

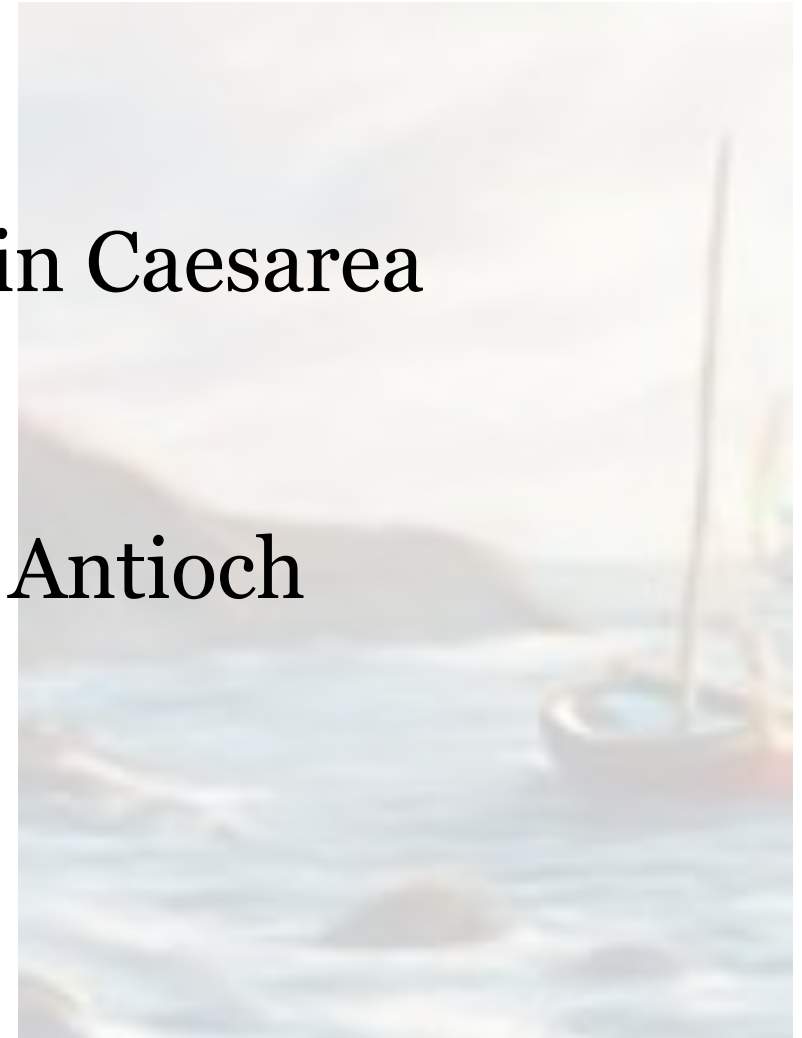


# **Overcoming Spiritual Motion Sickness**

Acts 11:1-30

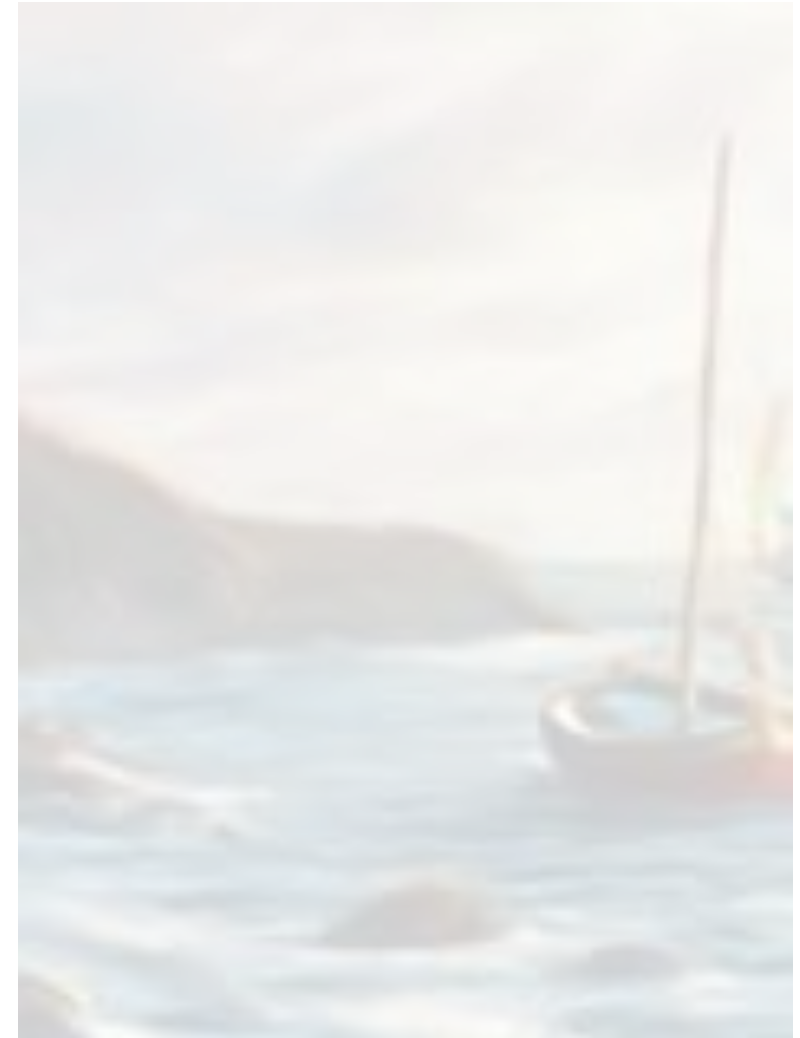
# Sudden turns in the church

- 11:1-18 Impact of the first Gentiles in Caesarea
  - Facing the wave of criticism
  - Carefully giving the facts
- 11:19-30 Explosion of the gospel in Antioch
  - Decision to evangelize the Gentiles
  - Growth and nurturing of the church



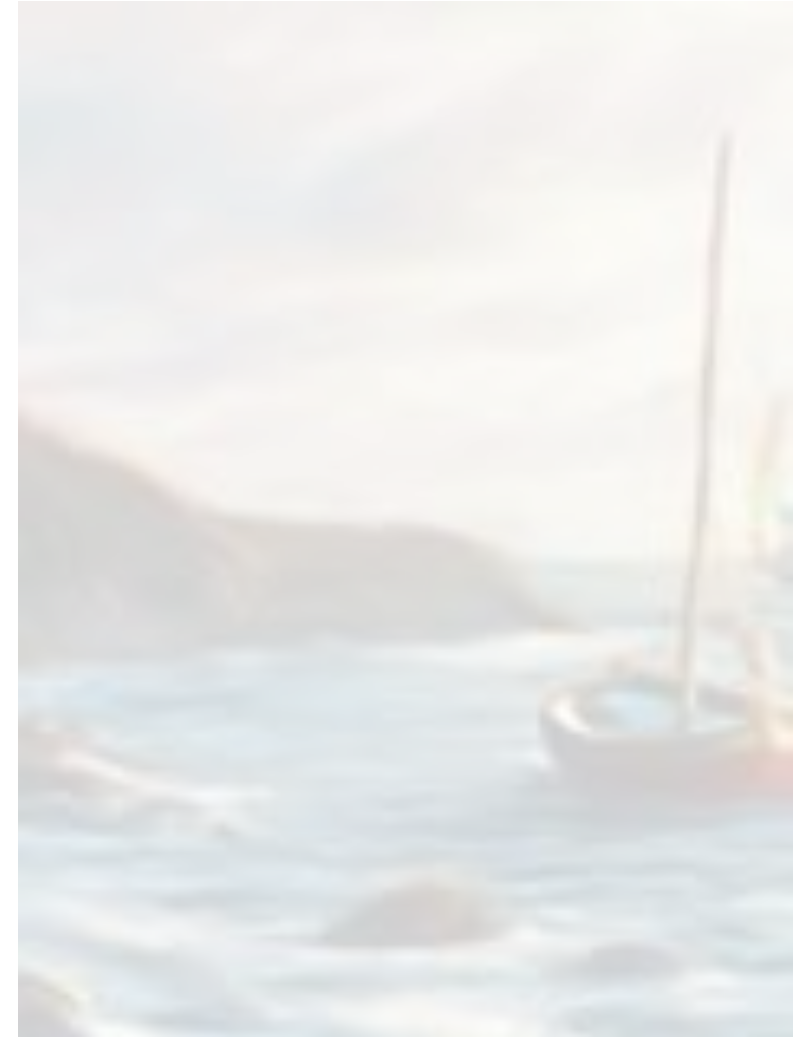
# Peter defends the Gentiles 11:1-18

- Peter faces criticism vs 1-3
  - Peter arrives back in Jerusalem
  - Those of the circumcision contended
  - You ate with uncircumcised men
- Peter explained the facts 4-15
  - Peter's vision 5-10
  - Arrival of Cornelius' men 11
  - Holy Spirit's command 12
  - Cornelius' vision 13-14
  - The Spirit fell on them 15



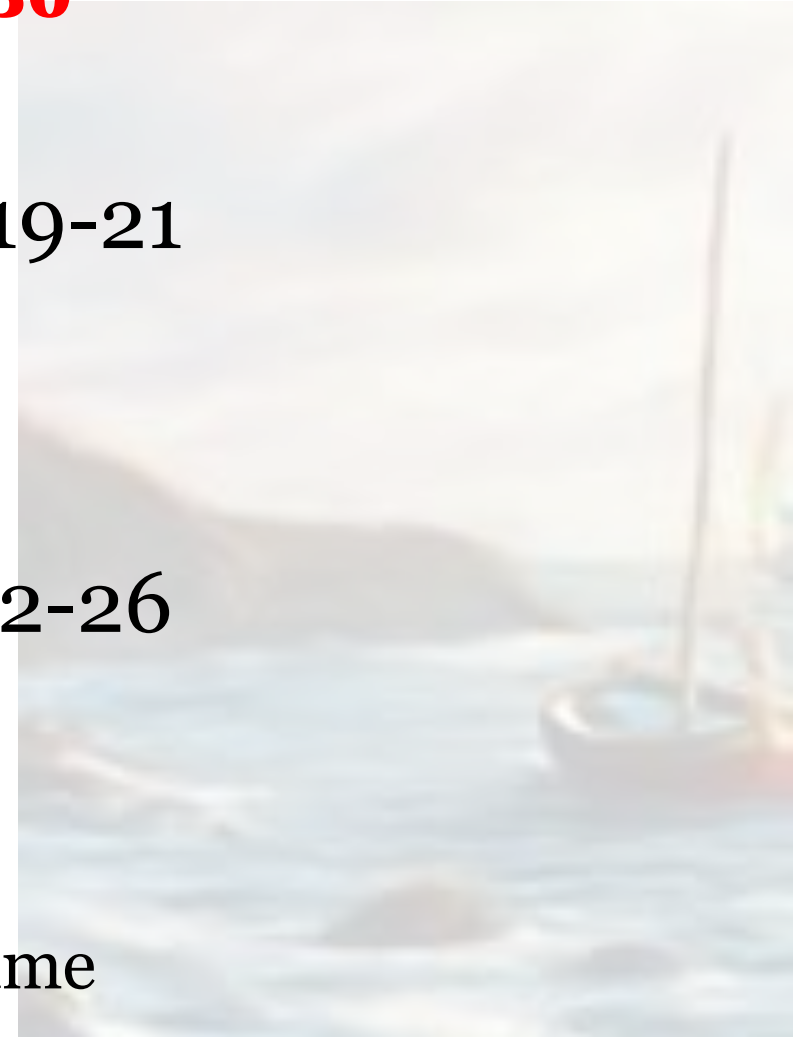
# Peter defends the Gentiles 11:1-18

- Unmistakable conclusion 15-17
  - This was the work of God
  - God gave them the same gift as us
  - Who was I to withstand God?
- Silence and praise 18
  - God has granted Gentiles repentance



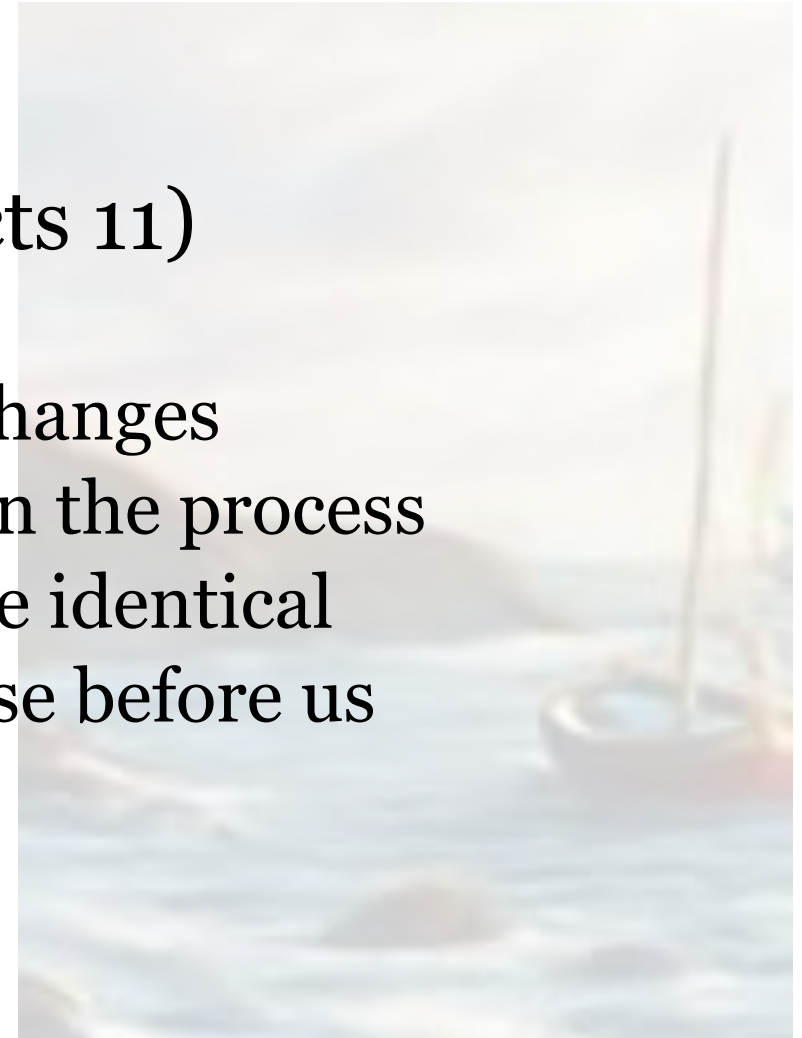
# Kingdom growth in Antioch 11:19-30

- Including Gentiles in evangelizing 19-21
  - Travelling up the coast (to Jews only)
  - Came to Antioch (spoke to Hellenists)
  - Hand of the Lord with them
- Growth and nurturing of Antioch 22-26
  - Church in Jerusalem sends Barnabas
  - Barnabas sees God's grace/rejoices
  - Barnabas goes to enlist help of Saul
  - Doctrinal grounding and receive new name



## Preparing for Healthy Change

- Learning from the early church (Acts 11)
  - Keep focused on the gospel
  - Give explanation of reasons for any changes
  - Include those slow to accept change in the process
  - Accept that not every church has to be identical
  - Remember to support and honor those before us
- God is always a step ahead of us
  - Asking us to grow in our faith





# **Overcoming Spiritual Motion Sickness**

Acts 11:1-30