

### **~ITALIAN BAND (43)**

- **A unit of the Roman army in which Cornelius of Caesarea served as a centurion. In the Bible's only reference to it, Cornelius is said to have been, an army officer of the Italian band, as it was called.**
- **Now in Caesarea there was a certain man named Cornelius, an army officer of the **Italian band**, as it was called. (**Acts of Apostles 10:1**)**
- **This was probably a cohort, so named to distinguish it from the regular Roman legions. A cohort in full strength consisted of about 600 men, that is, about one tenth the size of a legion.**
- **As its name implies, this cohort was probably made up of volunteers mustered in Italy, having Roman citizenship either as freeborn men or as freedmen.**
- **The scripture does not say this **Italian band** was stationed at Caesarea. It only says that Cornelius, one of its army officers, had his home in Caesarea.**
- **Now in Caesarea there was a certain man named Cornelius, an army officer of the **Italian band**, as it was called. (**Acts of Apostles 10:1**)**
- **A devout man and one fearing God together with all his household, and he made many gifts of mercy to the people and made supplication to God continually. (**Acts of Apostles 10:2**)**
- **They said; Cornelius, an army officer, a man righteous and fearing God and well reported by the whole nation of the Jews, was given divine instructions by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear the things you have to say. (**Acts of Apostles 10:22**)**
- **On the day after that he entered into Caesarea. Cornelius, of course, was expecting them and had called together his relatives and intimate friends. (**Acts of Apostles 10:24**)**