



## CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: MINISTRY TO ME

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23

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TEXT: ACTS 10:9-28

TITLE: EATING TO LIVE VERSUS LIVING TO EAT:

WHY WE STILL CANNOT EAT IT

### INTRODUCTION

- A. Consider a story that appears to be about one thing – that has absolutely nothing to do with that thing – rather, the story is being used to present a truth about another thing \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Allegory: A story, poem or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral, spiritual or political one. \_\_\_\_\_

### WHAT HAPPENED THE DAY BEFORE?

- A. Cornelius (A Gentile, centurion, devout man, God fearer, generous giver) \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Cornelius had a vision to send men to Joppa to bring Peter. He sent two servants and one soldier (**3 MEN**) \_\_\_\_\_

### WHAT HAPPENED THE NEXT DAY?

- A. Peter went up on the housetop at noon to pray \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat \_\_\_\_\_
- C. While they were preparing the food he fell into a trance \_\_\_\_\_
1. He saw a large sheet-like object descending from heaven
  2. In it was all kinds of animals, reptiles, insects and birds
  3. A voice said, “Rise Peter; kill and eat.”
  4. Peter said, “Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean.”
  5. A voice said, “What God has cleansed you must not call common”
  6. This was done **3 TIMES**, and the object was taken up into heaven
- D. While Peter wondered what the vision meant... (v. 17) \_\_\_\_\_
1. Wondered = Thoroughly perplexed and to be in much doubt
  2. The **3 MEN** Cornelius sent were at the gate asking for Peter
- E. While Peter thought about the vision... (v. 19, 20) \_\_\_\_\_
1. Thought = To resolve in mind and to think upon
  2. The Spirit, “Get up, go down and *go with them*, without doubting
- F. Explanation (v. 28):
1. “You know it is unlawful for a Jewish man to associate with or visit a Gentile.”
  2. “But God has shown me (through the vision) that *I should not call any man* common or unclean.” (compare with verse 14)

### WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

- A. This story is not about food... \_\_\_\_\_
- B. This story is about accepting everyone, who was formerly seen as unacceptable, and inviting them into a relationship with God through Jesus, the Christ \_\_\_\_\_