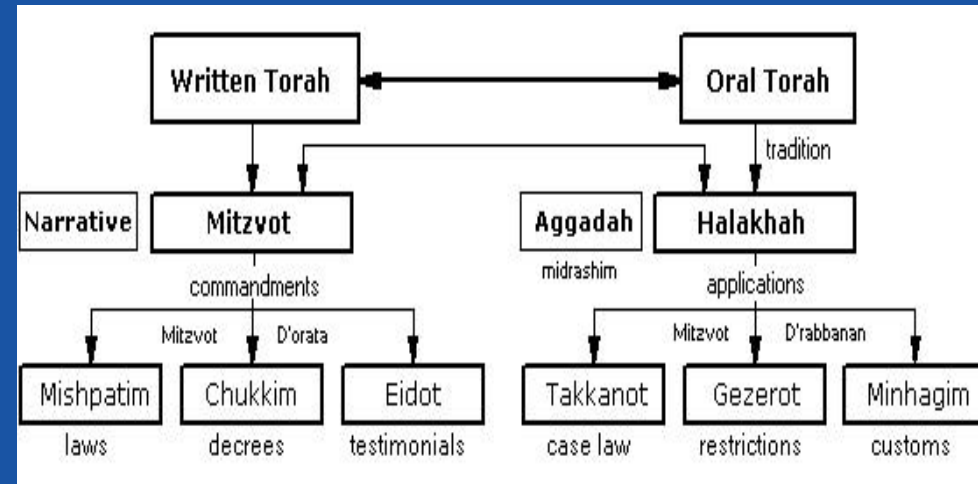


ACTS

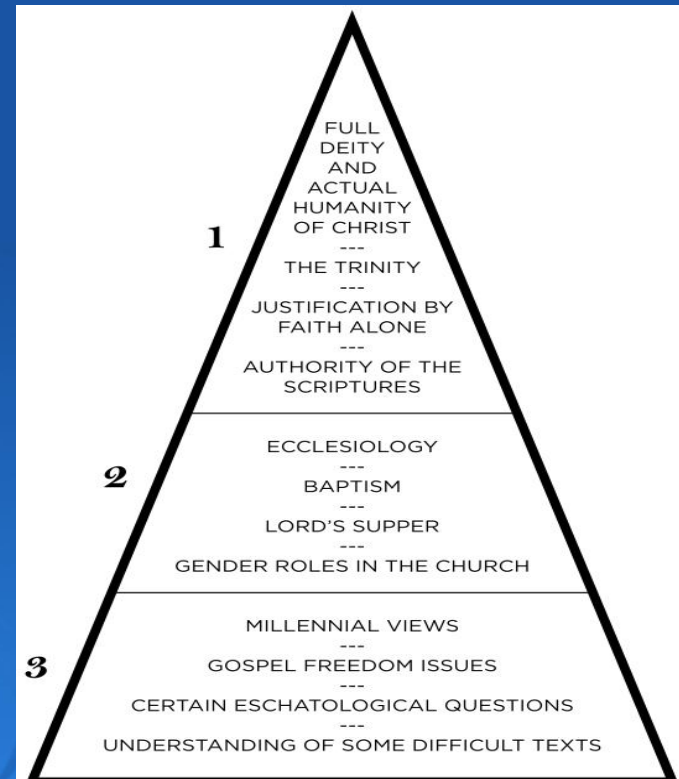
CHAPTER 10

- Nothing to do with kosher eating
- **Halakhah** = the overall body of Jewish law
- A fusion of Torah of Moses, customs, and Traditions (Oral Torah)
- Nearly every Jew was connected to the Synagogue
- Nearly every Christian is connected to the Church

HALAKHAH OF JUDAISM

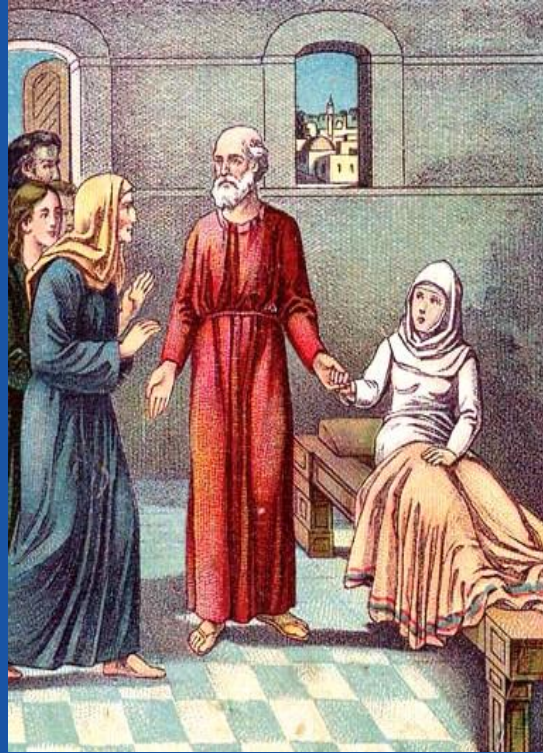


DOCTRINES OF CHRISTIANITY



PETER'S MIRACLES

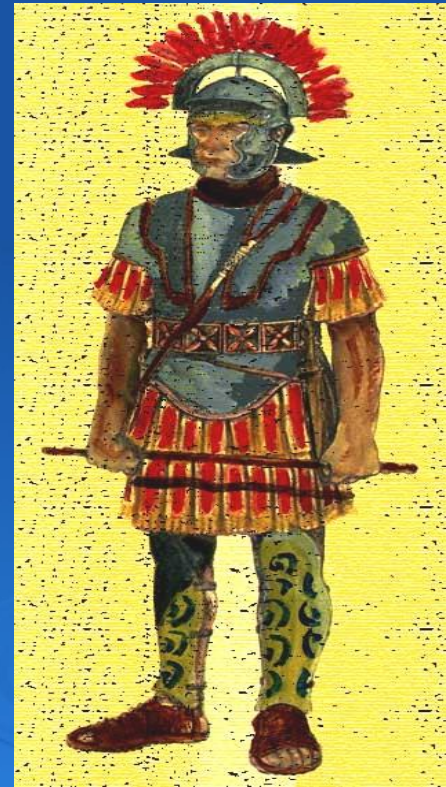
- Acts 9 transitions from Paul to Peter
- Peter in Yafo, effected 2 miracles
- Healed a man of paralysis and brought a woman back from the dead!
- Acts is not an exhaustive history but rather a Reader's Digest version



ROME, ROME AND MORE ROME



- Peter unexpectedly called from Yafo (Joppa) to Caesarea Maritima
- Gentiles suddenly the targets of God's mercy
- Roman soldier symbolic of oppression for Jews
- Cornelius the Centurion
- Caesarea a majority Roman city but with a large Jewish population



THE DEVOUT CORNELIUS



- 1) Faithful to God
- 2) God-fearer
- 3) Giver of alms
- 4) Prayed continually
- He was in no danger, and did not have to hide his belief in the God of Israel
- 9th hour, standard Jewish prayer time
- Vision of an angel
- Not “Lord” but “lord” (sir)

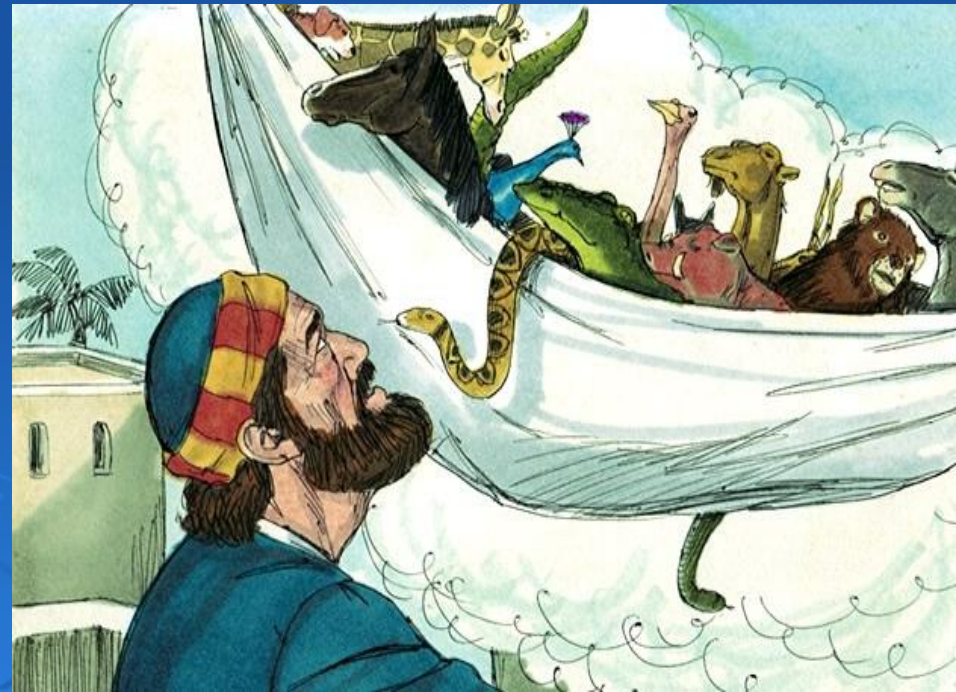
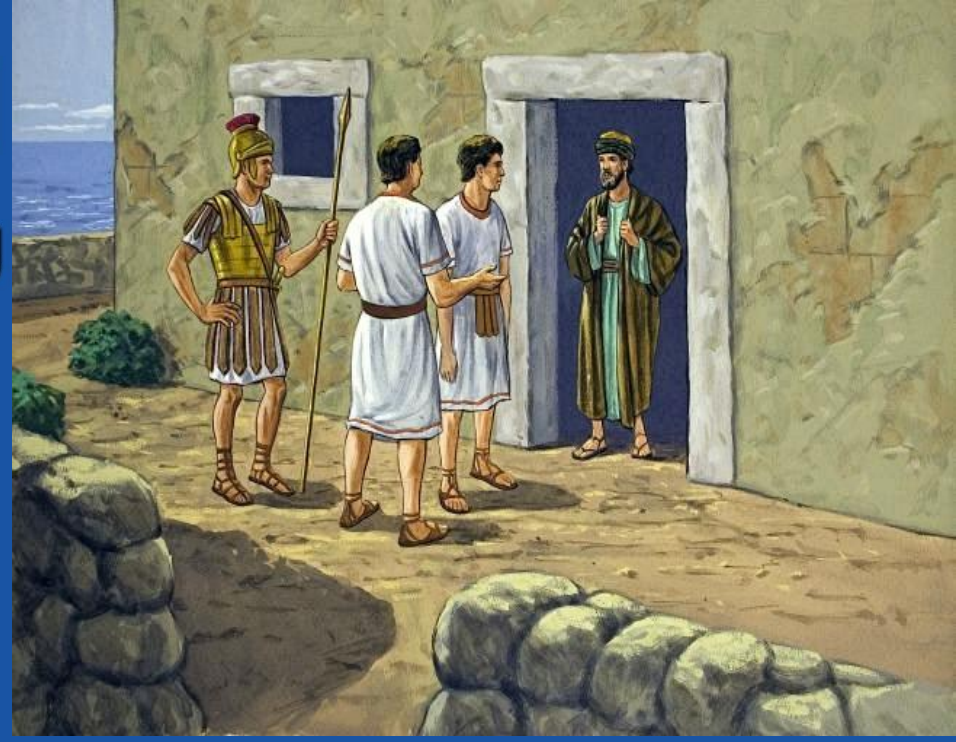
CORNELIUS'S VISION



- *“Your prayers and alms have ascended....*
- Compares to the smoke of burnt offerings
- Hebrews 13:15
- 1Samuel 15:22
- Obedience negates the need for sacrifice
- 1QS 9:4-5
- The Essenes saw THROUGH the Law, to the SPIRIT of the Law
- Barriers to gentile relationship with the God of Israel are falling

PETER'S VISION

- Peter has a corresponding vision to Cornelius's
- Peter is hungry, wanting to eat, food preparation is happening
- Goes up to roof to pray at noontime
- Food is the natural context for his vision
- **Ekstasis** = ecstasy, ecstatic
- God-induced spiritual "trance"

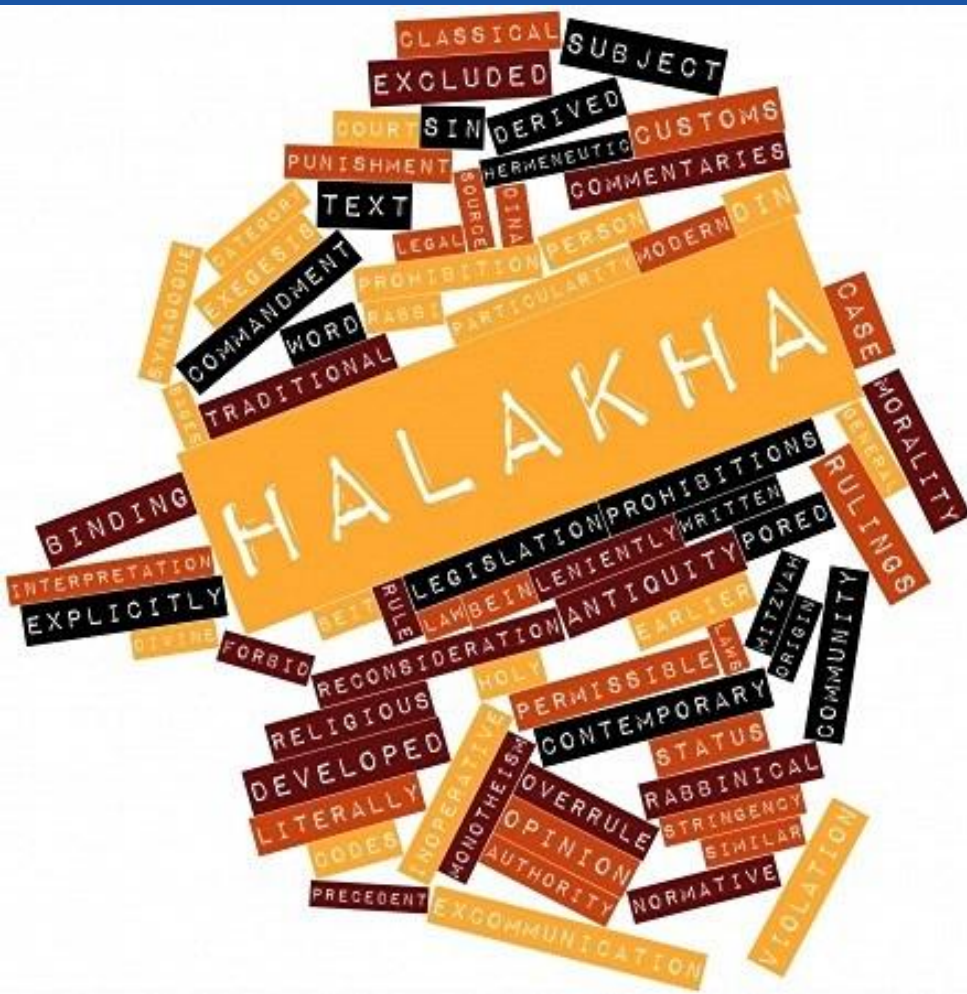


THE 4-CORNERED SHEET

- Vision is symbolic, and Peter is puzzled by it
- 4 means the 4 compass directions, indicates the world
- Was the sheet a Tallit? Perhaps, but it doesn't fit the description
- 4-legged animals, crawling creatures, wild birds
- All crawling creatures and most wild birds are not kosher for eating
- Some 4-legged animals are kosher, some not



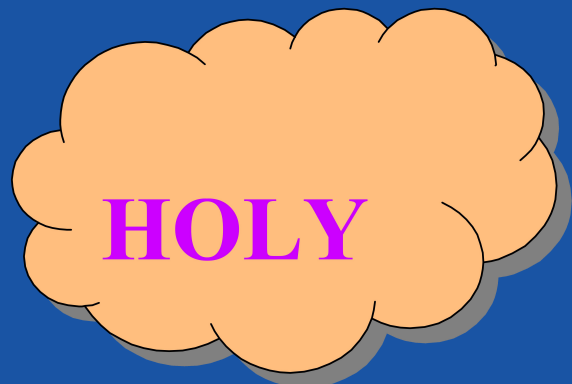
THE ISSUE IS *HALAKHAH*



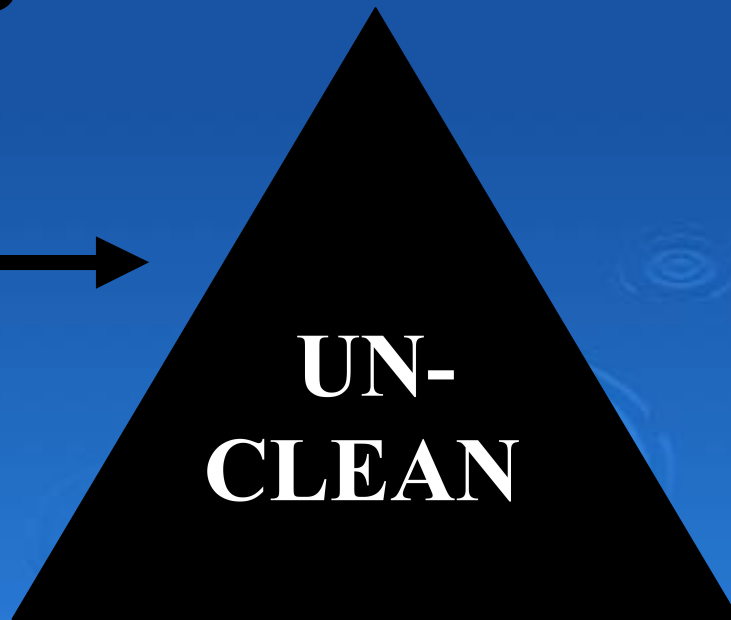
- ***Koinos*** = common
- ***Akathartos*** = unclean
- Common is something that is not holy
- Unclean means not ritually pure
- Common and unclean are separate issues
- Common is NOT a food classification

RARE SET-APART HIGHEST VALUE

TYPICAL NO SPECIAL VALUE

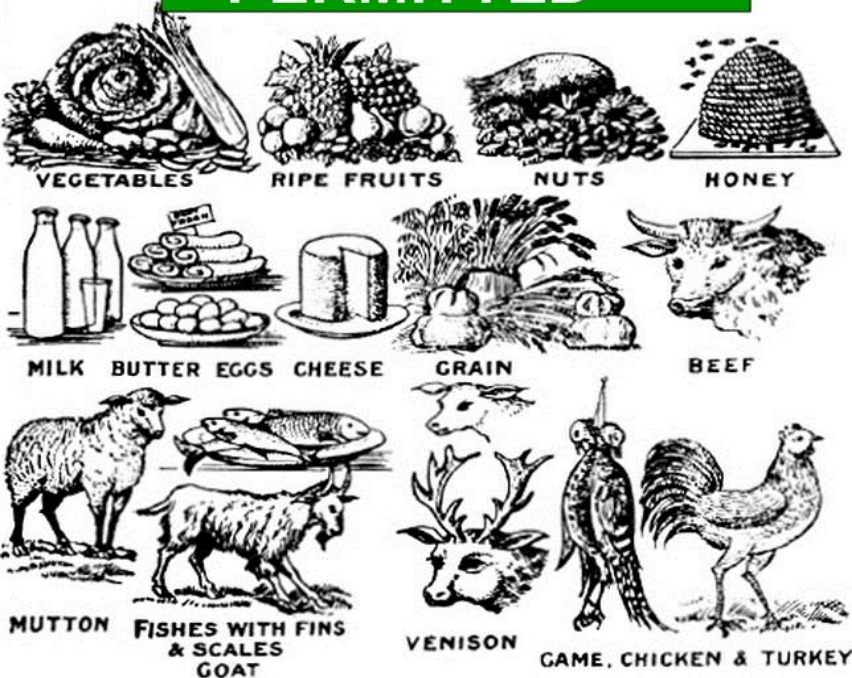


OPPOSITES



PROHIBITED VS. UNCLEAN

PERMITTED



PROHIBITED



- Prohibited items are NOT FOOD
- Permitted items ARE FOOD
- No food category called common
- One instance: food from sacrifices given to Priests is “holy” food
- ONLY Priests can eat this holy food
- Regular Hebrews NEVER eat “holy” food, it’s a sin
- Makes no sense for Peter to say he has NEVER eaten “common” food

HOLY

SANCTIFIED

The NATURAL state

COMMON AND CLEAN

POLLUTED

MIDDLE GROUND

UN-CLEAN

CONFUSED ? SO WAS PETER !



- Visual imagery was about food, but the terms used were not (*Koinos* = common)
- God told Peter 2 times not to call common things unclean
- The sequence repeated 3 times, meaning its source is divine
- Peter not confused whether he should kill and eat
- It's that the conversation didn't match with the symbolism
- Peter was in a trance, and essentially he was observing himself talking with God