

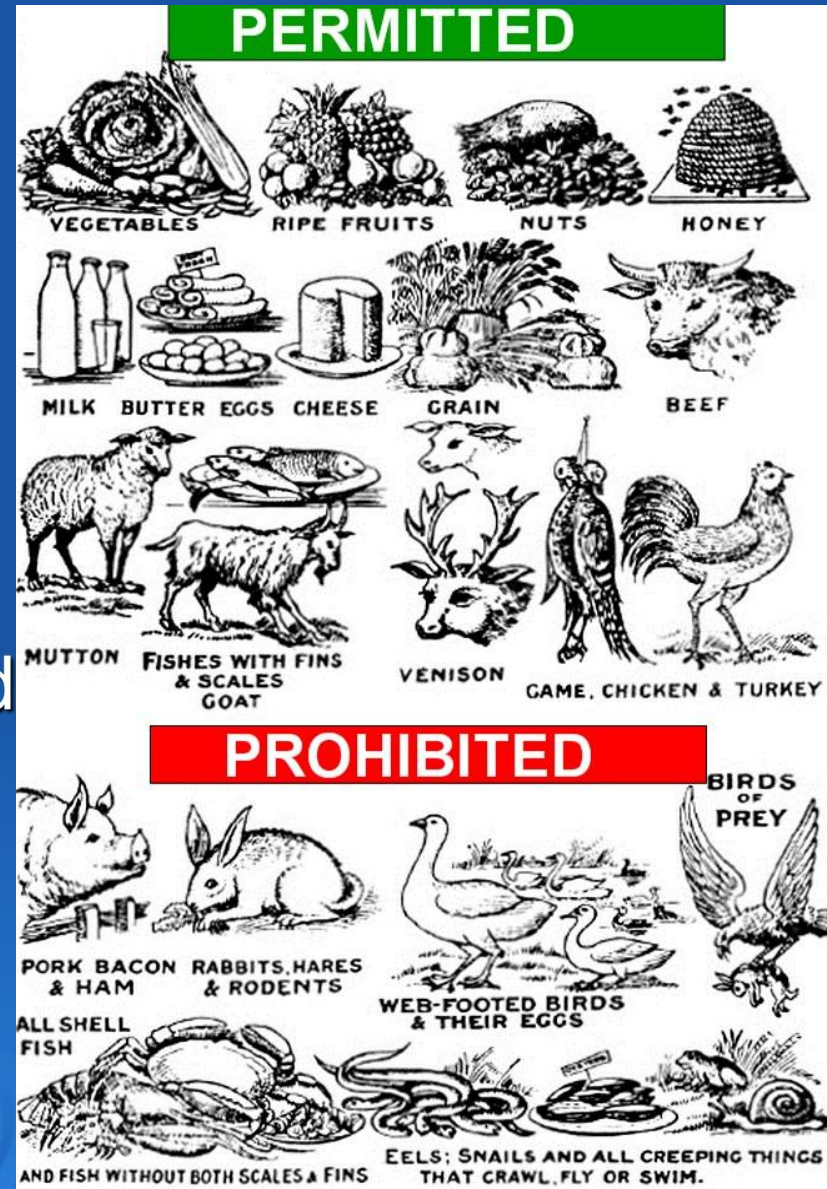
ACTS CHAPTER 10 IS ALL ABOUT RITUAL PURITY



- This chapter is profoundly important to our faith
- If we don't understand the issue, then we'll misunderstand the outcome
- Vs. 28 ***"..God has shown me not to call any person common or unclean..."***
- By now Tradition had distorted the Torah view on gentiles
- In Acts 10 God is straightening out these wrong doctrines within Judaism

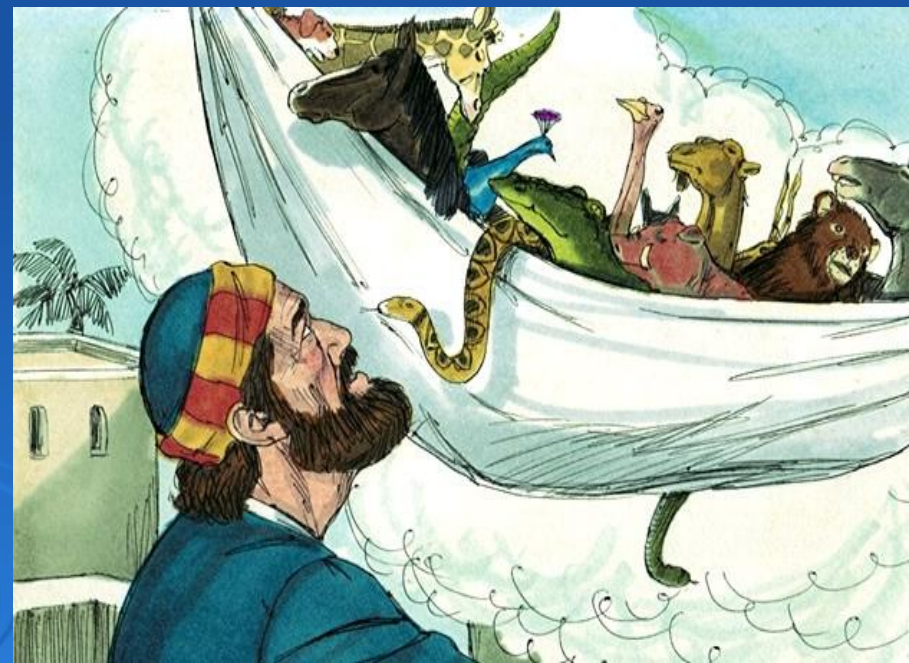
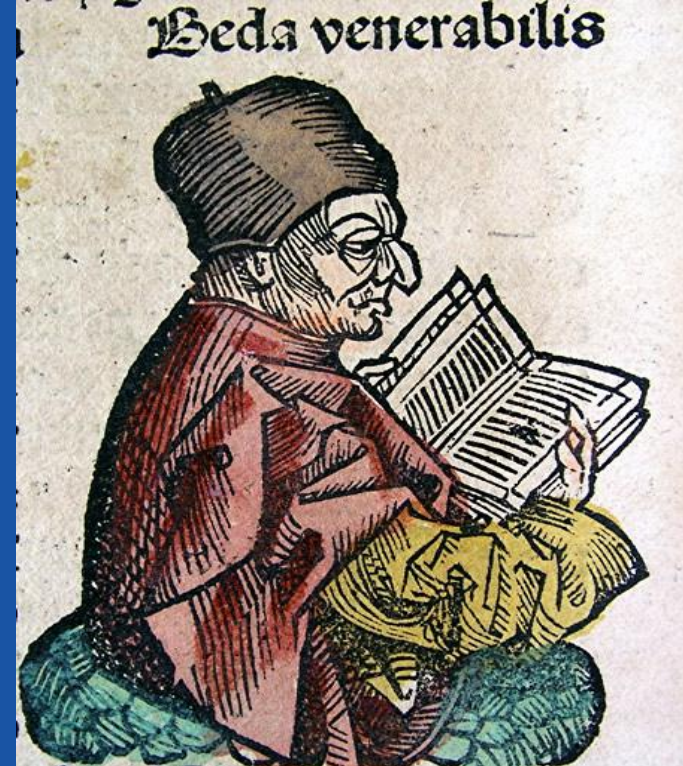
CLEAN & UNCLEAN DIFFERENT THAN PERMITTED & PROHIBITED

- Main issue about Acts 10 is only partially about Jews eating with gentiles
- Many ways that Kosher food could be mishandled and thus rendered unclean
- Middle Eastern hospitality demanded that food be served
- Jews saw it as a big risk to enter the house of a gentile
- Judaism considered gentiles as naturally unclean



PETER'S VISION AS SYMBOLIC

- Vs. 28 has Peter saying God showed him not to call any person common or unclean
- Not at all about abrogating Levitical food laws
- Venerable Bede, early Church Father, 700 A.D.
- God does not create anything as unclean
- For instance: a Vulture is NOT unclean in itself; it is merely not permitted for food or sacrifice



Romans 14:14 *I have been persuaded....nothing is unclean of itself. But if a person considers something unclean, then for him it is unclean....*

HOLY

SANCTIFIED

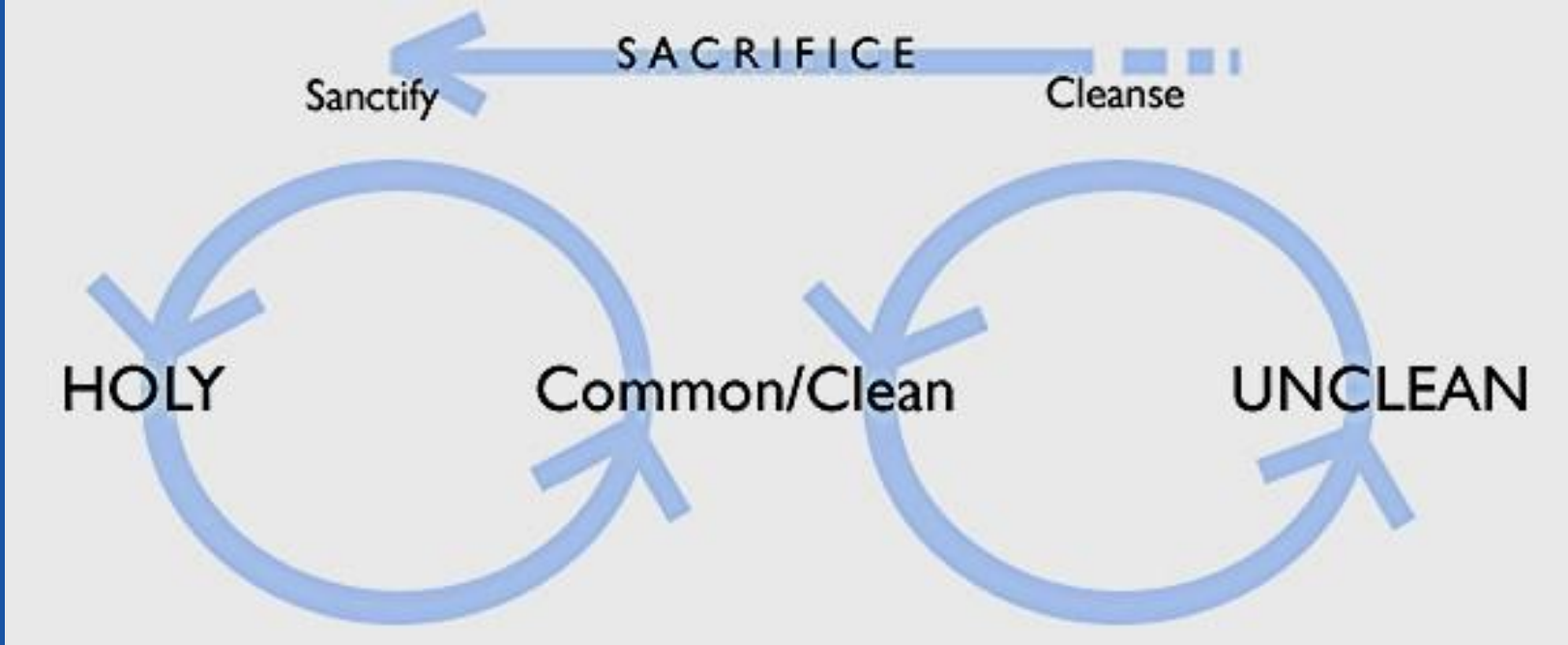
The NATURAL state

COMMON AND CLEAN

DEFILED

MIDDLE GROUND

UN-CLEAN



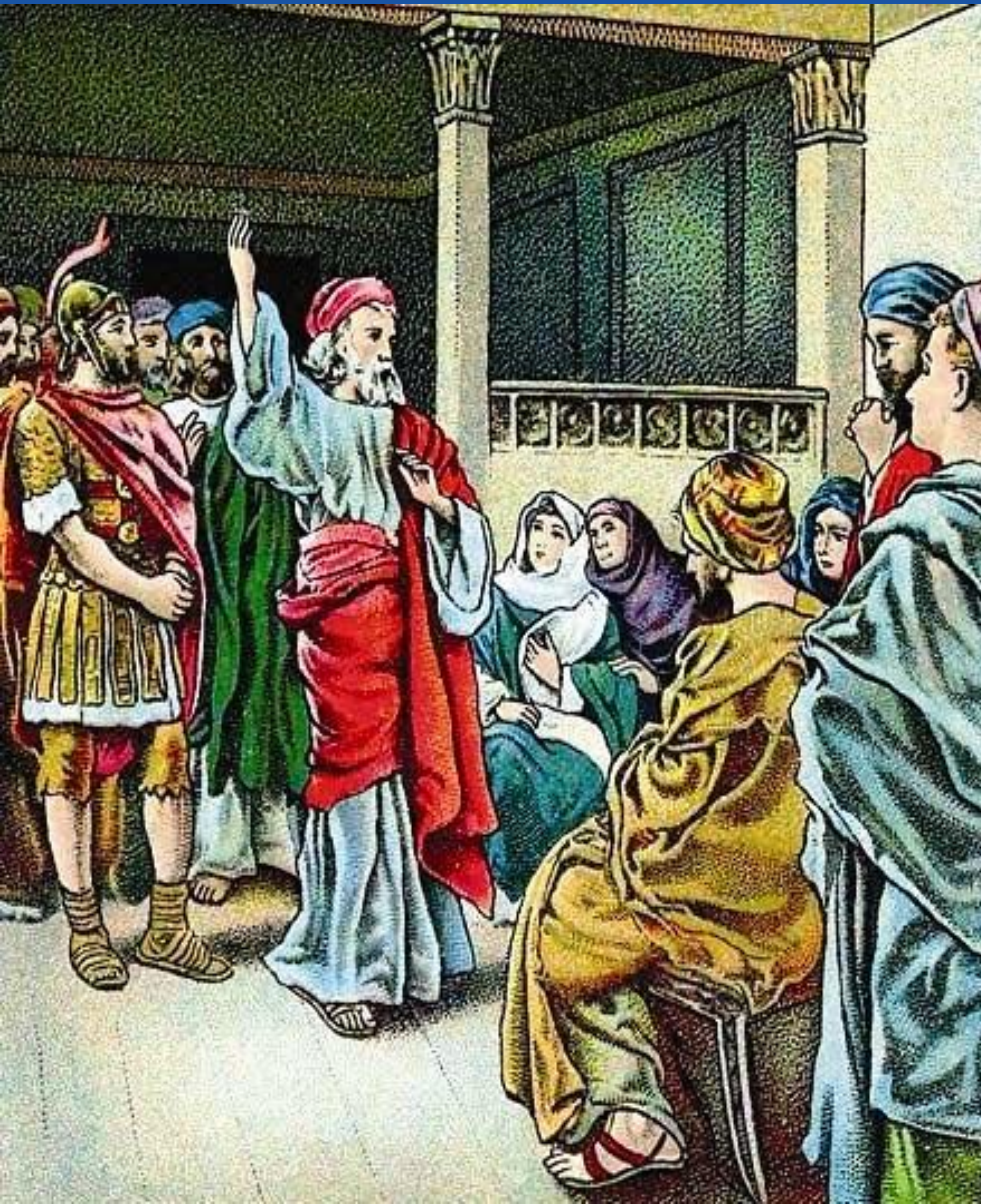
- Romans 14:14 Issue is if someone believes something is UNCLEAN, but NOT vice-versa
- No danger in avoiding something thought to be unclean, but it is actually clean
- But.....there is danger to think something is clean, when it is actually unclean, and partaking of it
- This Torah principle has been removed from Christian thought and ideology and it leads to misunderstanding some New Testament passages

WHAT IS EATEN vs. AVOIDED



- Romans 14:15 “..if your brother is being upset by the food you eat....your life is no longer one of love....”
- We EAT clean food, we avoid unclean food (not the other way around!)
- Issue is about unclean food, not clean food
- Today people are mostly concerned about eating organic and healthy
- But unconcerned about eating according to God's laws
- Understandable for the secular world, but not for Believers

PETER'S HUMBLE ADMISSION



- Vs. 29 Peter admits that salvation in Christ is for gentiles, too
- Peter did NOT understand this until the last 72 hours !
- God had not changed
- Peter had it wrong all along
- As prophesied, Christ's death brought about a provision of the Abrahamic Covenant that through the Hebrews all people on earth would be blessed

PETER SETS THE RECORD STRAIGHT

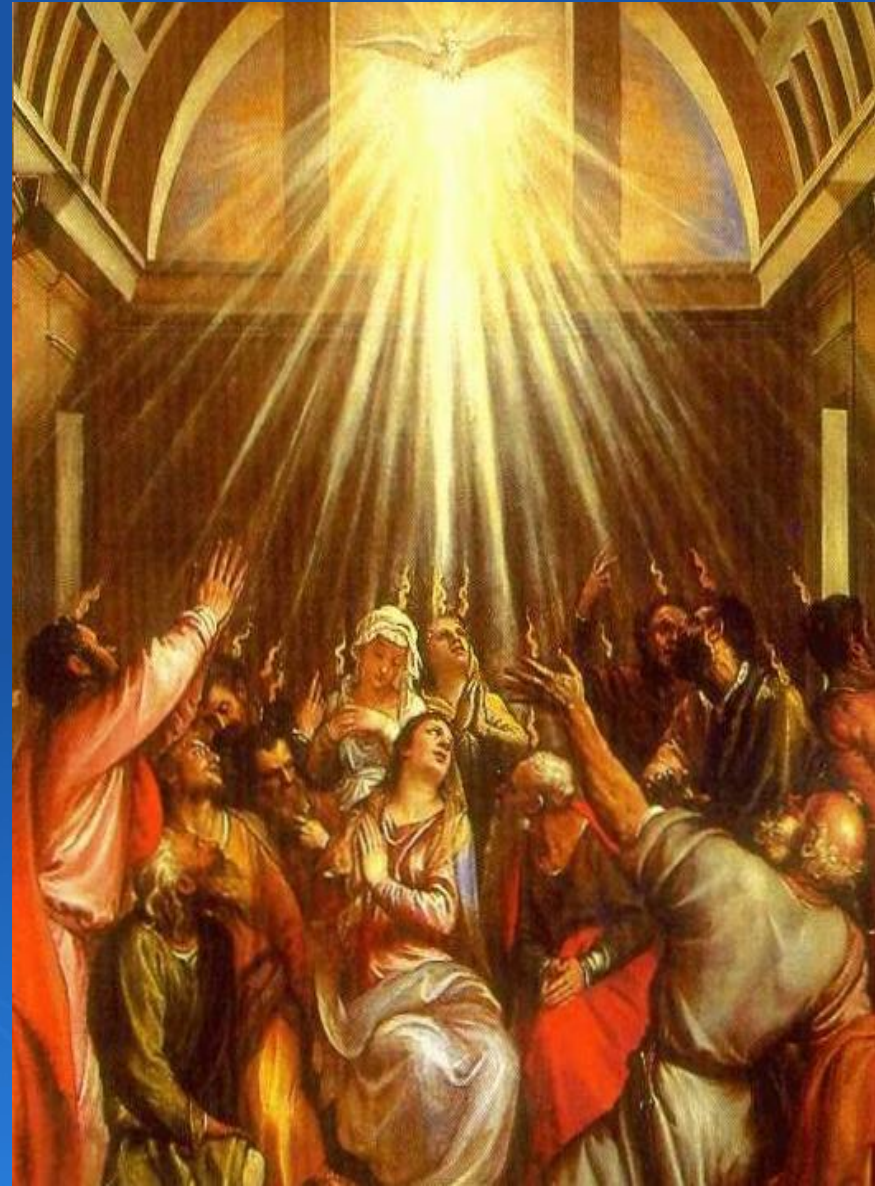
- Peter assumes that Cornelius knows the ritual purity problems and who Christ is
- Vs. 41 Only certain Jewish witnesses ate and drank with Christ after resurrection
- Romans 3:1 – 4
- Paul says the same thing in a different context
- Vs. 43 is the Gospel in a nutshell
- Although revolutionary to Peter, he now realizes that the Prophets had all pointed to the reality of the gentiles joining in

You worship what you do not know
we worship what we know
for Salvation is
of the Jews
John 4:22

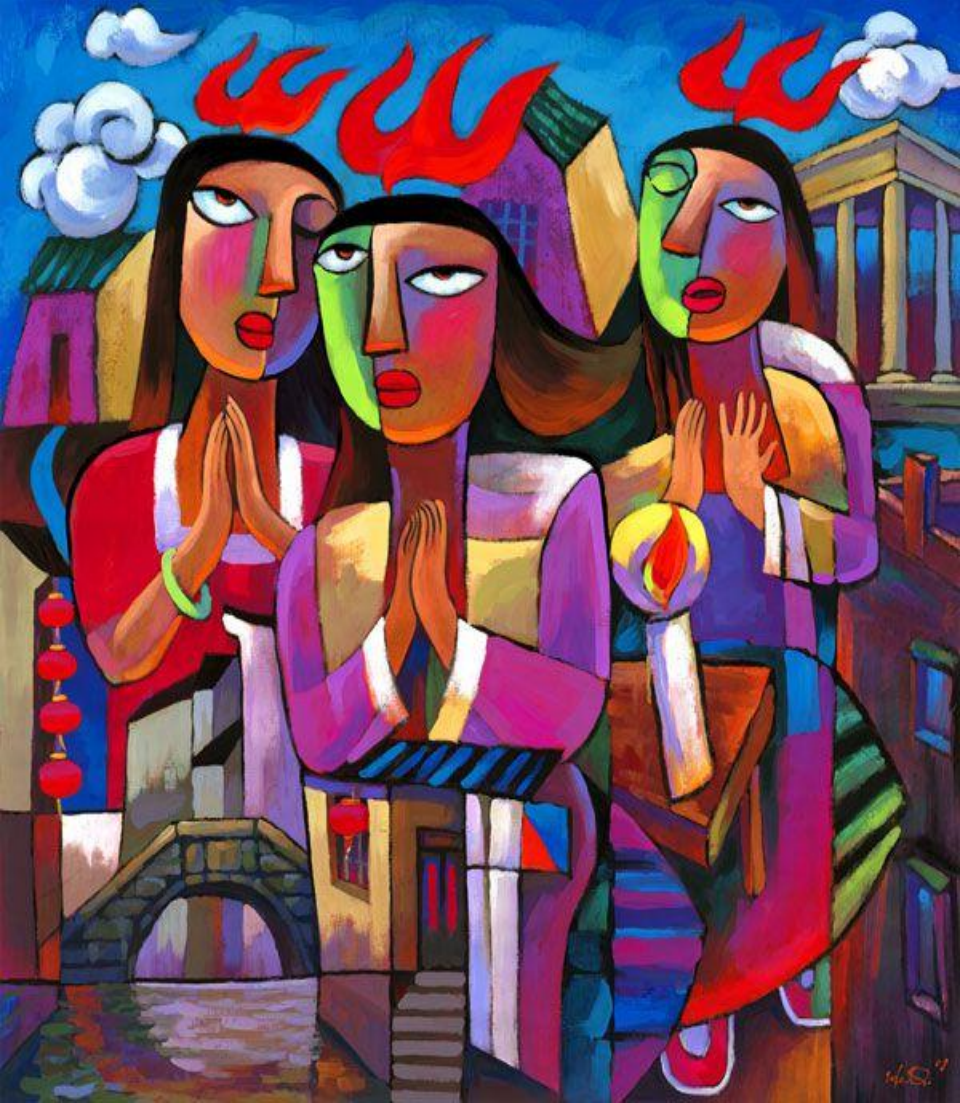


THE CIRCUMCISION ISSUE

- *Ruach HaKodesh* fell on everyone listening
- Vs. 45 The issue of circumcision for gentiles
- Gentiles spoke in tongues
- Circumcision “faction”
- These were Believing Jews who went from Yafu to Cornelius’s house with Peter
- Circumcision meant to become a Jew
- The circumcision issue was around long before Christ, as many Romans wanted to worship the God of Israel



A SECOND PENTECOST



- Circumcision faction didn't think belief in Christ changed anything re: circumcision
- Trust in Christ the natural path for Judaism
- A God-fearer gentile being circumcised solved the ritual purity problem because now they are a Jew !
- First Pentecost on Jews, second one on gentiles
- Gentiles believing, and being immersed, would become the norm
- No protest from the Circumcision faction as they were eyewitnesses to what happened

PAUL & THE CIRCUMCISED HEART

- It would be left up to Paul to explain the theology of circumcision
- Paul dealt with the spiritual aspect of circumcision
- Romans 2:13 – 29
- Paul also says that the gentile (uncircumcised) who obeys the Torah will stand as a judgment against the Jew (the circumcised) who disobeys the Torah

