

Caesarea Maritima
Faith Comes to the Gentiles
(Acts 10:24-27 & 43-45)

Caesarea Maritima – has been called “*Vegas on the Med.*”

BECAUSE... THEY HAD...

- Chariot races in the hippodrome
- Gladiator challenges
- And this amphitheater for dramas & community gatherings

TWO FUN FACTS:

1. After Jerusalem was destroyed in (AD 70) this city became the center of Christianity for the early church.
2. In (AD 195) a church council ruled here... that *The Resurrection* should be celebrated by the Church yearly... on Sunday.

That’s pretty cool.

~ INTRO ~

Well... this is the place Peter brought the Gospel Message from Joppa.

- The gospel message passed thru this city...
 - o AND has literally impacted our lives... as Gentiles.
 - That’s what we’re remembering here today!

This place is more than a historical site to see on tour...

- It’s part of our Christian story!

NOW... CONSIDER THIS:

It’s been said, ONE-tour of Israel is equal to ONE-year in Bible college...

- Because of what you see.

FOUR-tours of Israel...

- Will supersede a bachelor’s degree in biblical studies...
 - IF... you can grasp the significance of each location.

AND this is what I want to share with you today...

- Three simple lessons...

Caesarea Maritima
Faith Comes to the Gentiles
(Acts 10:24-27 & 43-45)

- That attaches the significance of the *past*...
 - To our faith in the *present*.

~ LESSONS ~

- 1) In this location, (*Caesarea Maritima*), the first Gentile converts to Christianity happen as Peter preached the Gospel to *Cornelius, his relatives, & his close friends* (Acts 10:24) – (Acts 10:34-43).
- 2) In this location, the Holy Spirit was first poured out upon Gentiles (Acts 10:44).
- 3) In this location, is the first record of Gentiles believers being baptized into Christ (Acts 10:47-48).

LISTEN...

- As you guys go back to your churches...
 - You will have a new passion for Jesus & Israel.

DON'T LET IT DIE...

- Jesus is coming back...
 - But until He does keep making disciples...
 - And bringing people to Israel.
- Bring your churches here...
 - To connect the cultural / historical / & spiritual significance...
 - Of this land.

IF YOU NEED A PARTNER...

- Connect with me and I'll come with you...
 - But whatever you do BRING YOUR PEOPLE!

~ IN CLOSING ~

Remember... in the book of Acts...

- Caesarea played a significant role in the spread of
 - The Gospel to the Gentile world.

OTHER NOTES TO CONSIDER:

Caesarea Maritima
Faith Comes to the Gentiles
(Acts 10:24-27 & 43-45)

- Peter was here (Acts 10:25)
- Cornelius the Roman Centurion (Acts 10:22 & 25)
- Philip the Evangelist (Acts 21:8)
- Paul / Pontius Pilot / Felix / Festus
- Herod Agrippa-I – eaten by worms (Acts 12:21-24)
- AND... Herod Agrippa-II who Paul tried to persuade (Acts 26:28)

AND... HERE'S THE BIG IDEA...

*“Meanwhile, the word of God continued to spread,
and there were many new believers.”* (Acts 12:24) NLT

GOD IS ADDING TO HIS CHURCH DAILY...

- And many are growing in their faith...
 - Just like you guys.

Amen!