāmeṣ, and to the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place.

18 Now as soon as it was day, there was no small stir among

the soldiers, what was become of Pē'tēr.

19 And when Hēr'od had sought for him, and found him not, he examined the keepers, and commanded that *they* should be put to death. And he went down from Jū-dæ'á to Çæs-a-rē'á, and *there* abode.

20 ¶ And Hēr'od was highly displeased with them of Týre and Sí'dōn: but they came with one accord to him, and, having made Bläs'tus the king's chamberlain their friend, desired peace; because their country was nourished by the king's *country*.

21 And upon a set day Hēr'od, arrayed in royal apparel, sat upon his throne, and made an oration unto them.

22 And the people gave a shout, *saying*, *It is* the voice of a god, and not of a man.

23 And immediately the angel of the Lord smote him, because he gave not God the glory: and he was eaten of worms, and gave up the ghost.

24 ¶ But the word of God grew and multiplied.

25 And Bār'na-bās and Saḷ returned from Jē-ru'sá-lēm, when they had fulfilled *their* ministry, and took with them Jōhn, whose surname was Mār̄k.

and forgiveness and comfort and strength. So do you. Where can these be found? How can they be obtained? God waits to bestow them upon each of us through His Son Jesus Christ. **TO HAVE THEM WE MUST COME TO HIM.**

Ron Jones  
Bristol, England

### A Sinner's Prayer

Dear Lord, Forgive me, a sinner. Come into my heart, and save my soul, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that He died on the Cross to redeem me. I believe that He rose from the dead, and now maketh intercession for me, at the right hand of God. Rom. 8:34. I believe that He is the only Mediator between God and Man, and that there is nothing I can do to save myself. Neither is there Salvation in any other name, whereby I must be saved. Acts 4:12. The Blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth me from all sin. I John 1:7. I repent of my sins, and I turn from them now, and I receive Him into my heart as my Saviour and Lord, I pray this prayer in Jesus Name. Amen.

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WHAT  
SHAPE  
IS  
YOUR  
GOD?



#### WHAT SHAPE IS YOUR GOD?

When God made man it was miraculous; but when man tries to make a god it is pathetic. The poor illiterate heathen has his god of stone, wood or metal and we look upon him with great sympathy.

But what about us? In spite of our educational progress and scientific discoveries, the heart of man has changed but little. What shape is your God? You most certainly have one, and if it is not the Almighty revealed to us in the wondrous person of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, it is one of your own making.

There was once a young man whose

#### GOD WAS IN THE SHAPE OF A CHECK BOOK.

Read about him in Mark chapter 10, verse 17 onwards. This wealthy young man started off well, because he asked about eternal life. The words of Christ must have come to him like some terrifying volcanic eruption: "Go and sell all that you have, and give to the poor." Or in other words: "You must get rid of your own little god: it is controlling your whole life: then you can follow Me." At that saying he went away grieved. The trouble with him was that his wealth was his god - his money possessed him. Jesus made it clear that we cannot serve God and mammon.

WHAT SHAPE IS YOUR GOD?

Did you ever hear of the man whose

#### GOD WAS IN THE SHAPE OF A BARN?

He probably started as a farm hand on someone else's farm; but his career was his god. Everything else in life has bowed down before it. He is well pleased with himself.

He even talks to his soul. You can find the conversation in the twelfth chapter of Luke's Gospel. "Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink and be merry." But God said: "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee; then whose shall those things be?" His god was in the shape of a career, and when death brought his career to an end, he had no god. Young people, a good career is an excellent thing, BUT DO NOT MAKE IT YOUR GOD.

Finally I think of

#### THE MAN WHOSE GOD WAS JUST HIMSELF.

Listen to him in Luke, chapter 18, verses 9 to 11. "I thank thee that I am not like other men, sinful, wicked and unjust. I am really a very fine chap." This fellow has made his god all right - IT IS HIMSELF.

There are many people just like that today. Their god is in the shape of themselves. They feel that they are big enough and capable enough to manage very well without the Almighty. They have no room for God; every available inch of space in their life is taken up by themselves. They reject Christ and all He has to offer. What a tragedy that when storms of despair, sorrow, sickness, disappointment and conviction of sin begin to lash against them, their god just topples over in uselessness. They just cannot forgive their own iniquities. They have reached the moment when they can do nothing for themselves, but they have no god but themselves. They have sealed their own doom.

#### WHAT SHAPE IS YOUR GOD?

The real deep need of the heart of man has not changed with the passing of the years. I still need peace