## The New Birth - John Wolfram

## The New Birth

Jn. 3: 3-5 - "Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

4 Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old?

Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

Acts 2:38 - "Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

### **REPENTANCE**

**Repentance** starts the process of salvation, for one to be forgiven, and having Jesus' blood applied to our lives.

The work of <u>forgiveness</u> and <u>remission of sin</u> comes through repentance, and water baptism in Jesus' Name: (Acts.2:38).

- ✓ REPENTANCE deals with a person's sinful lifestyle.
- ✓ **WATER BAPTISM**, in Jesus' Name, deals with ones <u>record</u> and the consequences of their sin.

Once a person has repented, there <u>must be</u> a **New Birth** take place in their heart and life, or they will return back to their former lifestyle and be overcome with the works of the flesh.

Matt 12:43-44 - "When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none.

Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished."

Luke 11:24-25 - "When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out.

And when he cometh, he findeth it swept and garnished."

**SELF-REFORMATION** (improvement) is <u>not good enough</u> for salvation.

- ✓ We may lay our <u>idols aside</u>, stop <u>smoking</u>, <u>drinking</u>, and other <u>sinful habits</u>, but that does not bring about salvation.
- ✓ Salvation is a <u>by product</u> (consequence, result) of God, not man.
- It's necessary to receive the Holy Ghost within us to bring about a total change in one's life.
- ✓ **Self-reformation** changes only the <u>surface</u>. **The New Birth**, or born again experience, changes the heart.

Ezek. 36:26 - <u>"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh."</u>

- Our first (natural) birth leaves us powerless against Satan.
- Our fallen nature that we received from Adam & Eve leaves us hopeless against sin and the devil.

Rom. 3: 23 - <u>"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"</u>

Rom. 6: 23 - <u>"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of</u> God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord"

We need the **New Nature of Jesus (Holy Ghost)** dwelling within us so that we have power from on high to resist and overcome the enemy of our soul.

**1 John 4:4** - "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because **greater** is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

Jesus' death, burial and resurrection has made it possible for us

to be born from above, so that in the **Second Birth** (spiritual), we will have the power over sin, self, works of the flesh and Satan.

- Acts 1:8 "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."
- John 3:5-7 "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.
- <u>6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.</u>
- <u>7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.</u> (Or from above).
  - ✓ John 3:5-7 *Indicates* the two elements required for the new birth:
    - You must be born of the WATER and of the SPIRIT.
    - This new birth takes place when one is baptized in water, in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost, speaking in other tongues, as the Spirit gives the utterance.
- Acts 2:38-39 "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."
- Acts 2:1-4 "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
- 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
- <u>3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.</u>

- 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."
  - ✓ MUST BE CAREFUL HOW YOU <u>BUILD</u> YOUR SPIRITUAL HOUSE
- **1 Cor. 3:10-11** <u>"According to the grace of God, which is given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon."</u>

But **let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon**. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

**Eph. 2:20** - <u>"And are built upon the **foundation** of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;"</u>

- Repentance is the <u>first stone</u> that we build on the foundation of our Spiritual house.
- Now, it is time to lay <u>one more stone</u> on that foundation, which is, water baptism in Jesus' Name.

#### WATER BAPTISM IN JESUS' NAME

Acts 2:38 - <u>"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized</u> 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."

- ✓ REPENTANCE secures our forgiveness. (Grants us a pardon)
  - Denotes a release, a wiping out, cancellation or dismissal
- ✓ WATER BAPTISM in Jesus' Name <u>washes away and remits</u> our sins.
  - Which means to <u>send off, or away</u>. To separate the sin from the repentant sinner

- Luke 24:47 "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."
- Acts 22:16 "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."
- Acts 3:19 <u>"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;"</u>
- 1 Cor. 6:11 <u>"And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God."</u>
  - ✓ We are FORGIVEN upon REPENTANCE.
  - ✓ Our SINS are *REMITTED* when *BAPTIZED in JESUS' NAME*

When a repentant person receives water baptism in the NAME of JESUS, **God honors his faith and obedience** and wipes out the record of his past sins.

- God removes the penalty for sin, which is eternal spiritual death or separation.
- SINS are WASHED AWAY! They are GONE FOREVER!

**Ps 103:12** - "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

- ✓ PLEASE TAKE NOTE! The virtue is not in the water, but obedience to baptism in Jesus' Name by faith.
- 1 Peter 3:20-21 "Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

  21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good

## conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

- ✓ The water or the ceremony does not have <u>saving power</u> in themselves.
- ✓ Water baptism is not a magical act.
- It is valueless without faith and repentance. You just go down a dry sinner, and come up a wet sinner.

### **EXAMPLE:** Simon the sorcerer at Samaria

- Acts 8:9-13, 18-24 NKJV "But there was a certain man called Simon, who previously practiced sorcery in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great,
- 10 to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the great power of God."
- 11 And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time.
- 12 But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized.
- 13 Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done.
- 18 And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money,
- 19 saying, "Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit."
- 20 But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money!
- 21 "You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God.
- 22 "Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you.
- 23 "For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity."

- 24 Then Simon answered and said, "Pray to the Lord for me, that none of the things which you have spoken may come upon me."
  - ✓ In God's plan of salvation, (Acts 2:38) The blood and water go together.
- **1 John 5:6-8 NKJV** <u>"This is He who came by water and blood--</u> <u>Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the</u> Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth.
- 7 For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.
- 8 And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one"
  - ✓ **NOTE!** The **FIRST BIRTH** consists of these **THREE** elements:
    - **1)** Blood.
    - 2) Water.
    - 3) Spirit.
  - ✓ The SECOND BIRTH (born from above), also consists of these THREE elements:
    - 1) Water (baptism).
    - 2) Blood (of Jesus).
    - **3)** Spirit (Spirit of God).
  - √ There is a perfect agreement between:
    - the **SPIRIT** (of God)
    - the WATER (baptism)
    - the BLOOD (of Jesus)

Heb 9:22 - "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

✓ Acts 2:38 gives the <u>complete plan</u> for our salvation.

- 1) REPENT.
- Be BAPTIZED in JESUS' NAME.
- 3) RECEIVE the HOLY GHOST.

**Luke 24:47** - <u>"And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.</u>

- When Jesus was on the cross the <u>soldiers</u> put a spear in his side and from the side of Jesus came forth **WATER** and **BLOOD**.
- John 19:34-35 NKJV "But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.

  35 And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe."
- **1 John 5:6** <u>"This is He who came by water and blood Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth."</u>
  - From the side (rib) of <u>Adam came Eve</u>, the mother of all living.
- **Gen 2:21-24 NKJV** <u>"And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He **took one of his ribs**, and closed up the flesh in its place.</u>
- 22 Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.
- 23 And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man."
- 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."
  - From the side of <u>Jesus</u> (last Adam) came the church, the *Bride of Christ*:
- Acts 20:28 <u>"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to the terminal of the termin</u>

feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."

- Heb 2:14 <u>"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;"</u>
- 1 Tim 3:16 "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."
  - With the SHEDDING of JESUS' BLOOD BEGAN the BEGINNING of the NEW TESTAMENT Dispensation:

Matt 26:27-28 - "And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

28 For this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

- **Ex 24:6-8 NKJV** <u>"And Moses took half the **blood** and put it in basins, and half the **blood** he sprinkled on the altar.</u>
- 7 Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient."
- 8 And Moses took the blood, sprinkled it on the people, and said, "This is the blood of the covenant which the LORD has made with you according to all these words."
- Lev 17:11 "For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul."

When we commit our lives to Jesus, we enter into a New Testament relationship with Him:

- ✓ His BLOOD starts its flow into our lives at Calvary.
- ✓ We PLUNGE beneath its flow WHEN we REPENT.

- ✓ We of its REMISSIONS for our sins when we are BAPTIZED His name.
- We are COVERED by its protective power after receiving the HOLY GHOST baptism.

WATER BAPTISM is ESSENTIAL to SALVATION. It is an act of righteousness.

Matt 3:13-15 - NKJV - "<u>Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.</u>

14 And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"

15 But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him."

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

**NOTICE** how Jesus places baptism in conjunction with salvation.

- Some have a doctrine of "BELIEVISM." (Just believe)
- They make this verse to say: <u>"He that believeth is saved, and then is baptized."</u>
- They say: That water baptism has nothing to do with your salvation. You are saved when you just believe.

#### Then what about the Devil?

• Satan believes and he is far from being saved. All he does is tremble, because he knows his future destiny.

James 2:19 - <u>"Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest</u> well: the devils also believe, and tremble."

John 7:37-38 - "In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus

<u>stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.</u>

38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

- If you are going to be a "true believer" you must follow the plan laid down in the gospel for the salvation of your soul:
- ✓ (Acts 2:37-39) and be baptized in Jesus' Name, and receive
  the Holy Ghost, speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives the
  utterance.

Eph. 4:5 - "One Lord, one faith, one baptism,"

Gal 1:6 -7 - NKJV - "I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,

7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

PART 2 of MARK 16: "...believeth not shall be damned..."

**MEANING:** <u>JUDGED</u> and <u>CUT OFF</u>.

If you do not <u>believe</u> the gospel message, <u>and obey</u> God's plan of salvation (ACT.2:38), you are **setting yourself up for judgment and eternal separation from God.** 

**God** has only **ONE WAY** to ETERNAL LIFE.

God is a stickler for specification.

- ✓ Noah's ark had only one door.
- ✓ Tabernacle plan according to God's instructions.

**Jn. 10: 1-2, 9** - <u>"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.</u>

2 "But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep."

- 9 "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture."
- Matt 7:13-14 "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:
- 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.
  - ✓ Water baptism is a vital and important part of God's plan for our salvation.
- 1 Peter 3:20-21 "Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

  21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God.) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:
  - ✓ Water baptism is not considered to be a "<u>bath</u>" for the putting away of dirt, but the answer of a "<u>good conscience</u>" toward God:
- **Heb 9:14** NKJV <u>"how much more shall the blood of Christ, who</u> through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"
  - ✓ **WATER BAPTISM** is **ESSENTIAL** for us to BE **"RIGHT"** and **"JUST"** BEFORE GOD.
- Matt 3:13-17 NKJV <u>"Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.</u>
- 14 And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"
- 15 But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him.
- 16 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Jesus had walked many miles to be baptized by John the Baptist.

John knowing Jesus to be without sin, requested that Jesus baptize him instead.

Jesus replied, <u>"Suffer (permit) it to be so now: for it becometh us (fitting for us) to fulfill "all righteousness."</u>

- ✓ This <u>statement of Jesus</u> signified that water baptism is important.
- ✓ That water baptism is an act of righteousness.
  - Preparing the Church, the Bride of Christ, with her <u>robe of righteousness</u>.
  - Every <u>step</u> that we take in obedience to God's word <u>adds</u> to that garment of salvation.

Rev 19:7-8 - "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

- Isa 61:10 "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels."
- **Eph 5:27** "That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."

- Matt 22:11-13 NKJV <u>"But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment.</u>
- 12 "So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless.
- 13 "Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

## May I ask?

<u>Does that convince you</u> that we <u>need all of God's plan of salvation applied</u> to our lives, **including water baptism in Jesus' Name** to fulfill all righteousness?

# DON'T be CAUGHT <u>WITHOUT</u> the <u>REQUIRED</u> <u>WEDDING</u> GARMENT!

- The price has been paid.
- The garment is waiting for you to put it on.
- No excuses. Jesus doesn't have time for excuses.

# Matt 22:1-10 - NKJV - <u>"And Jesus answered and spoke to them</u> again by parables and said:

- <u>2 "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son,</u>
- 3 "and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come.
- 4 "Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding."
- <u>5 "But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business.</u>
- <u>6 "And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them.</u>
- 7 "But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.
- 8 "Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy.

- <u>9 'Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.'</u>
- 10 "So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests."

## In the Old Testament God used WATER as a "figure" of salvation

- 1) NOAH: God Saved Noah and his family by water.
  - 1 Peter 3:20 "Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.
- ISRAEL: God saved the nation by <u>water.</u>
  - 1 Cor 10:1-2 NKJV "Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea,

    2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,"
- 3) OLD TESTAMENT TABERNACLE: Laver of water.

**Priests** were **commanded to wash with wate**r before entering the tabernacle that they die not.

- Ex 30:20 "When they go into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister, to burn an offering made by fire to the LORD, they shall wash with water, lest they die."
- Rom 15:4 "For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."
- ✓ WATER BAPTISM is the NEW TESTAMENT <u>SPIRITUAL</u> CIRCUMCISION.

- IN THE OLD TESTAMENT Circumcision of FLESH was required.
- **Gen 17:10-14 NKJV** <u>"This is My covenant which you shall keep, between Me and you and your descendants after you: Every male child among you shall be circumcised;</u>
- 11 "and you shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and you.
- 12 "He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised, every male child in your generations, he who is born in your house or bought with money from any foreigner who is not your descendant.
- 13 "He who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money must be circumcised, and My covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.
- 14 "And the uncircumcised male child, who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant."
- Acts 7:8 "And he gave him the covenant of circumcision: and so Abraham begat Isaac, and circumcised him the eighth day; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat the twelve patriarchs.

**God made a covenant with Abraham** about the *Promised Land* and about *his seed*.

This covenant <u>required</u> those who were participating in the covenant <u>to accept</u> the sign and seal of the covenant, which was a **natural circumcision of the flesh**.

- ✓ Gen. 17:12 ...it was to be performed on an infant's eighth day after birth...
- ✓ **Gen. 17: 13** ...to be executed on all males -- whether born in his house, or a boughten slave...
- ✓ Gen. 17: 14 ....to fail to obey meant a cutting off from his people...
  - Circumcision was a <u>visible mark</u> in the flesh, as a reminder to the Jewish male that he had been separated

#### unto God.

- Without this fleshly circumcision it was impossible to enjoy Abraham's blessings and promises.
- ✓ The OLD TESTAMENT Circumcision involved BLOOD.
  - A Cutting Off.
  - A Getting Rid Of.
- ✓ The NEW TESTAMENT Circumcision is of the <u>HEART</u> It replaced Old Testament Circumcision.

## The New Testament Circumcision also involved BLOOD.

- A cutting off of the Old life
- A getting rid of Past Sins.
- 1 Peter 1:18-19 "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

  19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:"
- Heb 9:14 "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"
  - Since the cross of Calvary, "circumcision of the <u>flesh</u>" is replaced with "circumcision of the heart".
  - The old man that died at the altar of repentance must now be buried.
  - Water baptism is a <u>spiritual requirement</u> for New Testament believers.
  - In water baptism, we receive the **spiritual experience of circumcision of the heart** to which the Old Testament Circumcision pointed to.

- Rom 2:28-29 <u>"For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither</u> is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:
- 29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.
  - Outward circumcision does not save, nor does it put us in the body of Christ.
  - It is an "inward work" of the New Birth.
  - We must be born of water and the Spirit.
- **John 3:3-7** "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.
- 4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

  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.
- <u>6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.</u>
- 7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

## ✓ <u>IN THE OLD TESTAMENT:</u>

- **Deut. 30:6** <u>"And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live."</u>
- Jer. 4:4 "Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, And take away the foreskins of your hearts, You men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, Lest My fury come forth like fire, And burn so that no one can quench it, Because of the evil of your doings."
- Deut. 10:16 "Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart,

## and be stiff-necked no longer."

## ✓ <u>IN THE NEW TESTAMENT:</u>

God is <u>more concerned</u> about our "<u>inner</u>" <u>relationship</u> with Him, than a mere <u>outward display</u> of piousness.

### > O.T. and N.T. CIRCUMCISION COMPARISONS

- O.T. Natural Israel
- N.T. The CHURCH or BRIDE of Christ

Col 2:11-12 - "In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:

12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the OPERATION of God, who hath raised him from the dead."

- ✓ Water baptism in Jesus' Name is a circumcision made without human hands.
- ✓ New Testament circumcision is the act of Jesus Himself as He meets the believer in water baptism, and cuts away the old life of sin.
  - He is buried to rise (Holy Ghost infilling), to have a new life in Jesus.
  - Thus, we share in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, which is the gospel of good news.

## **✓** NEW TESTAMENT CIRCUMCISION is a <u>PROCESS</u>:

- 1) Repentance.
- 2) Baptism in Jesus Name.
- 3) Holy Ghost in filling.

Repentance and baptism alone <u>does not complete</u> the work of New Testament circumcision.

✓ The Holy Ghost infilling is required!

#### ONE MORE THING TO NOTE:

- ✓ Jewish boys were circumcised on the 8th day after their birth.
- ✓ On that day, they received their name.

Gen 17:12 - "And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed"

- ✓ Both John the Baptist and Jesus were <u>nameless</u> until the day of their circumcising. (Lk. 1: 59-63; Lk. 2: 21)
  - LIKEWISE: We, also, DO NOT receive our <u>SPIRITUAL</u> <u>NAME</u>, the name of the heavenly family, Jesus, UNTIL we are baptized in water in JESUS' NAME.

**Eph 3:14-15** - <u>"For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of</u> our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,"

## ✓ THE IMPORTANCE OF "QUICKLY" BEING BAPTIZED

There are expressions in the Bible that indicate people were quickly baptized, such as:

## THE SAME DAY:

Acts 2:37-41 - "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 hantized; and

41Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

#### WHY TARRIEST THOU?

Acts 22:16 - "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

### > THE SAME HOUR OF THE NIGHT - STRAIGHTWAY

Acts 16:33 - "And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway."

These expressions, along with **many accounts** of people being baptized as soon as they heard the gospel message, <u>responded</u> <u>straightway.</u>

#### For instance:

- Those in Samaria;
- The Ethiopian eunuch;
- Saul of Tarsus;
- · Cornelius' family;
- Lydia and women;
- Philippian jailer;
- twelve disciples of John the Baptist.

(Read the book of Acts, chapters 2-19). After examining these Biblical accounts we can't help but see and feel the urgency of this important act.

## ✓ Salvation must not to be PUT OFF.

**Heb 2:3** - <u>"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;"</u>

## OLD TESTAMENT CIRCUMCISION:

Gen 17:23 - "And Abraham took Ishmael his son, and all that were born in his house, and all that were bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house; and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the selfsame day, as God had said unto him."

Could the New Testament circumcision be <u>less important</u> than the Old Testament rite of circumcision?

When Moses <u>failed to</u> circumcise his boys, the Lord met him and sought to kill him or cut him off, etc.

Ex 4:24-26 - "And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that the LORD met him, and sought to kill him.

25 Then Zipporah took a sharp stone, and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast it at his feet, and said, Surely a bloody husband art thou to me.

26 So he let him go: then she said, A bloody husband thou art, because of the circumcision.

**Gen 17:14** - <u>"And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.</u>

#### > WARNING!

- ✓ God does not tolerate <u>indifference</u> and <u>neglect</u> of His Word.
- He requires a <u>performance</u>, to the <u>letter</u>, of His statues, (His Word).
- There is no getting around it.

It is important to <u>quickly obey</u> WATER BAPTISM in JESUS' NAME.

Israel was not allowed to **cross** over Jordan, **into the Promised** Land (Canaan) <u>until</u> all the males were circumcised.

- Josh 5:2-9 "At that time the LORD said unto Joshua, Make thee sharp knives, and circumcise again the children of Israel the second time.
- <u>3 And Joshua made him sharp knives, and circumcised the children of Israel at the hill of the foreskins.</u>
- 4 And this is the cause why Joshua did circumcise: All the people that came out of Egypt, that were males, even all the men of war, died in the wilderness by the way, after they came out of Egypt.
- 5 Now all the people that came out were circumcised: but all the people that were born in the wilderness by the way as they came forth out of Egypt, them they had not circumcised.
- 6 For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people that were men of war, which came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD: unto whom the LORD sware that he would not shew them the land, which the LORD sware unto their fathers that he would give us, a land that floweth with milk and honey.
- 7 And their children, whom he raised up in their stead, them Joshua circumcised: for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them by the way.
- 8 And it came to pass, when they had done circumcising all the people, that they abode in their places in the camp, till they were whole.
- <u>9 And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day have I rolled away</u> the reproach of Egypt from off you. Wherefore the name of the place is called Gilgal unto this day.
- ✓ <u>Without</u> N.T. circumcision (water baptism in Jesus' Name)
  we are <u>subject to the penalty</u> of eternal rejection.
- ✓ To be LOST FOR ETERNITY and separated from God's family identity and blessings.

#### **SUMMARY:**

- ✓ **O.T. Circumcision** was given to Abraham as a <u>mark of</u> <u>separation</u> from the <u>idolatrous nations</u> around about them.
- ✓ N.T. Circumcision -- Water baptism in Jesus' Name is given as the <u>mark of separation from the sins</u> of this world system, and a putting off of the past sins of the flesh.

LET the "BLOOD" OF JESUS PURGE our CONSCIENCE from DEAD WORKS to SERVE THE LIVING GOD.

Heb 9:14 - "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"

- WHAT IS THE SCRIPTURAL MODE OF BAPTISM?
  - To "DIP," to "SPRINKLE," or by "IMMERSION"?
    - The ANSWER IS: THE CORRECT "MODE" of BAPTISM is by <u>IMMERSION!</u>
  - 1) DESCRIBED in the BIBLE as a "BURIAL":

Rom 6:3-4 - "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."

Col 2:12 - "Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead."

## 2) DESCRIBED in the BIBLE as a "PLANTING":

Rom 6:5 - "For if we have been planted together in the

<u>likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his</u> resurrection:"

- There is no way that burial and planting can mean anything other than IMMERSION, or covered with water.
- Not sprinkling or pouring water on the one being baptized.
- Water baptism is a <u>BURIAL!</u>

Burial <u>must follow death</u>, for a **dead man is never left unburied**.

Neither is he **left on top of the ground with some dirt sprinkled on top of him**. Sprinkling or pouring can never have the significance of burial.

- Even as burial follows death, even so does water baptism, IMMERSION in water, follows repentance.
- Only IMMERSION is able to meet the requirements for "Biblical" Baptism.
- Let's be reasonable and sensible and not blinded by the traditions of men.
- Mark 7:1-9 <u>"Then the Pharisees and some of the scribes came</u> together to Him, having come from Jerusalem.
- 2 Now when they saw some of His disciples eat bread with defiled, that is, with unwashed hands, they found fault.
- <u>3 For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash</u> their hands in a special way, holding the tradition of the elders.
- 4 When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other things which they have received and hold, like the washing of cups, pitchers, copper vessels, and couches.
- <u>5 Then the Pharisees and scribes asked Him, "Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands?"</u>

- 6 He answered and said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me.
- 7 And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'
- 8 "For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men--the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do."
- 9 He said to them, "All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition."

### EXAMPLES of NEW TESTAMENT IMMERSION

- **John 3:23** <u>"And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized."</u>
  - ✓ Why the need for so much water if "sprinkling" or "pouring" is the proper "mode" for baptism?
- Matt 3:16 "And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:"
- Acts 8:38-39 "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. 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."
  - ✓ If sprinkling or pouring had been the proper mode for baptism, the eunuch could have remained in the chariot while Philip baptized him...(Poured water on him, or sprinkled him).
  - ✓ **John the Baptist, Peter and the Early Church** *immersed* their candidates.
  - ✓ Church history confirms that <u>immersion</u> was practiced by the Early Church and was LATER CHANGED to <u>sprinkling</u> and

pouring.

✓ Thus becoming a <u>tradition</u> of man, and <u>not ordained by</u> God.

#### INFANT BAPTISM?

As with sprinkling, the doctrine of <u>infant baptism</u> cannot be found in the New Testament, without adding to the Word of God!

# > <u>PREACHING</u> and <u>TEACHING</u> MUST PRECEDE WATER BAPTISM

Matt 28:19 - "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:"

Acts 2:41 - <u>"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls."</u>

Acts 8:35-37 - <u>"Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning</u> at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.

36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?"

37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

The above <u>Biblical accounts confirm</u> that **teaching or preaching must PRECEDE baptism**.

## BELIEVING is also a PREREQUISTE of BAPTISM

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

## REPENTANCE COMES BEFORE BAPTISM

- Acts 2:38 "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."
- Matt 3:7-8 "But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:
- A child should be <u>old enough</u> to receive teaching or preaching, to believe, and to repent of sin before being baptized.
- ✓ <u>Dedicating</u> children to God and asking Him to <u>bless</u> them is Biblical. However this does not save them.
- Luke 18:15-17 "And they brought unto him also infants, that he would touch them: but when his disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein."
- Matt 19:13-15 "Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven. And he laid his hands on them, and departed thence."
- Mark 10:13-16 "And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them."

## WHAT is the FORMULA FOR WATER BAPTISM?

✓ We now come to a very controversial subject.

The Name of Jesus is used by ALL churches and it's members to do the following:

## 1) TO RECEIVE ANSWERS TO PRAYERS:

John 16:23-24, 26 - "And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you.

24 "Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

26 "In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you;

## 2) TO CAST OUT DEVILS:

Mark 16:17 - "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

## 3) TO HEAL THE SICK:

Acts 3:6, 16 - "Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith, which is by him, hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all."

Acts 4:10 - "Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole."

James 5:14-15 - "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him."

## 4) TO RECEIVE THE HOLY GHOST:

Mark 16:17 - "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

## 5) TO RECEIVE SALVATION:

Matt 1:21 - "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Acts 4:11-12 - "This is the stone which was set at naught of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

- ✓ BUT when it comes to BAPTIZING in the Name of Jesus a "FLAG of RESISTANCE goes up".
  - May I ask Why is that so "offensive"?
  - **THE ANSWER IS** Because of entrenchment in traditional doctrines and dogma of men.

#### **DOESN'T the BIBLE TEACH:**

#### ✓ TO DO ALL IN THE NAME OF JESUS?

Col 3:17 - "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the

## Father by him."

## ✓ THAT HIS NAME IS ABOVE ALL OTHERS?

Phil 2:9-11 - "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

# ✓ THAT JESUS is the FAMILY NAME in HEAVEN and EARTH?

Eph 3:14- 15 - "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named."

Before His ascension, Jesus instructed His disciples to tarry for the Holy Ghost...Preach...Baptize...Teach...and Witness.

# Matt 28:19-20 - <u>"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:</u>

<u>20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with youalways, even unto the end of the world. Amen."</u>

Mark 16:15-18 - "And he 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.

<u>17And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;</u>

18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."

- **Luke 24:45-49** <u>"Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,</u>
- 46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved 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."

# **VERSE 47** - <u>"Repentance and remission of sins should be preached</u> **in his name** among all among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem..."

- ✓ The disciples were obedient to Jesus' commands.
- They tarried until they received the Holy Ghost, then they preached, taught, baptized, healed, and witnessed.

**Peter** having been **commissioned with the <u>keys</u> to the kingdom** by Jesus, **preached the first message of salvation** on the day that they were filled with the Holy Ghost...the Day of Pentecost.

- ✓ Those that heard the message and were convicted asked Peter and the rest of the Apostles what shall we do? (Acts 2:37)
- ✓ **PETER RESPONDED** with the *plan* for man's deliverance.

"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." (Acts 2:38-40)

## PHILIP BAPTIZED IN THE NAME OF JESUS.

- Acts 8:12-16 "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.
- 13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs, which were done.

- <u>14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:</u>
- Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:
- (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

## PETER CONTINUED TO BAPTIZE IN JESUS' NAME.

- Acts 10:44-48 "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 <u>Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?</u>
- 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days."

#### PAUL LIKEWISE.

- Acts 19:1-7 "And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,
- <u>2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since</u> <u>ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.</u>
- <u>3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.</u>
- 4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.
- <u>5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.</u>
- <u>6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.</u>

## 7 And all the men were about twelve."

A careful examination of the above scriptures with **Matt.28:19** and **Luke 24:47** will reveal the baptism of the apostles (in the name of Jesus Christ) is a fulfilling of Jesus' commandments to the disciples before His ascension.

- ✓ NOTE: <u>Father, Son and Holy Ghost</u> are <u>NOT NAMES</u>, but <u>TITLES</u> of relationship.
- ✓ Nowhere in the Bible is, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost used as proper names.
  - If that were true, Jesus would have two names.
  - "SON", (as a proper name), and "JESUS", a proper name.

The angel that God sent to Joseph did not tell Joseph to name this coming child **"Son"**.

Instead, he told him to name him **JESUS**.

Matt 1:21 - "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name "JESUS" for he shall save his people from their sins."

If that is not good enough, let's look at what the angel of God said to Mary, the mother:

Luke 1:30-31 - "And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God.

And habeld thou shall sangelies in the warmh, and bring forth

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

✓ Jesus, Himself plainly stated that He had come in His Father's name.

John 5:43 - "I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive."

✓ Jesus inherited His name from the Heavenly Father.

- **Heb 1:4** <u>"Being made so much better than the angels, as he</u> hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they."
- Jesus told his disciples that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His <u>NAME</u> among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem:

Luke 24:47 - "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

Jesus had already *opened their understanding* to the scriptures in **Verse 45**.

They understood the importance of the name, **Jesus**.

That is why Peter could boldly preach remission of sins when using that name in water baptism: (Acts.2:38).

#### LET'S REVIEW THE SCENE

- ✓ Matthew was one of the eleven standing on the Day of Pentecost when Peter preached the first sermon that convicted the listeners:
  - Acts 2:14 "But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:"
- ✓ Matthew was present when the listeners asked:
  - Acts 2:37 "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?"

QUESTION #I: If Peter was wrong when he told the listeners to be baptized in Jesus name for the remission of sins, WHY didn't

Matthew speak up?

**QUESTION #2:** If Peter was wrong in his interpretation of Jesus' command, Why did Jesus allow Peter, (the man entrusted with the keys to the kingdom), to repeat "his mistake", so to speak, at Cornelius' house some ten or more years later?

Acts 10:48 - "And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days."

**QUESTION #3:** Why didn't they keep Philip from making the same error, so to speak, when he baptized those at Samaria?

Acts 8:16 - "(For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

**QUESTION #4:** And above all things allowing Paul to repeat their mistake?

- Acts 19:1-7 "And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples
- 2 he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."
- 3 And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism."
- 4 Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, sayin"g to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus."
- <u>5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.</u>
- 6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.
- 7 Now the men were about twelve in all.

Paul had compared with Peter the gospel that he had preached.

Gal 1:18 - "Then after three years I (Paul) went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days."

Gal 2:1-2 - "Then fourteen years after I went up again to Jerusalem with Barnabas, and took Titus with me also.

And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them, which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain."

## We find **NO CORRECTION** was **MADE** or **NEEDED** to be **MADE!**

Jesus personally revealed to Paul the gospel which he preached in **Gal 1:11-12** - <u>"But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.</u>

12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ."

We, also find that **Matthew's gospel** <u>was not written until</u> many years after the Day of Pentecost when the Believers were filled with the Holy Ghost (Dated, approximately, somewhere between A.D. 62 and A.D.75).

- By this time approximately a half-million converts had already been baptized.
- Most of them being converted through the preaching of Peter and Paul.

#### PLEASE KEEP IN MIND:

- 1) No doctrine of scripture can be built on one verse only.
- 2) There is no conflict, or contradiction between the commandment of Jesus and the obedience of the apostles.

Remember, we are to <u>build upon the foundation of the</u> <u>apostles and prophets</u>, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.

Eph 2:20 - "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief

#### corner stone;"

- 1 Cor. 3:10-11 "According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

  For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."
- 3) There is nothing wrong with **Matt.28:19**, and there is nothing wrong with the record in the Book of Acts.
  - Both are correct.
  - Both belong to each other.
  - The one is the interpretation, by the Spirit, of the other.
- **4)** Matthew was quoting the commandment in his gospel:
  - Matt 28:19 "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:"
- 5) The disciples did not quote the command -- they obeyed it.
  - They baptized in the name (Jesus), obeying Jesus command.

#### ✓ INFILLING OF THE HOLY GHOST

After repentance and being baptized in Jesus' Name for the remission of sins, there is <u>one more step</u> for us to complete God's plan of salvation in our lives.

That is, having God fill us with the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

The Repentant Man has been forgiven, but he is powerless

against sin, Satan, and self (flesh).

Without the power of the Holy Ghost in his life he will revert back to the works of the flesh of his former life and that man's life will be worse than before coming to God.

**Matt 12:43-45** - "When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none.

- 44 "Then he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when he comes, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order.
- 45 "Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation."

When we start to live for God it is vitally important that we partake of "ALL" of God's plan of salvation, which is "Repentance, Baptism in Jesus name, and the Infilling of the Holy Ghost." (Acts. 2:38-39).

The <u>blood</u>, <u>water</u>, and <u>Spirit</u> are the <u>three elements</u> of God's plan of salvation for our New Birth (I John 5:7-8).

- Without the three elements the New Birth is <u>incomplete</u>.
- We need all "3-elements" in our lives to complete our full and free salvation.
- 1) To Complete the "New Birth" Born of water and of the Spirit -
  - John 3:5-6 "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.

That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."

- 2) To Put Us in the "Body of Christ" -
  - 1 Cor. 12:13 <u>"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."</u>

## 3) To Make Us a "Child of God" -

- **Gal. 4:3-7** -**NKJV** <u>"Even so we, when we were children, were</u> in bondage under the elements of the world.
- 4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
- 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.
- 6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"
- 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.
- Rom 8:16 <u>"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:"</u>

## 4) Without His Spirit in Our Lives We Are "None" of His -

Rom 8:9 - "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man has not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."

The Holy Ghost Infilling is <u>SYMBOLIC</u> of Jesus' Resurrection.

As Jesus experienced death, burial, and resurrection in providing salvation, we experience death, burial, and resurrection in receiving God's provided salvation for us.

In the baptism of the Holy Ghost we experience resurrection life, a new creature in Christ Jesus:

**2 Cor. 5:17** - "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

# "The Born Again Man".

The "Born Again Man" has a "New Nature Grafted In" - Thus, two natures reside within you.

Your <u>HUMAN</u> nature, and God's <u>DIVINE</u> Nature.

This new nature is given to control the "old human nature".

When we are born again we <u>do not lose</u> the "old nature", as some teach. (Eradicated.)

The old nature is still there fighting to regain control.

If the old human nature is gone, why is the desire still there to react in a carnal way?

You will note <u>a new spiritual battle begins</u> when you are filled with the Holy Ghost.

- Satan has lost his stronghold on you and he is fighting to get you back under his control.
- If you stay prayed up and filled with the Holy Ghost the "old nature" will have to take a back seat.
- REMEMBER! Whichever nature you <u>FEED</u> will DOMINATE your life.

This "New Nature" is the Nature of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**2 Peter 1:4** - <u>"Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature."</u>

Col 1:27 - <u>"To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."</u>

This "New Birth", born of water and of the Spirit <u>covers all areas of our lives.</u>

- **1)** A New Beginning --(redeemed).
- 2) A New Freedom --(from slavery of sin).

- 3) A New Nature --(divine).
- 4) A New Family -- (sons of God (the church).
- **5)** A New Lifestyle --(walking in holiness).
- 6) A New Life --(eternal).
- **7)** A New Name in glory --(citizen of heaven).

#### **HOLY GHOST PROMISED**

The Holy Ghost was promised in both Old and New Testament:

#### PROMISED in OLD TESTAMENT

Joel 2:28-29 - <u>"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:</u>

And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit."

#### **FULFILLED** in the **NEW TESTAMENT**

Acts 2:15-16 - <u>"For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.</u>
But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel:

#### PROMISED in OLD TESTAMENT

**Isa 28:11-12** - <u>"For with stammering lips and another tongue will</u> he speak to this people.

12 To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear."

**Ezek 11:19-20** - <u>"And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh:</u>

That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God."

#### **FULFILLED in the NEW TESTAMENT**

1 Cor. 14:21-22 - "In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.

Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe."

John the Baptist comes on the scene preparing Israel for -

- The coming of Jesus, and
- The outpouring of the Holy Ghost.

Matt 3:11 - "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:"

Jesus preached and taught about the Holy Ghost, that

# 1) It is a "Necessary" Experience.

**John 3:5-7** - "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.

That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

# 2) It is a "Satisfying" Experience.

John 4:14 - "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."

# 3) It is an "Interior" Experience.

**John 7:37-39** - "In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.

He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

# 4) It is a "Comforting" Experience.

John 14:26 - "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

John 16:7 - "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you."

John 14:18 - "I will not leave you comfortless (orphans): I will come to you."

Some may ask, "Why was it important for Jesus to go away before sending the Holy Ghost?"

- ✓ The answer is that in His physical body He could only be "with" the disciples.
- ✓ In the Spirit He can be "in" those who will receive Him.
- ✓ Col 1:27 <u>"To whom God would make known what is the riches</u> of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:
- 5) It is a "Joyous" Experience.
  - **Isa. 12:3** <u>"Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the</u> wells of salvation."
- 6) It is a "Peaceful" Experience.

- Rom 14:17 <u>"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."</u>
  - Before His crucifixion Jesus "promised" the Holy Ghost to the disciples.
  - After His resurrection and before His ascension He "commanded" them to remain in Jerusalem until the Holy Ghost came.
- **Luke 24:49** "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."
- Acts 1:4-5 "And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

Acts 1:8 - "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

We, also, have the promise given by Peter, on the day of the Holy Ghost outpouring, that the Holy Ghost is for us today.

Acts 2:38 - "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."

#### Let's see WHO RETURNED and WAITED for the PROMISE:

✓ The <u>disciples</u>, along with <u>the women</u>, and <u>Mary the mother of Jesus</u> and with <u>His brethren</u> returned to Jerusalem to wait for the Holy Ghost.

Acts 1:12-15 - <u>"Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.</u>

13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. 14 14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

15 And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,)"

**PLEASE NOTE:** The number of names together were about one hundred and twenty.

Acts 2:1 - "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place."

They **OBEYED**; they **TARRIED**; they **WAITED**; and they **RECEIVED**!

Acts 2:1-4 - "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

# NOTE: "They spake with "other tongues"

...Meaning: (different, foreign languages), as the Spirit gave the utterance, (speaking)" (Verse 4).

Not their own "Jewish", or "native" tongues (language).

They were speaking *languages they had never learned*.

Languages they themselves did not understand as the Spirit did

the speaking.

The hearers "heard" and "understood naturally" by their own native birth what the disciples spoke supernaturally, by the Spirit.

These hearers were <u>not Gentiles</u>, but <u>JEWS</u> OUT OF EVERY NATION under heaven, who had gathered for the Feast of Passover and Pentecost, who had their own Jewish language, as well as, the language or tongue of the nation wherein they were born.

At least seventeen (17) places are named in Acts 2:5-11, covering the 4-corners of the then known world.

It was a "convincing" and "convicting" sign to some, as they realized that these ignorant Galileans were speaking languages never learned by them.

- Acts 2:5-11 NKJV <u>"And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven.</u>
- 6 And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language.
- 7 Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans?
- 8 "And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?
- 9 "Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,
- 10 "Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,
- 11 "Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God."

**ALSO NOTE!!** On the Day of Pentecost there were BOTH <u>VISIBLE</u>, and <u>AUDIBLE</u> MANIFESTATIONS.

Acts 2:12-16, 33 - <u>"So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?"</u>
13 Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine."

- 14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words.
- 15 "For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.
- 16 "But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:
- 33 "Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you **now see and hear**.

Verse 33 "..which ye see and hear..."

#### **SPEAKING IN TONGUES**

Do all speak with other tongues when they receive the Holy Ghost?

- ✓ The ANSWER is YES!!
- ✓ The baptism of the Holy Ghost is <u>always evidenced by</u> the newly Spirit-filled believer speaking in other tongues as the Spirit of God does the speaking.
- ✓ Anyone who *has never* spoken in tongues has never been baptized with the Holy Ghost.

Rom 8:9 - "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man has not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."

This truth is REFUTED by many, and they REFUSE to accept the fact that the initial evidence of receiving the Holy Ghost is <u>always</u> <u>accompanied</u> by speaking in other tongues.

- ✓ Using their own "traditions" and "philosophy of men", like the Jews of Jesus' day were doing, as a cop-out.
- ✓ This universal attitude is abnormal and is fostered by Satan

who hates speaking in tongues.

Satan loves to have people <u>"wrest"</u> the scriptures, knowing they do it to their own destruction.

- **Col 2:8** "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.
- 2 Peter 3:16 "As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction."

The <u>scriptures rightly divided</u> gives conclusive proof that this supernatural manifestation (speaking in other tongues) always accompanied the Pentecostal experience.

Prophesied in Old Testament -

**Isa 28:11** - <u>"For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people."</u>

**NOTE:** This says, "another tongue" (or language).

- ✓ A believer's own language would not be "another tongue" (or another language).
- ✓ In the New Testament Jesus spoke of tongues as being the "sign" which would follow them who believe.

Mark 16:17 - "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;"

NOTE: This says, "new tongues".

✓ A believer's own native tongues (or language) would <u>not be</u> "new tongues".

"Other tongues" or "new tongues" would not be a believer's own native languages, or a self-educated language, or a school educated language, but "another language", as God's Spirit chooses to speak.

Now, let's look at the scriptures regarding the New Testament Holy Ghost infilling of believers.

## 1) THE APOSTLES.

## 2) MARY, THE MOTHER OF JESUS.

After Jesus' resurrection the disciples, His brethern, the women and Mary the Mother of Jesus went into the upper room and continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, (the number of names were about an hundred and twenty):

- Acts 1:12-14 "Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey.
- 13 And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James.
- <u>14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and</u> <u>supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus,</u> and with His brothers.
- Acts 2:1-4 "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
- <u>2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.</u>
- 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
- 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

This ALL included Mary the mother of Jesus, she waited along with the others (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty.)

## 3) THE SAMARITANS.

Acts 8:17-20 - NKJV - <u>"Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.</u>

18 And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money.

19 saying, "Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

20 But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money!

On the day of Pentecost they were sitting and worshiping when the Holy Ghost felled them...

The Samaritans received the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands.

#### NOTE!

- ✓ Though the word "tongues" are not mentioned in this passage, there had to be <u>some distinct visible or audible evidence</u>, and sign that made Simon, (a sorcerer, one who practices witchcraft), who had been bewitching the people of Samaria, desire this power.
- ✓ He offered money to buy this gift of laying on of hands.

Acts 8:5-11 - <u>"Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them.</u>

- 6 And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.
- 7 For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed.
- 8 And there was great joy in that city.

- 9 But there was a certain man called Simon, who previously practiced sorcery in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great,
- 10 to whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, "This man is the great power of God."
- <u>11 And they heeded him because he had astonished them with his sorceries for a long time."</u>

## 4) THE GENTILES.

- (Cornelius, family and friends).
- They received the Holy Ghost while listening to Peter preach the gospel message.

Acts 10:44-47 - "While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.

- 45 And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.
- 46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered,
- 47 "Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"
- 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days."
- ✓ The "speaking in tongues" convinced Peter and his Jewish brethren that the Gentiles had received the Holy Ghost, because, "...they heard them speak with tongues." - (Verse 46).
- ✓ **PETER ON THE CARPET -** When Peter returned to Jerusalem the church <u>rebuked him</u> for going into the house of a Gentile.
  - Acts 11:1-18 "Now the apostles and brethren who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God.
  - <u>2 And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, those of the circumcision contended with him,</u>

- <u>3 saying, "You went in to uncircumcised men and ate with them!"</u>
- <u>4 But Peter explained it to them in order from the beginning, saying:</u>
- 5 "I was in the city of Joppa praying; and in a trance I saw a vision, an object descending like a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came to me.
- 6 "When I observed it intently and considered, I saw fourfooted animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air.
- 7 "And I heard a voice saying to me, 'Rise, Peter; kill and eat.'
- 8 "But I said, 'Not so, Lord! For nothing common or unclean has at any time entered my mouth.'
- 9 "But the voice answered me again from heaven, 'What God has cleansed you must not call common.'
- 10 "Now this was done three times, and all were drawn up again into heaven.
- 11 "At that very moment, three men stood before the house where I was, having been sent to me from Caesarea.
- 12 "Then the Spirit told me to go with them, doubting nothing. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered the man's house.
- 13 "And he told us how he had seen an angel standing in his house, who said to him, 'Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon whose surname is Peter,
- 14 'who will tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved.'
- 15 "And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning.
- 16 "Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, 'John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'
- 17 "If therefore God gave them the same gift as He gave us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?"
- 18 When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life."

- Acts 15:7-9 "And when there had been much dispute, Peter rose up and said to them: "Men and brethren, you know that a good while ago God chose among us, that by my mouth the Gentiles should hear the word of the gospel and believe."
- 8 "So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He did to us,
- <u>9 "and made no distinction between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.</u>

### 5) CONVERTS AT EPHESUS.

- ✓ Paul met a group of believers that had walked in all the light that they knew, explained that Jesus came to baptize the believers with the Holy Ghost.
- ✓ They were <u>re-baptized</u> in the name of the Lord Jesus, and <u>received the Holy Ghost</u> with the evidence of speaking in other tongues.
- Acts 19:1-6 "And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples
- 2 he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."
- 3 And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism."
- 4 Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus."
- 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
- 6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

# 6) APOSTLE 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."

- Although it does not record in this verse that Paul spoke in tongues, we have his testimony concerning the use of this gift (speaking in tongues):
  - **1 Cor. 14:18-19** "I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:

Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than en thousand words in an unknown tongue."

#### PLEASE NOTE:

- ✓ I Cor. Chapters 12; 13; and 14 is dealing with the gifts of the Spirit that flow from the Holy Ghost that is in the believer.
- ✓ Paul was thanking God that he spoke with tongues, but he did not run the services of the church by speaking in tongues.
- He chose to preach in a language understandable to the hearer.
- ✓ When baptized with the Holy Ghost, you will speak with other tongues as evidence that you have been filled with His Spirit.
  - However, this is not the "gift of tongues" spoken about in I Cor.12, and 14.
  - The gifts of the Spirit flow out from the Holy Ghost that is in you.
  - Not of your spirit, nor of your power, but of the Holy Ghost Power.
  - You cannot have the "gift of tongues" <u>until</u> you have first received the Holy Ghost speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance.

#### FROM THE HOLY GHOST BAPTISM COMES

1) The "Fruit" of the Spirit.

Gal 5:22-23 - "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering,

23 <u>gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance:</u> <u>against such there is no law."</u>

# 2) The "Ministerial" Gifts.

- Eph 4:8-15 NKJV "<u>Therefore He says: "When He</u> ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men."
  - 9 (Now this, "He ascended"--what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth?

    10 He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

    11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,
  - 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,
  - 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;
  - 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,
  - 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ--
- 1 Cor. 12:28 "And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues."
- 3) The "Gifts of the Spirit" (Spiritual gifts).

- **1 Cor. 12:1, 10** "Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant."
- **1 Cor. 12:10** "<u>To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:"</u>
- ✓ Without the initial infilling of the Holy Ghost, these gifts cannot be manifested.
- ✓ They do not come with your "first birth," nor of your own spirit, but from the Holy Ghost "New Birth" experience.