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Don Good

Difficult Scriptures

I. Scripture: Acts 10:12-13

II. How This Verse Is Misused By Some

This verse, among others, is pointed to by those who wish to prove that the New Testament allows the eating of unclean animals. Specifically, they say that this section proves that God by this vision showed Peter it is all right to eat all meats, clean and unclean.

III. True Explanation

- A. Peter was in a trance (verse 10). He saw the sheet filled with unclean creatures as a vision (verse 17). He did not actually eat any of those creatures.
- B. Peter did not know what the vision meant (verse 17). He did not assume that it meant it was fine for him to eat unclean meats from now on.
- C. The meaning of the vision is given in verse 28. God was showing Peter that he should call no man common (ceremonially defiled) or unclean. The Jews regarded gentiles as unclean and unfit for their company. God used this vision to show Peter that gentiles should not be shunned and considered unclean.

