

**God's Kingdom is Open to Whoever Will
Trust in Jesus Christ: Part 1 – The Initiation
April 17, 2011 * Bethel Baptist Church * Tim Davis
Acts 10:1-23**

Ephesians 2:11-13

¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)-- ¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

Then

1. God had been preparing & pursuing Cornelius to receive Christ.

vv.1-8

Ephesians 2:1, Colossians 2:13, Romans 3:9-12,
James 1:17-18, 1 Peter 1:3, Ezekiel 36:26-27,
John 3:3-8

2. God had to prepare & persuade Peter to share Christ with
Gentiles. vv.9-23

3. God's timing was perfect & His plan was impressive. vv.1-23

God's timing & choice of Peter reveals His sovereign wisdom.

God's choice of communication indicates careful methodology.

God's subtle use of numbers evidences His attention to order.

Now

1. God prepares & pursues us today to trust in Christ.

2. God prepares & persuades us today to share Christ.

3. God's timing is still perfect & His plan is still impressive.

So what? Love God. Love people. Change the world.