

BAPTISM STUDY

1. Review Romans 3:23 and Luke 13:5

- A. All have sinned/all must repent (repent or perish)
- B. Sin must be forgiven/need a new start/Wall between man and God removed
- C. What does the Bible say about when a person gets their sins forgiven?

2. John 3:1-7 (Jesus Speaking)

- A. Born again/born of water and the Spirit
- B. New start/new life/new beginning
- C. Don't know all it means from this passage but we know we must do this

3. Acts 2:22-24 (Peter Speaking)

- A. What message must a person believe to be saved?
 - a. Jesus is from God—miracles (v. 22)
 - b. Jesus raised physically from the dead (v. 24)
 - c. Everyone is responsible for the crucifixion of Jesus (because all sinned)
- B. Acts 2:37 What is the response of the people?
 - a. Cut to the heart—they believed.
 - b. What shall we do?—they wanted to get right with God.
- C. Acts 2:38-41 Once the people believed, what did they do?
 - a. Repent (Greek—to turn)
 - b. Be baptized (Greek—“baptizo” to be immerse, dip or plunge)(Never translated...an new word was produced for the English language.)
 - c. Purpose
 - 1. Sins forgiven. Therefore, this is the point in time a person is initially saved. A new beginning. A new start. Born again.
 - 2. Holy Spirit is given to each who responded. Empowered and sealed for salvation.
- D. Born of WATER and the SPIRIT is right here!

4. Romans 6:1-4 (Paul Speaking)

- A. All (including Paul) baptized into Christ (Acts 22:16...sins washed away...if good enough for Paul then it's good enough for me!)
- B. Baptism is a sharing (a spiritual participation) in the death, burial and the resurrection of Jesus. (More than just a symbol!)
- C. Why baptism is for the forgiveness of sins? Jesus shed his BLOOD at his death...we share in his death and come in contact with his blood (by faith) in the waters of baptism! It is the blood of Christ that cleanses us of sin.
- D. Raised to live a NEW LIFE. New life begins here. (new life—born again)
- E. How to get INTO Christ...baptized INTO Christ (v. 3)
 - a. One other scripture tells us how to get into Christ Gal. 3:26-27
 - b. Bible never says you can: Believe INTO Christ
Repent INTO Christ
Confess INTO Christ
Pray INTO Christ...

- c. Bible only says you can be **baptized INTO Christ**.
 - 1. You get into Christ and Christ gets into you!
- d. Door Analogy: Door is the entrance into the room. Either IN or OUT.
Baptism is the entrance into Christ. Either IN or OUT.
- e. Jesus, Peter and Paul all agree...born again, born of water and the Spirit, baptized for the forgiveness of sins, baptized into Christ, raised to live a new life...all talking about the same thing!

5. Scripture taken OUT OF CONTEXT to say a person doesn't need to be baptized

- A. **Rev 3:20** Written to a church so written to Christians not non-Christians; teaches lukewarm Christians they need to repent and pray. Is not talking about initial conversion. Began in the 1800's in America.
- B. **Rom 10:9** Written after Romans 6; never talks about repentance; must put all Scriptures together and not pick and choose
NOTE: to know the Bible truth on any subject, put together all the Bible says on that subject. The Bible never contradicts (saved by faith / saved by grace / saved by repentance / saved by confession / saved by baptism—1 Peter 3:21)
- C. **John 3:16** Middle of a conversation. If you did not hear the whole conversation, a person could miss what was being said. This is the conversation with Nicodemus—you must be born again of water and Spirit.

6. Conclusion:

- A. Baptism is being born again of water and the Spirit.
- B. Baptism is when a person's sins are initially forgiven.
- C. Baptism is when a person receives the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- D. Baptism is the beginning of the new life.
- E. Baptism is how I get INTO Christ and Christ gets into me.
- F. What do you believe you need to do? (Be urgent)

Next Study: a. Will look at more scriptures on baptism and more conversion stories in the Bible. We will also look more into the false teachings about this very important subject.

b. Set up the next study...time, date and place!