

Baptism Lesson #1

Focus Verse

John 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Scriptures from the Gospels

Luke 24:44–49 And he said unto them, These *are* the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and *in* the prophets, and *in* the psalms, concerning me.

45 **Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,**

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

John 3:5 **Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.**

Our Lord began preaching the Kingdom of God **after the death of John the Baptist, who had preached a baptism of repentance and had prepared the way for the Lord.** Virtually everyone agrees that John's baptism, was a baptism in water as both John the Baptist and our Lord's disciples baptized many in the river Jordan.

After the resurrection of our Lord, and before His ascension into heaven (in Acts 1), our Lord gave His Disciples the following commands;

Matthew 28:18–20 **And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.**

19 **Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them** in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 **Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:** and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

Mark 16:15–16 And he (Jesus) said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

- 16 **He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.**

Our Lord ascended into Heaven in Acts 1 and as we have seen, after the Gospels and the book of Acts, the rest of the New Testament is written to Christians. Thus, examples of conversions into the Kingdom of God, into the Church-- take place in the book of Acts only.

Scriptures from Book of Acts

Peter at Jerusalem

- Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.
- 37 Now when they heard *this*, they were **pricked in their heart**, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men *and* brethren, what shall we do?
- 38 Then Peter said unto them, **Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.**
- 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, *even* as many as the Lord our God shall call.
- 40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, **Save yourselves from this untoward generation.**
- 41 Then they that **gladly received his word were baptized**: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls.
- 42 And they continued stedfastly in the **apostles' doctrine** and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

The Conversion of the Samaritans

- Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

The Conversion of the Ethiopian Eunuch

- Acts 8:34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?
- 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and **preached unto him Jesus.**
- 36 And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?
- 37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
- 38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

- 39 And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

The Conversion of Saul/Paul

Acts 9:17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, *even* Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

- 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, **and was baptized.**

Acts 22:12 (Paul speaking) And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt *there*,

- 13 Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him.
 14 And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth.
 15 For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard.
 16 **And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.**

The Conversion of Cornelius

Acts 10:1 There was a certain man in Caesarea called **Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band,**

- 2 **A devout man,** and one that **feared God** with all his house, which **gave much alms** to the people, and **prayed to God alway.**
 3 He saw in a **vision** evidently about the ninth hour of the day **an angel of God** coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.
 4 And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.
 5 And now send men to Joppa, and call for *one* Simon, whose surname is Peter:

And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in ^ybright clothing,

- 31 And said, Cornelius, thy prayer is heard, and thine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God.
 44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.
 45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that **on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.**
 46 **For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,**
 47 **Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?**

- 48 And he commanded them **to be baptized in the name of the Lord**. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.
- 11:1 And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God.

Baptism into Jesus Christ's Death:

Romans 6:1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

- 2 God forbid. **How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?**
- 3 **Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?**
- 4 Therefore **we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father**, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
- 5 For if we have been planted together in the **likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:**
- 6 Knowing this, **that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed**, that henceforth we should not serve sin.
- 7 **For he that is dead is freed from sin.**
- 8 **Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:**