

**I. Text:** **Acts 11:19-30** 19 So then those who were scattered because of the persecution that occurred in connection with Stephen made their way to Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except to Jews alone. 20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who came to Antioch and began speaking to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a large number who believed turned to the Lord. 22 The news about them reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas off to Antioch. 23 Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord; 24 for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord. 25 And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; 26 and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. 27 Now at this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. 28 One of them named Agabus stood up and began to indicate by the Spirit that there would certainly be a great famine all over the world. And this took place in the reign of Claudius. 29 And in the proportion that any of the disciples had means, each of them determined to send a contribution for the relief of the brethren living in Judea. 30 And this they did, sending it in charge of Barnabas and Saul to the elders.

Who are the main characters in this section of Scripture? Unnamed men from C\_\_\_\_\_ and Cyrene, B\_\_\_\_\_, and S\_\_\_\_\_. What do we know or notice about these 3 groups of men that TBC can learn from, emulate, and follow in their example? In what sense are numbers “bad” for the church to focus on and in what sense are numbers “good” and important to consider for Christians and Churches? (Look at and consider numbers mentioned 3x in **Acts 11:21** and **Acts 11:24** and **Acts 11:26**) What other themes or main points do you see/observe in this passage?

## II. Introductions:

**A.** We looked at the “ordis salutis” (order of salvation) in Acts 10 along with 11:1 (Cornelius and friends received the gospel) and 11:17 (having believed in Jesus as Lord and Christ - aorist/completed action). So there are 10 basics stages:

1. God’s **Foreknowledge** – **Rom. 8:28-30**,
2. God’s **Predestination/election** – Eph. 1:4-5,
3. God’s **Calling** – **1 Cor. 1:9** ,
4. God’s **Forbearance/Patience** – **Rom. 3:25**,
5. God’s **Provision/Atonement** – **Rom. 3:21-26**,
6. God’s **Drawing/Illumination** – **John 16:8**,
7. Man’s **Receiving/Believing** – **Acts 10:43**,
8. God’s **Justification/Regeneration** – **Titus 3:5-7**,
9. God’s **Sanctification/Perseverance** – **1 Thess. 4:3-7, 5:23**, and
10. God’s **Glorification** – **Rev. 21-22**)

Look up the one verse for each stage of salvation and rejoice/comment/thank God for His amazing grace for making all of our redemption possible and thus receiving ALL the glory (Rom. 11:36, Eph. 3:21, 2 Tim. 4:18, 2 Pet. 3:18, Rev. 1:6, 5:13, 19:7)!

**B.** We also looked at the practical order of salvation as we typically observe the process of God working on human hearts where God is convicting, convincing, and ultimately converting.

1. **Unbelief:** Ignorance, Indifference, Skepticism, Mocking, Persecution – **Eph. 2:12**
2. **Humbling:** Questioning, Struggling, Hurting, Grieving, Dying – **Acts 9:3-9**
3. **Seeking:** Looking, Researching, Investigating – **Acts 10:1**
4. **Hearing:** Listening, Considering/Thinking, Weighing/Counting the Cost – **Acts 8:28-35**
5. **Salvation:** Coming, Receiving, Believing (Trusting, Repenting, Confessing Jesus is Lord)–**1Th. 1:9**
6. **Baptism:** Identifying, Proclaiming, Obeying – **Acts 2:41**
7. **Membership:** Joining, Fellowshiping, Serving, Building – **1 Peter 5:5, 1 Cor. 16:16, Heb. 13:17**
8. **Discipleship:** Maturing, Learning, Living, Reproducing – **Titus 2:3-5, 2 Tim. 2:2**
9. **Leadership:** Teaching, Leading, Overseeing, Shepherding – **1 Peter 5:1-4**
10. **Completion:** Faithful till Rapture, Transfer, & Entrance into God’s Presence, Kingdom, Eternal State–**1Thess. 4:15-18**

Which stage of Christian maturity are you currently in? How can we help each other advance/progress from our point A spiritually to our point B spiritually (**1 Timothy 4:12-15**)?

**C. “I am a Christian!”** The Thundering Legion Excerpt from the book by dc Talk & Voice of the Martyrs, [Jesus Freaks](#), pg 96-97

**A Legion of Roman Soldiers in Sebaste, Armenia (modern Turkey), 320 A.D.**

The Roman governor stood resolutely before the forty Roman soldiers of the Thundering Legion. “I command you to make an offering to the Roman gods. If you will not, you will be stripped of your military status.” The forty soldiers all believed firmly in the Lord Jesus. They knew they must not deny Him or sacrifice to the Roman idols, no matter what the governor would do to them. Camdidus spoke for the legion, “Nothing is dearer or of greater honor to us than Christ our God.”

The governor then tried other tactics to get them to deny their faith. First he offered them money and imperial honors. Then he threatened them with torments and torture with the rack and with fire. Camdidus replied, "You offer us money that remains behind and glory that fades away. You seek to make us friends of the Emperor, but alienate us from the true King. We desire one gift, the crown of righteousness. We are anxious for one glory, the glory of the heavenly kingdom. We love honors, those of heaven. You threaten fearful torments and call our godliness a crime, but you will not find us fainthearted or attached to this life or easily stricken with terror. For the love of God, we are prepared to endure any kind of torture."

The governor was enraged. Now he wanted them to die a slow, painful death. They were stripped naked and herded to the middle of a frozen lake. He set soldiers to guard them to prevent any from coming to shore and escaping. The forty encouraged each other as though they were going to battle. "How many of our companions in arms fell on the battle front, showing themselves loyal to an earthly king? Is it possible for us to fail to sacrifice our lives in faithfulness to the true King? Let us not turn aside, O warriors, let us not turn our backs in flight from the devil."

They spent the night courageously bearing their pain and rejoicing in the hope of soon being with the Lord. To increase the torment of the Christians, baths of hot water were put around the lake. With these the governor hoped to weaken the firm resolve of the freezing men. He told them, "You may come ashore when you are ready to deny your faith."

In the end, one of them did weaken, came off the ice, and got into a warm bath. When one of the guards on the shore saw him desert, he himself took the place of traitor. Surprising everyone with the suddenness of his conversion, he threw off his clothes, and ran to join the naked ones on the ice, crying out loudly, "I am a Christian."

What can we draw from this real account of Christians who followed Jesus faithfully even unto death (Heb. 3:6)? How can we spur one another on towards good deeds (Heb. 10:24-25) even as persecution increases and as they not be ashamed of the gospel of Christ (Rom. 1:16-17)

### III. Main Points – 10 Examples of the Early Church Acts 11:19-30 that Teaches us the Modern Church:

1. **(11:19) Persecution in the Early Church** - God uses/works trials, persecutions, and hardships for His will, His glory, and our good (Eph. 1:11, Rom. 8:28)
  - a. Here in Acts 11 – God uses the persecution of Stephen started by Saul and other Pharisees to scatter Christians from Jerusalem and help spread the gospel to new areas, new nationalities, and ultimately bring the gospel to the whole world
  - b. (Luke 2:30-32, Is. 9:1-2, 42:6-7, 49:6, 60:1-5, Rev. 5:9-10, 14:6-7).
2. **(11:20) Church Planting in the Early Church** - God's will is for the gospel to spread geographically (Acts 1:8)
  - a. Grow (learn and live the Scriptures)
  - b. Reproduce (win and disciple new converts)
  - c. Reach new areas and unreached people groups (church planting/missionary sending & supporting)
    - i. Christianity grows and spreads from Jews to also include Greeks ("Ἕλλην *Hellen*: a Greek, usually a name for a Gentile) ἐλάλουν καὶ πρὸς τοὺς Ἑλληνιστάς (they spoke also towards the Hellenists)
    - ii. The Message is the same – they were Preaching Jesus is Lord (κύριος *kurios* – Jesus is God/Ultimate Authority, Christ/Messiah) εὐαγγελιζόμενοι τὸν κύριον Ἰησοῦν (bringing good news of the Lord Jesus)
    - iii. God was with them/blessing them/empowering them καὶ ἦν χεὶρ κυρίου μετ' αὐτῶν (and the hand of the Lord was with them)
    - iv. A large number believed (πιστεύω *pisteuo* (believe/entrust by faith) and turned (ἐπιστρέφω *epistrepho* – to turn/repent) to the Lord (Jesus) πολύς τε ὄρισθος ὁ πιστεύσας ἐπέστρεψεν ἐπὶ τὸν κύριον (many the numbers having believed turned towards the Lord)
3. **(11:21, 24, 26) Numbers in the Early Church** - God is concerned with NUMBERS in the sense that He cares about EVERY soul and each person being saved (Acts 11:21, 14:1, 17:4, 28:23)
  - a. Saved from God's wrath against sin – Rom 5:8-9,
  - b. Forgiveness of all sins – Acts 10:43,
  - c. Peace with God – Acts 10:36, Rom. 5:1,
  - d. Reconciliation/personal relationship with God – Rom. 5:10, Col. 1:22
  - e. Received through repentance (turning) and faith (believing/trusting in Jesus) as the one and only true LORD – Mark 1:15, Acts 20:21, Heb. 6:1
4. **(11:22a) Staff Members in the Early Church** - The church still needs good men (and women) and staff members like Barnabus (Son of Encouragement) to lead, to give, serve/encourage, and GO with the Gospel! (Acts 6:5)
  - a. Good Man
  - b. Full of the Holy Spirit
  - c. Full of Faith
5. **(11:22b) Missionary Supporting & Sending in the Early Church** - may the Lord bless TBC to not only be a missionary supporting church but a missionary preparing/producing/and sending church – we are all missionaries! (Mt. 28:18-20, Acts 1:8)
  - a. (THEY SENT) ἐξαποστέλλω *exapostello*: to send forth or away
    - i. Who HAS TBC SENT or SUPPORTING as far as Missionaries? (Past - Present)
    - ii. Who IS TBC CURRENTLY PREPARING OR SENDING? (Present)
    - iii. Who WILL TBC SEND? (FUTURE)

## 6. (11:23) Reminders in the Early Church - Admonition/Encouragement in the Early Church – “stay true, stay faithful, stay loyal to Jesus as Lord” (Acts 14:22)

- a. Live up to the name you bear as Christians - 1 Cor. 1:12 ἐγὼ δὲ Χριστοῦ (I am of Christ)
  - i. Acts 11:26 Χριστιανούς (Christianous)
  - ii. Acts 26:28 Χριστιανὸν (Christianon)
  - iii. 1 Pet. 4:16 χριστιανός (Christianos)
- b. Always be preaching Jesus (Acts 5:42, 8:12, 10:36, 10:42-43, 11:20, 17:18, 28:30-31)
- c. Names, Titles, Identifiers of Christians
  - i. Believers (Trusting) –πιστεῦοντες (pisteuontes) Acts 5:14
  - ii. Disciples (Learning) –μαθηταὶ (mathetai) Matthew 5:1
  - iii. Followers (Obeying) – Mk. 9:41 (Of Christ) Eph. 5:1 1 Pet.2:21, Joshua 14:14 ἐπακολουθῶ (epakoloutheo) ἐπακολουθήσαντες (epakolouthesantes)
  - iv. Imitators (Conforming) Eph. 5:1 μιμηταὶ (mimetai)
  - v. Saints (Rejoicing) (Holy, Set Apart) – Acts 9:13 ἅγιοις (hagiois)
  - vi. Citizens (Inheriting)–Acts 11:26, 26:28, Eph. 2:19, 1 Pet. 4:16 συμπολίται (sumpolitai)

## 7. (11:24) Evangelism in the Early Church - may the Lord motivate and empower TBC to be faithful and fruitful to your Great Commission – to do our best for Jesus in reaching our Jerusalem/Judea, Samaria, and uttermost parts so we too see considerable numbers of people coming to Jesus) (Col. 1:6)

## 8. (11:26) Discipleship in the Early Church – here we see the need for spiritual mentorship and the time and devotion and hard work it takes to produce mature/reproducing Christians (Eph. 4:13)

καὶ προσετέθη ὄχλος ἰκανὸς τῷ κυρίῳ.  
and he added a crowd considerable to the Lord  
a multitude large, great, adequate

- a. Here, Barnabas disciples new converts for 1 year (Acts 11:26), Paul later will spend a year and half at Corinth (Acts 18:11), and 3 years at Ephesus discipling new believers (Acts 20:31).
- b. Jesus modeled discipleship by pouring his life into 12 men for 3 years and at times his inner circle of 3 (Peter, James, John) (Mt. 17:1, Mark 5:37, Mark 9:2, Mark 14:33, Luke 8:51, 9:28)
- c. 1 to 1 Discipleship is seen in 1 Timothy 2 (training faithful men who in turn train other men) and Titus 2 (older women mentoring younger women)
- d. At TBC we aim to take people through the 7 TBC discipleship classes (Basics Class/Investigative B.study, Foundations Class/Grey Folder, Fundamentals Class/Jmac FOF, Evangelism Class/Way of the Master, NT Survey/Read Through, OT Survey/Read Through, Systematic Theology/Geisler) in 2-3 years (Offered 1 to 1, S.S. Classes, Home Groups, and Online Videos)

## 9. (11:27-28) Prophets of the Early Church – there is no need for prophets in the church today as we have all the promises and predictions that we need in a completed Canon (1 Cor. 13:8-11, 2 Peter 1:3)

- a. Acts 21:10-11

## 10. (11:29-30) Giving of the Early Church giving is to be proportional (in keeping with our income/blessings), worshipful (part of our reg. worship), and practically (need based) and done regularly (1 Cor. 16:2), cheerfully (2 Cor 9:7), and sacrificially (2 Cor. 8:2-9) (see also Rom. 12:6-8)

- a. Giving is to be PROPORTIONAL (a portion/percentage of your means, what you make, or what you have)
- b. Giving is to be WORSHIPFUL (first fruits principle – the best, top, first earnings always go to the Lord to recognize He is the one who owns, gave, and enabled us the wealth to give)
- c. Giving is to be PRACTICAL – with compassion, out of love, and needs base (to meet the practical and physical needs of others – food, clothing, shelter)
- d. Conclusion: We are to give...
  - i. REGULARLY (Dt. 16:16, 1 Cor. 16:2),
  - ii. CHEERFULLY (2 Cor. 9:7), and
  - iii. SACRIFICIALLY (2 Cor. 8:2-9)

Which of these 10 examples of the early church do you need to improve on the most...which of these 10 examples do you think our church needs to work on the most? What are some practical suggestions on how we can be more faithful, obedient, and fruitful for our King?

## V. Application: 1 Peter 4:7-16

7 The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer. 8 Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. 9 Be hospitable to one another without complaint. 10 As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 11 Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. 12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; 13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation. 14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. 15 Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler; 16 but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.

# The MODEL Staff Member we are looking for, praying for, and preparing for:

## We are looking for a Barnabas... a Man of:

- ▶ **Character – “A Good Man”** (Leadership by example, above reproach, blameless, not accusable- Titus 1, 1 Tim. 3)
- ▶ **Power – “Full of the Holy Spirit”** (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control - Gal. 5:22)
- ▶ **Obedience – Full of Faith** (prayer, trust, reliance, dependence, action - James 2:26)
- ▶ **Evangelism – He added a considerable multitude to the Lord** - Acts 11:24, 13:49, 20:26, Romans 15:20, Col. 1:5-6, 23 - can we say like Paul we have preached to the entire region and the entire region has heard the gospel?

## Practically we are praying for and looking for a new Pastor who...

- ▶ Loves God (all heart, soul, strength)
- ▶ Loves the Word (trembles, treasures, and teaches the Word)
- ▶ Love the Church, Loves People - specifically our People
- ▶ Will commit and stay for a good length of time to be faithful and fruitful (discipleship takes TIME)

## Biblical Order of Salvation (Ordis Salutis)

### 1. God's Foreknowledge

Romans 8:29, 11:2  
1 Peter 1:2  
John 6:64, 2:25  
Ephesians 1:4-5  
Acts 2:23  
(with anticipation of man's repentance/faith? or without anticipation of man's repentance/faith? It's a mystery but John 3:18 gives us a leaning)

### 2. God's Predestination/Election

of us before the creation of the world  
Romans 8:29-30, 9:23,  
1 Cor. 2:7,  
Ephesians 1:4-6, 11, 3:11  
1 Peter 2:9  
Acts 4:27-28, 13:48

### 3. God's Effectual Calling

of us from all eternity  
Romans 8:28, 9:24,  
9:23, 11:29  
1 Cor. 1:9, Gal. 1:6, 5:8  
2 Timothy 1:9, Heb. 9:15, 1 Peter 3:9

### 4. God's Patience/Forbearance

Romans 3:25, 2:4, 9:22  
1 Tim. 1:16, Eph. 2:7  
1 Peter 3:20  
2 Peter 3:9  
Exodus 34:6, Num. 14:18, Deut. 4:31, Neh. 9:17, Ps. 86:15, 103:8, 108:4, 145:8, Joel 2:13

### 5. God's Gracious Provision/Atonement

in sending Jesus as our Substitute/Propitiation  
John 3:15-18  
Rom. 3:21-26, 5:6-10, 8:32  
2 Corinthians 5:19-21  
Eph. 1:7, 2:13-18  
Col. 1:13-22, 2:13-14  
Titus 3:4-5  
1 Peter 2:24, 3:18  
1 John 2:2, 4:7-10, 19  
Heb. 2:17, Luke 18:13

### 6. God's Drawing/Illumination

Mt. 23:37, Lk. 13:34  
John 6:44, 12:32, 16:8,  
Romans 10:14-21,  
Hebrews 3:7-14, 7:25,  
2 Thess. 2:14,  
Jeremiah 31:3, Hos. 11:4,  
2 Cor. 4:4  
2 Timothy 1:10  
John 1:4-5, 9-13, 18, 3:19, 8:12, 9:5, 12:46

### 7. Man's Receiving or Rejecting

Believing the Gospel through Repentance of Sin and Faith in Jesus as Lord  
Mark 1:15, Acts 20:21,  
Hebrews 6:1, Acts 11:21, 16:31, 18:8, 19:4, Romans 10:9-13\*\*\*  
1 Timothy 1:15-16  
Luke 8:12  
2 Thessalonians 2:10  
John 1:12, 3:18, Ephesians 1:13

### 8. God's Justification and Regeneration

Justified - Acts 13:38-39, Rom. 3:20-30, 4:5, 5:1-9, 6:7, 8:1, 8:30-33, 1 Cor. 6:11, Gal. 2:16, 3:8-24, Adoption - John 1:12, 11:52, Romans 8:15-23, 9:4-8, Gal. 4:5, Eph. 1:5, 5:1, Phil. 2:15, 1 John 3:1-10, 4:14, 5:2, Acts 13:33, 17:29  
Sealing - 2 Cor. 1:22, Eph. 1:13, 4:30 Indwelling - Romans 8:9, 1 Cor. 3:16, 6:19-20, 2 Cor. 6:16 Transformation/Born Again - John 3:3-7, 1 Peter 1:3, 1:23  
New Creation - 2 Cor. 5:17 Gal. 6:15  
Slaves of Righteousness - Romans 6:6-18, Eph. 6:6, 1 Peter 2:16, Rev. 19:5, 22:3  
Regeneration - Titus 3:5-7, 1 Cor. 15:22, Eph. 2:5, Col. 2:13, 1 Peter 3:18

### 9. God's Sanctification and Perseverance

Rom. 6:19-22, 8:29, 12:2  
1 Thess. 4:3-7, Phil. 1:6, 3:10-14  
Eph. 4-6 (1:4, 4:11-14, 5:27)  
Colossians 1:9-22, 3:1-4:6  
2 Thess. 2:13, Heb. 12:12-14  
John 10:28  
Jude 1:24, Romans 16:25, 1 Peter 5:10, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Tim. 2:21, Heb. 10:35-39, 13:21

### 10. God's Glorification

Romans 8:29, Phil. 1:6  
John 10:28, 2 John 1:8  
Hebrews 11:6, 12:2, 9:15  
2 Cor. 4:14, Col. 1:12, 3:23-24  
2 Tim. 4:8, 18  
1 Cor. 3:8-14, 15:1-58  
Ephesians 1:18-23  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
Matthew 5:12-6:18, 10:41-42  
Revelation 11:18, 22:12



# TRUTH BIBLE CHURCH



## FOLLOWERS OF JESUS SEEKING TO...

### LOVE GOD SUPREMELY

**Matthew 22:37-38** <sup>37</sup> And He said to him, "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND." <sup>38</sup> "This is the great and foremost commandment.

### SERVE PEOPLE SINCERELY

**Matthew 22:39** <sup>39</sup> "The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.'

**John 13:34-35** <sup>34</sup> "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. <sup>35</sup> "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

### REACH THE LOST URGENTLY

**Matthew 28:19-20** <sup>19</sup> "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

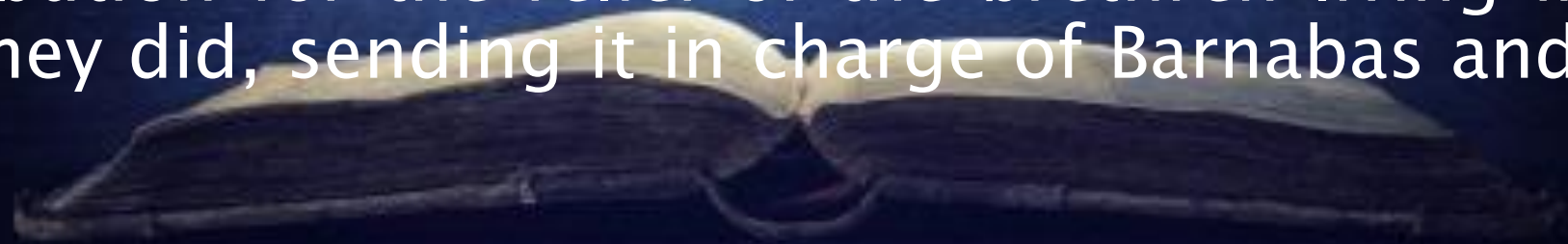
# Acts 11:19-30

19 So then those who were scattered because of the persecution that occurred in connection with Stephen made their way to Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except to Jews alone. 20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who came to Antioch and began speaking to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a large number who believed turned to the Lord. 22 The news about them reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas off to Antioch. 23 Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord;



# Acts 11:19-30

24 for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord. 25 And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; 26 and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. 27 Now at this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. 28 One of them named Agabus stood up and began to indicate by the Spirit that there would certainly be a great famine all over the world. And this took place in the reign of Claudius. 29 And in the proportion that any of the disciples had means, each of them determined to send a contribution for the relief of the brethren living in Judea. 30 And this they did, sending it in charge of Barnabas and Saul to the elders.





Review of Last Week's Sermon:

Acts 11:1-18



**“The Repentance that Leads to Life”**

(The Gift of the Holy Spirit)



Breaking  
the Cultural  
Barriers  
Acts 11:1-18



## ◀ Acts 11:17 ▶

### Acts 11 - Click for Chapter

	1487 [e]	3767 [e]	3588 [e]	2470 [e]	1431 [e]	1325 [e]	846 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]	5613 [e]	2532 [e]	1473 [e]	4100 [e]	1909 [e]
	ei	oun	tēn	isēn	dōrean	edōken	autois	ho	Theos	hōs	kai	hēmin	pisteusasin	epi
17	εἰ	οὖν	τὴν	ἴσην	δωρεὰν	ἔδωκεν	αὐτοῖς	ὁ	Θεὸς	ὡς	καὶ	ἡμῖν	πιστεύσασιν	ἐπὶ
	If	then	the	same	gift	has given	to them	-	God	as	also	to us	having believed	on
	Conj	Conj	Art-AFS	Adj-AFS	N-AFS	V-AIA-3S	PPro-DM3P	Art-NMS	N-NMS	Adv	Conj	PPro-D1P	V-APA-DMP	Prep

	3588 [e]	2962 [e]	2424 [e]	5547 [e]	1473 [e]	5101 [e]	1510 [e]	1415 [e]	2967 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]
	ton	Kyrion	lēoun	Christon	egō	tis	ēmēn	dynatos	kōlyesai	ton	Theon
	τὸν	Κύριον	Ἰησοῦν	Χριστόν	, ἐγὼ	τίς	ἡμῖν	δυνατὸς	κωλύσαι	τὸν	Θεόν ?
	the	Lord	Jesus	Christ	I	how	was	able	to forbid	-	God
	Art-AMS	N-AMS	N-AMS	N-AMS	PPro-N1S	IPro-NMS	V-IIM-1S	Adj-NMS	V-ANA	Art-AMS	N-AMS

- ▶ The translated phrase in Acts 11:17 “after believing” is used by the NASB to show “having believed” is an V-APA-DMP (Verb, Aorist Participle Active, Dative Masculine Plural) and ties back to “them” (Cornelius/Gentiles) Ppro-DM3P (Personal Possessive Pronoun, Dative Masculine 3<sup>rd</sup> Person Plural)

## ◀ Acts 11:18 ▶

### Acts 11 - Click for Chapter

191 [e]	1161 [e]	3778 [e]	2270 [e]	2532 [e]	1392 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]	3004 [e]	686 [e]
Akousantes	de	tauta	hēsychasan	kai	edoxasan	ton	Theon	legontes	Ara
<b>18</b> Ἀκούσαντες	δὲ	ταῦτα ,	ἤσυχασαν	καὶ	ἐδόξασαν	τὸν	Θεὸν ,	λέγοντες ,	Ἄρα
Having heard	then	these things	they were silent	and	glorified	-	God	saying	Then indeed
V-APA-NMP	Conj	DPro-ANP	V-AIA-3P	Conj	V-AIA-3P	Art-AMS	N-AMS	V-PPA-NMP	Conj

2532 [e]	3588 [e]	1484 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]	3588 [e]	3341 [e]	1519 [e]	2222 [e]	1325 [e]
kai	tois	ethnesin	ho	Theos	tēn	metanoian	eis	zōēn	edōken
καὶ	τοῖς	ἔθνεσιν	ὁ	Θεὸς	τὴν	μετάνοιαν	εἰς	ζωὴν	ἔδωκεν .
also	to the	Gentiles	-	God	-	repentance	unto	life	has given
Conj	Art-DNP	N-DNP	Art-NMS	N-NMS	Art-AFS	N-AFS	Prep	N-AFS	V-AIA-3S

▶ Literally: “The God the repentance unto life has given”

# Some facts that Acts 11 give us that Acts 10 didn't

1. (11:1) Cornelius and his friends did in fact believe (the Holy Spirit did not fall on them without believing first) as 11:1 says they RECEIVED the word of God – also look at 11:17 which says the Holy was given AFTER they believed!
2. (11:3) One observation I had at our home group this week (after I preached this message), is that the Jewish criticizers said he entered the Gentile's house and "ate with them." This reminded me that offering food when hosting is customary and eating what is set before you as a guest is courtesy. This made the connection for me that the Gentiles were avoided as unclean primarily by the unclean food they ate – this is why God started with the food – declaring 3x all food clean as Jesus had earlier done (Mark 7:19) and then Peter's correct interpretation of his vision in 10:28 "God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean."
3. (11:12) We know that Peter (God) brought **six men** with him
4. (11:13–14) We get greater insight and detail of what the angel told Cornelius in his vision... namely the promise that Peter was bringing him a salvation message by which he could be **saved** from God's wrath – you and your whole household (yes God knew in advance who would believe and be saved... did this help prepare and invite to Cornelius anticipate, believe, and receive the coming message – ABSOLUTELY!
5. (11:16) Peter references Luke 3:16 and his own personal experience with Jesus – remembering that Jesus said John baptized with water but Jesus will **baptize** with the Holy Spirit
6. (11:17) The Holy Spirit is a **GIFT** – the same gift to the Gentiles as he gave us (the Jews at Pentecost)
7. (11:18) The key phrase – God has given the Gentiles "**repentance** leading to life (eternal life) – reminds me of Jn. 5:24 <sup>24</sup> "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life. And Lk. 24:47 <sup>47</sup> and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.



# Biblical Order of Salvation (Ordis Salutis)

## 1. God's Foreknowledge

Romans 8:29, 11:2  
1 Peter 1:2  
John 6:64, 2:25  
Ephesians 1:4-5  
Acts 2:23  
(with anticipation of man's repentance/faith? or without anticipation of man's repentance/faith? It's a mystery but John 3:18 gives us a leaning)

## 2. God's Predestination/Election

of us before the creation of the world  
Romans 8:29-30, 9:23,  
1 Cor. 2:7,  
Ephesians 1:4-6, 11, 3:11  
1 Peter 2:9  
Acts 4:27-28, 13:48

## 3. God's Effectual Calling

of us from all eternity  
Romans 8:28, 9:24,  
9:23, 11:29  
1 Cor. 1:9, Gal. 1:6, 5:8  
2 Timothy 1:9, Heb.  
9:15, 1 Peter 3:9

## 4. God's Patience/Forbearance

Romans 3:25, 2:4,  
9:22  
1 Tim. 1:16. Eph. 2:7  
1 Peter 3:20  
2 Peter 3:9  
Exodus 34:6, Num.  
14:18, Deut. 4:31,  
Neh. 9:17, Ps. 86:15,  
103:8, 108:4, 145:8,  
Joel 2:13

## 5. God's Gracious Provision/Atonement

in sending Jesus as our Substitute/Propitiation  
John 3:15-18  
Rom. 3:21-26, 5:6-10, 8:32  
2 Corinthians 5:19-21  
Eph. 1:7, 2:13-18  
Col. 1:13-22, 2:13-14  
Titus 3:4-5  
1 Peter 2:24, 3:18  
1 John 2:2, 4:7-10, 19  
Heb. 2:17, Luke 18:13

## 6. God's Drawing/Illumination

Mt. 23:37, Lk. 13:34  
John 6:44, 12:32, 16:8,  
Romans 10:14-21,  
Hebrews 3:7-14, 7:25,  
2 Thess. 2:14,  
Jeremiah 31:3, Hos.  
11:4,  
2 Cor. 4:4  
2 Timothy 1:10  
John 1:4-5, 9-13, 18,  
3:19, 8:12, 9:5, 12:46

## 7. Man's Receiving or Rejecting

Believing the Gospel through Repentance of Sin and Faith in Jesus as Lord  
Mark 1:15, Acts 20:21,  
Hebrews 6:1, Acts 11:21,  
16:31, 18:8, 19:4, Romans  
10:9-13\*\*\*  
1 Timothy 1:15-16  
Luke 8:12  
2 Thessalonians 2:10  
John 1:12, 3:18, Ephesians  
1:13

## 8. God's Justification and Regeneration

Justified – Acts 13:38-39, Rom. 3:20-30, 4:5, 5:1-9, 6:7,  
8:1, 8:30-33, 1 Cor. 6:11, Gal. 2:16, 3:8-24, Adoption – John  
1:12, 11:52, Romans 8:15-23, 9:4-8, Gal. 4:5, Eph. 1:5, 5:1,  
Phil. 2:15, 1 John 3:1-10, 4:4, 5:2, Acts 13:33, 17:29  
Sealing – 2 Cor. 1:22, Eph. 1:13, 4:30 Indwelling – Romans  
8:9, 1 Cor. 3:16, 6:19-20, 2 Cor. 6:16 Transformation/Born  
Again – John 3:3-7, 1 Peter 1:3, 1:23  
New Creation – 2 Cor. 5:17 Gal. 6:15  
Slaves of Righteousness – Romans 6:6-18, Eph. 6:6, 1  
Peter 2:16, Rev. 19:5, 22:3  
Regeneration - Titus 3:5-7, 1 Cor. 15:22, Eph. 2:5, Col.  
2:13, 1 Peter 3:18

## 9. God's Sanctification and Perseverance

Rom. 6:19-22, 8:29, 12:2  
1 Thess. 4:3-7, Phil. 1:6, 3:10-14  
Eph. 4-6 (1:4, 4:11-14, 5:27)  
Colossians 1:9-22, 3:1-4:6  
2 Thess. 2:13, Heb. 12:2-14  
John 10:28  
Jude 1:24, Romans 16:25, 1 Peter  
5:10, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Tim.  
2:21, Heb. 10:35-39, 13:21

## 10. God's Glorification

Romans 8:29, Phil. 1:6  
John 10:28, 2 John 1:8  
Hebrews 11:6, 12:2, 9:15  
2 Cor. 4:14, Col. 1:12, 3:23-24  
2 Tim. 4:8, 18  
1 Cor. 3:8-14, 15:1-58  
Ephesians 1:18-23  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
Matthew 5:12-6:18, 10:41-42  
Revelation 11:18, 22:12

# Process / Order of Salvation from a Human Perspective

**Leadership:** Teaching, Leading, Overseeing, Shepherding

**Discipleship:** Maturing, Learning, Living, Reproducing

**Membership:** Joining, Fellowshiping, Serving, Building

**Baptism:** Identifying, Proclaiming, Obeying

**Salvation:** Coming, Receiving, Believing,  
Trusting, Repenting, Confessing (Jesus is Lord)

**Hearing:** Listening, Thinking, Weighing

**Seeking:** Looking, Seeking, Researching, Investigating

**Humbling:** Questioning, Struggling, Hurting, Grieving, Dying

**UNBELIEF:** Ignorance, Indifference, Skepticism, Mocking, Persecution



## 2 Corinthians 7:8-11 teaches us that True Biblical Repentance involves:

\*\*\*Context: The Corinth church had accepted sin in their midst (1 Cor. 5:1 – someone has his father’s wife) and not done church discipline to remove leaven from their midst but instead were boasting of their tolerance (1 Cor. 5:6)... so Paul writes them a letter of rebuke telling them not to associate with immoral people (1 Cor. 5:9). But then they repented, did remove the sinning ones, but were on the opposite extreme struggling to accept back into fellowship those who had truly repented. The repentance described in 2 Cor. 7:8-11 is genuine repentance of the Corinthians after this situation had been rectified.

- 1. A change of mind/heart** - **μετάνοια metanoia**: change of mind (**μετανοέω metanoëo**: to change one’s mind or purpose, meta: change/after, noeo: to perceive/think, nous: mind, understanding, reason) A change of mind and heart where we are willing and resolved to turn from our sin and return to God – going the opposite direction.
- 2. A godly sorrow** (**λυπέω lypeo**: to distress, to grieve, pain of body or mind) “lit. grieve into/unto repentance” Grieved and broken over our sin/rebellion against God as we realize our idolatry, treachery, treason of self-worship, glory stealing, hypocrisy/double-mindedness/half-heartedness, and participation or tolerance of evil and wickedness when we did love God, fear God, or obey God.
- 3. No loss/No regret** (**ζημιώω zemioo**: to damage, suffer loss) Restoration not repudiation, produces good not damage to a person so there is no regret (**ἀμεταμέλητος ametameletos**: no regret)
- 4. Leads to deliverance of the sin:** (**σωτηρία soteria**: deliverance, salvation) Leads to salvation (freedom and deliverance from the sin)
- 5. Earnestness** (**σπουδή spoude**: haste, diligence, to urge on) Urgency and diligence to completely deal with the situation
- 6. Vindication** (**ἀπολογία apologia**: a speech in defense, give an account of oneself) A thorough accounting not lying, hiding, concealing
- 7. Indignation** (**ἀγανάκτησις aganaktēsis**: indignation, **ἀγανακτέω aganakteō**: to grieve much, hence to be indignant) An intense hatred and distress of/over sin because of the affront it is to our great God and awareness and commitment to flee from the destruction and depression it causes us.
- 8. Fear** (**φόβος phobos**: panic flight, fear, the causing of fear, terror) We can fear the consequences of sin, and self-destruction, but ultimate we must fear God (His power, His righteous judgment, and His consuming fire justice)
- 9. Longing** (**ἐπιπόθησις epipōthesis**: longing from **ἐπιποθέω epipotheō**: to long, to yearn) A longing and yearning to be free from the destruction of sin, free from God’s discipline, free from the constant struggle and fight within ourselves, and longing to be whole and at peace with God, others, and ourselves.
- 10. Zeal** (**ζήλος zelos**: zeal, jealousy, fury) A hot and zealous pursuit, devotion, and commitment to the hard path of change, restoration, and progress/growth.
- 11. Avenging of wrong** (**ἐκδίκησις ekdikēsis**: vengeance, vindication) from **ἐκδικέω ekdikeō** lit. “out of what is right” Doing what is right to correct the situation and make amends /restitution – like Zaccheus who paid back 4x what he has stolen.
- 12 Demonstration of innocence** (**συνίστημι sunistemi** and **συνίστανω sunistano**: to commend, establish, stand near, consist, prove, show) (**ἄγνός hagnos**: free from ceremonial defilement, holy, sacred, innocent, clean, set apart from sin/sinners) **ἐν παντὶ συνεστήσατε ἑαυτοὺς ἄγνοὺς εἶναι τῷ πράγματι.** in all/everything you commended/showed/proved yourselves holy/pure/innocent are in the deed/matter. The repentance is so obvious, genuine, and complete that the repentance becomes more known/famous than the sin just as David is overall known for being a righteous/holy man – a man after God’s own heart rather than defined by his many terrible sins.



# SO WHAT?

## Application



**2 Corinthians 7:9-11** 9 I now rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance; for you were made sorrowful according to the will of God, in order that you might not suffer loss in anything through us. 10 For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation; but the sorrow of the world produces death. 11 For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter.



This week's Sermon Title:

# "Why are we called Christians?"

(A Resolute Heart that Remains True to the Lord Jesus)

**HELLO**  
**I AM...**

**A CHRISTIAN**

"And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians." (Acts 11:26)

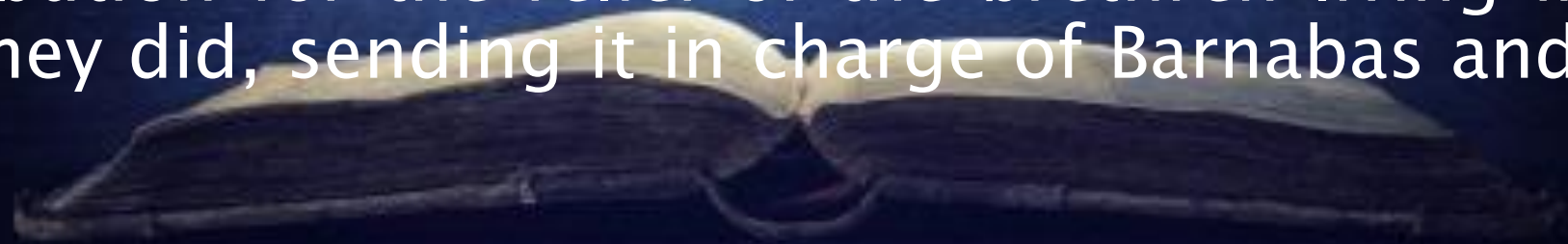
# Acts 11:19-30

19 So then those who were scattered because of the persecution that occurred in connection with Stephen made their way to Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except to Jews alone. 20 But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who came to Antioch and began speaking to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a large number who believed turned to the Lord. 22 The news about them reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas off to Antioch. 23 Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord;



# Acts 11:19-30

24 for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord. 25 And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; 26 and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. 27 Now at this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. 28 One of them named Agabus stood up and began to indicate by the Spirit that there would certainly be a great famine all over the world. And this took place in the reign of Claudius. 29 And in the proportion that any of the disciples had means, each of them determined to send a contribution for the relief of the brethren living in Judea. 30 And this they did, sending it in charge of Barnabas and Saul to the elders.





# The Disciples were called **CHRISTIANS**

“And the **disciples** were called **Christians** first in Antioch.” Acts 11:26b





# A Christian

“And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.” **Acts 11:26**

Χριστιανούς

Χριστιανός *Christianos* = a follower of Christ

Jesus saying "Follow Me" – 18X in the NT

Matt. 4:19

Matt. 8:22

Matt. 9:9

Matt. 16:24

Matt. 19:21

Mk. 1:17

Mk. 2:14

Mk. 8:34

Mk. 10:21

Lk. 5:27

Lk. 9:23

Lk. 9:59

Lk. 18:22

Jn. 1:43

Jn. 10:27

Jn. 12:26

Jn. 21:19

Jn. 21:22

# FOLLOW ME

**“the disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.”**

**– Acts 11:26**



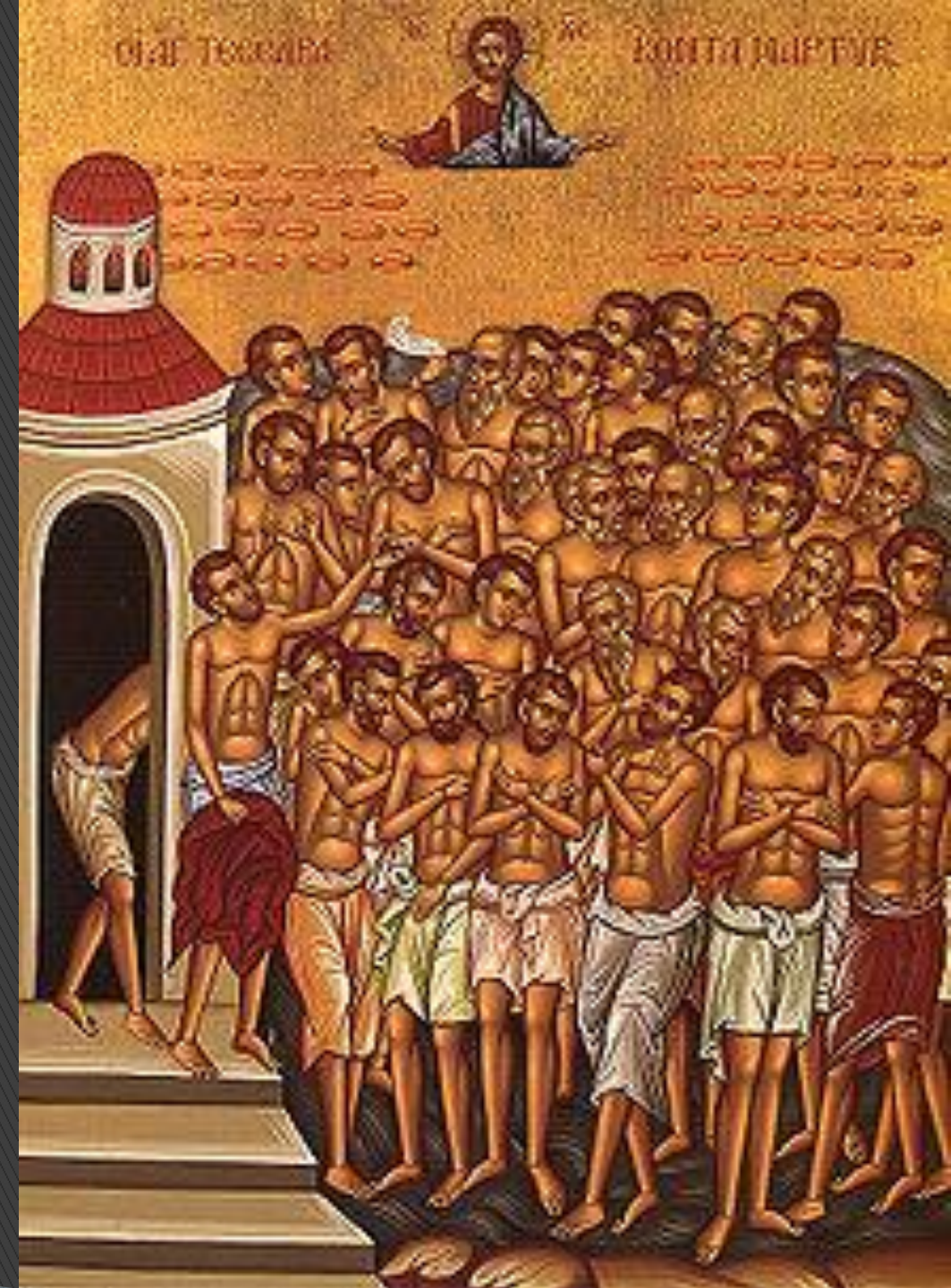


# The Thundering Legion

Excerpt from  
the book by  
DcTalk &  
Voice of the  
Martyrs

Jesus Freaks  
pg 96-97

“I am  
a Christian.”





# 1. God uses/works trials, persecutions, and hardships for His will, His glory, and our good.

- ▶ Here in Acts 11 – God uses the persecution of Stephen started by Saul and other Pharisees to scatter Christians from Jerusalem and help spread the gospel to new areas, new nationalities, and ultimately bring the gospel to the whole world (Luke 2:30–32, Is. 9:1–2, 42:6–7, 49:6, 60:1–5, Rev. 5:9–10, 14:6–7).
- ▶ **Acts 11:19** <sup>19</sup> So then those who were scattered because of the persecution that occurred in connection with Stephen made their way to Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except to Jews alone.



# 2. God's will is for the gospel to spread geographically



**Acts 11:20<sup>20</sup> But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who came to Antioch and began speaking to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus.**



### 3. God is concerned with NUMBERS in the sense that He cares about EVERY soul and each person being saved

- ▶ Saved from God's wrath against sin – Rom 5:8–9,
- ▶ Forgiveness of all sins – Acts 10:43,
- ▶ Peace with God – Acts 10:36, Rom. 5:1,
- ▶ Reconciliation/personal relationship with God – Rom. 5:10, Col. 1:22
- ▶ Received through repentance (turning) and faith (believing/trusting in Jesus) as the one and only true LORD – Mark 1:15, Acts 20:21, Heb. 6:1
- ▶ Acts 11:21 <sup>21</sup> And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a large number who believed turned to the Lord.
- ▶ Numbers also mentioned in 11:24, 26



So, the first 4 verses (Acts 11:19–22) are an Example of Church Planting in the Early Church – which is still God’s heart and will for churches today (to grow, reproduce, and reach new areas and unreached people groups)

- ▶ **Acts 11:19-22** <sup>19</sup> So then those who were scattered because of the persecution that occurred in connection with Stephen made their way to Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except to Jews alone. <sup>20</sup> But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who came to Antioch and began speaking to the Greeks also, preaching the Lord Jesus. <sup>21</sup> And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a large number who believed turned to the Lord.

So, the first 4 verses (Acts 11:19–22) are an Example of Church Planting in the Early Church – which is still God’s heart and will for churches today (to grow, reproduce, and reach new areas and unreached people groups)

1. Christianity grows and spreads from Jews to also include Greeks (“**Ἕλληνας Hellen**: a Greek, usually a name for a Gentile)  
ἔλαλτον καὶ πρὸς τοὺς Ἑλληνιστάς (they spoke also towards the Hellenists)
2. The Message is the same – they were Preaching Jesus is Lord (**κύριος kurios** – Jesus is God/Ultimate Authority, Christ/Messiah)  
εὐαγγελιζόμενοι τὸν κύριον Ἰησοῦν (bringing good news of the Lord Jesus)
3. God was with them/blessing them/empowering them  
καὶ ἦν χεὶρ κυρίου μετ’ αὐτῶν (and the hand of the Lord was with them)
4. A large number believed (**πιστεύω pisteuo** (believe/entrust by faith) and turned (**ἐπιστρέφω epistrepho** – to turn/repent) to the Lord (Jesus)  
πολύς τε ἀριθμὸς ὁ πιστεύσας ἐπέστρεψεν ἐπὶ τὸν κύριον  
(many the numbers having believed turned towards the Lord)

## 4. The church still needs good men (and women) like Barnabus (Son of Encouragement) to give, serve/encourage, and GO with the Gospel!

- ▶ **Acts 11:24-26** <sup>24</sup> for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord. <sup>25</sup> And he left for Tarsus to look for Saul; <sup>26</sup> and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.
- ▶ **Acts 4:36–37** <sup>36</sup> Now Joseph, a Levite of Cyprian birth, who was also called Barnabas by the apostles (which translated means Son of Encouragement), <sup>37</sup> and who owned a tract of land, sold it and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.



# 5. Missionary Sending in the Early Church

(may the Lord bless TBC to not only be a missionary supporting church but a missionary preparing/producing/and sending church – we are all missionaries!)

- ▶ Acts 10:22 The news about them reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas off to Antioch.
- ▶ **(THEY SENT) ἐξαποστέλλω *exarostello*: to send forth or away**
  - FROM ἐκ *ek* or ἐξ *ex*: from, from out of
  - AND ἀποστέλλω *apostello*: to send, send away where we get the word “Apostle”
  - ORIGIN/ROOT: ἀπό *apo*: from, away from AND στέλλω *stello*: to arrange, prepare, gather up,
  - **Where we get the word “Apostle”** ἀπόστολος *apostolos*: a messenger, one sent on a mission, an apostle (one directly chosen, sent, and commissioned by Jesus himself)
- ▶ *Who HAS TBC SENT or SUPPORTING? (Past - Present)*
- ▶ *Who IS TBC CURRENTLY PREPARING OR SENDING? (Present)*
- ▶ *Who WILL TBC SEND? (FUTURE)*



**Q: My teenage daughter is a good girl but struggles with peer pressure. Kids constantly dare her to do things she knows are wrong. As a Christian, what is the secret to staying true to Christ?**

**A:** From the writings of the Rev. Billy Graham

Jesus wants to be the Lord of our lives. For those who truly belong to Him, He must be the Master of our bodies. We present Him to a lost world by telling others what Christ has done for us. He sacrificed His life to give us eternal life. Our lives should back up what we say—that God truly makes a difference in how we live.

“Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God” (Romans 12:1-2).

Are we doing this? Do our eyes belong to Christ? Our eyes can be covetous and never satisfied. The Bible says, “I will set nothing wicked before my eyes” (Psalm 101:3). What about our ears? “Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live” (Isaiah 55:3). Our tongue can do unspeakable harm. “Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips” (Psalm 141:3). Our hands can do the work of the devil. Our feet can take us where we shouldn’t go. And our sexuality can get us in trouble before we know it.

When Jesus is the Master of our social life, it is reflected by the friends we keep, the relationships we nurture, and is even reflected by how we entertain ourselves. All we do should glorify the Lord.

## 6. Admonition/Encouragement in the Early Church – “stay true, stay faithful, stay loyal to Jesus as Lord”

- ▶ Acts 11:23 (NASB) <sup>23</sup> Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and *began* to encourage them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord;
- ▶ LSB: he rejoiced and *began* to encourage them all with a purposeful heart to remain *true* to the Lord;
- ▶ KJV1769: they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. <sup>23</sup>Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord.
- ▶ ESV16: he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose,
- ▶ CSB17 encouraged all of them to remain true to the Lord with devoted hearts,
- ▶ NIV84: encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts.

▶ **ἐχάρη καὶ παρεκάλει πάντας τῇ προθέσει τῆς**  
He rejoiced and encouraged all to the purpose, plan, will of the  
to call parallel/alongside  
**καρδίας προσμένειν τῷ κυρίῳ,**  
heart remaining, waiting to the Lord  
continuing faithful/loyal

# Names, Titles, Identifiers of Christians

Acts 11:26 Χριστιανούς (Christianous) Acts 26:28 Χριστιανὸν (Christianon) 1 Pet. 4:16 χριστιανός (Christianos)  
1 Cor. 1:12 ἐγὼ δὲ Χριστοῦ (I am of Christ)

- ▶ Believers (**Trusting**) –πιστεύοντες (pisteuontes) **Acts 5:14**
- ▶ Disciples (**Learning**) –μαθηταὶ (mathetai) **Matthew 5:1**
- ▶ Followers (**Obeying**) – **Mk. 9:41** (Of Christ) Eph. 5:1 1 Pet.2:21, Joshua 14:14  
ἐπακολουθέω (erakoloutheo) ἐπακολουθήσαντες (erakolouthesantes)
- ▶ Imitators (**Conforming**) Eph. 5:1 μιμηταὶ (mimetai)
- ▶ Saints (**Rejoicing**) (Holy, Set Apart) – **Acts 9:13** ἅγιοις (hagiois)
- ▶ Citizens (**Inheriting**)–Acts 11:26, 26:28, Eph. 2:19, 1 Pet. 4:16 συμπολίται (sumpolitai)

- 
- ▶ Jesus Freaks, Holier than Thou
  - ▶ Bible Thumpers, Geeks, (People of the Book)
  - ▶ Religious People, Zealots



What should we be doing as Christians (believers, followers, slaves, and disciples of Jesus?)

# Always be Preaching Jesus (a theme, if not THE theme of Acts)

- ▶ **Acts 5:42** <sup>42</sup> And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and **preaching Jesus** as the Christ.
- ▶ **Acts 8:12** <sup>12</sup> But when they believed Philip **preaching** the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of **Jesus Christ**, they were being baptized, men and women alike.
- ▶ **Acts 8:35** <sup>35</sup> Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he **preached** Jesus to him.
- ▶ **Acts 10:36** <sup>36</sup> "The word which He sent to the sons of Israel, **preaching** peace through **Jesus Christ** (He is Lord of all)—
- ▶ **Acts 10:42-43** <sup>42</sup> "And He ordered us to **preach** to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is **the One** who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> "Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through **His name** everyone who believes **in Him** receives forgiveness of sins."
- ▶ **Acts 11:20** <sup>20</sup> But there were some of them, men of Cyprus and Cyrene, who came to Antioch and *began* speaking to the Greeks also, **preaching** the **Lord Jesus**.
- ▶ **Acts 17:18** <sup>18</sup> And also some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers were conversing with him. Some were saying, "What would this idle babbler wish to say?" Others, "He seems to be a proclaimer of strange deities," -- because he was **preaching Jesus** and the resurrection.
- ▶ **Acts 28:30-31** <sup>30</sup> And he stayed two full years in his own rented quarters and was welcoming all who came to him, <sup>31</sup> **preaching** the kingdom of God and teaching concerning the **Lord Jesus Christ** with all openness, unhindered.

## 7. Evangelism in the Early Church

(may the Lord motivate and empower TBC to be faithful and fruitful to your Great Commission – to do our best for Jesus in reaching our Jerusalem/Judea, Samaria, and uttermost parts so we too see considerable numbers of people coming to Jesus)

▶ **Acts 11:24** <sup>24</sup> for he was a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And considerable numbers were brought to the Lord.

▶ **καὶ προσετέθη ὄχλος ἱκανὸς τῷ κυρίῳ.**

and he added a crowd considerable to the Lord  
a multitude large, great, adequate



# The MODEL Staff Member we are looking for, praying for, and preparing for:

## We are looking for a Barnabas... a Man of:

- ▶ Character – “A Good Man” (Leadership by example, above reproach, blameless, not accusable – Titus 1, 1 Tim. 3)
- ▶ Power – “Full of the Holy Spirit” (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control – Gal. 5:22)
- ▶ Obedience – Full of Faith (prayer, trust, reliance, dependence, action – James 2:26)
- ▶ Evangelism – He added a considerable multitude to the Lord — Acts 11:24, 13:49, 20:26, Romans 15:20, Col. 1:5-6, 23 – can we say like Paul we have preached to the entire region and the entire region has heard the gospel?

## Practically we are praying for and looking for a new Pastor who...

- ▶ Loves God (all heart, soul, strength)
- ▶ Loves the Word (trembles, treasures, and teaches the Word)
- ▶ Love the Church, Loves People – specifically our People
- ▶ Will commit and stay for a good length of time to be faithful and fruitful (discipleship takes TIME)

# 8. Discipleship in the Early Church – here we see the need for spiritual mentorship and the time and devotion and hard work it takes to produce mature/reproducing Christians

- ▶ **Acts 11:26** <sup>26</sup> and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.
- ▶ Here, Barnabas disciples new converts for 1 year (Acts 11:26), Paul later will spend a year and half at Corinth (Acts 18:11), and 3 years at Ephesus discipling new believers (Acts 20:31).
- ▶ Jesus modeled discipleship by pouring his life into 12 men for 3 years and at times his inner circle of 3 (Peter, James, John) (Mt. 17:1, Mark 5:37, Mark 9:2, Mark 14:33, Luke 8:51, 9:28)
- ▶ 1 to 1 Discipleship is seen in 1 Timothy 2 (training faithful men who in turn train other men) and Titus 2 (older women mentoring younger women)
- ▶ At TBC we aim to take people through the 7 TBC discipleship classes (Basics Class/Investigative B.study, Foundations Class/Grey Folder, Fundamentals Class/Jmac FOF, Evangelism Class/Way of the Master, NT Survey/Read Through, OT Survey/Read Through, Systematic Theology/Geisler) in 2-3 years (Offered 1 to 1, S.S. Classes, Home Groups, and Online Videos)

# 9. Prophets of the Early Church

- ▶ **Acts 11:27-28** <sup>27</sup> Now at this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. <sup>28</sup> One of them named Agabus stood up and *began* to indicate by the Spirit that there would certainly be a great famine all over the world. And this took place in the *reign* of Claudius.
- ▶ **Acts 21:10-11** <sup>10</sup> As we were staying there for some days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. <sup>11</sup> And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands, and said, "This is what the Holy Spirit says: 'In this way the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.'"



We still have prophecy in the modern church... It's called a completed CANON (Bible) where we have the treasure/privilege to know ALL the predictions and promises of the future we need to know – including all the prophecies concerning Israel and Jesus the Messiah that haven't been fulfilled yet.

We have a COMPLETE timetable of future events especially in the book of Revelation in the New Testament.

- ▶ There are no more prophets in the modern church because the gift of prophecy has ceased and without the gift you cannot have the office of Prophet. (1 Cor. 13:8–13)
- ▶ 1 Cor. 13:8–11 <sup>8</sup> Love never fails; but if *there are gifts of prophecy*, they will be done away; if *there are tongues*, they will cease; if *there is knowledge*, it will be done away. <sup>9</sup> For we know in part and we prophesy in part; <sup>10</sup> but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things.

# 10. Giving of the Early Church

- ▶ **Acts 11:29-30** <sup>29</sup> And in the proportion that any of the disciples had means, each of them determined to send *a contribution* for the relief of the brethren living in Judea. <sup>30</sup> And this they did, sending it in charge of Barnabas and Saul to the elders.
- ▶ Giving is to be **PROPORTIONAL** (a portion/percentage of your means, what you make, or what you have)
- ▶ Giving is to be **WORSHIPFUL** (first fruits principle – the best, top, first earnings always go to the Lord to recognize He is the one who owns, gave, and enabled us the wealth to give)
- ▶ Giving is to be **PRACTICAL** – with compassion, out of love, and needs base (to meet the practical and physical needs of others – food, clothing, shelter)

# Giving (Generosity) is still an active gift in the church today according to 1 Cor. 12 and Rom. 12

- ▶ **Romans 12:6-8** <sup>6</sup> Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, *each of us is to exercise them accordingly*: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; <sup>7</sup> if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; <sup>8</sup> or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.
- ▶ Rom. 12:8 ὁ μεταδιδούς ἐν ἀπλότητι,
- ▶ [UBS] **μεταδίδωμι** (inf. μεταδιδόναι, ptc. μεταδιδούς ; aor. subj. μεταδῶ, impv. 3 sg. μεταδότω, inf. μεταδοῦναι) share, give, impart
- ▶ [UBS] **ἀπλότης, ητος** f generosity, liberality; sincerity, singlehearted devotion
- ▶ Conclusion: We are to give
  1. **REGULARLY** (Dt. 16:16, 1 Cor. 16:2),
  2. **CHEERFULLY** (2 Cor. 9:7), and
  3. **SACRIFICIALLY** (2 Cor. 8:2-9)



# SO WHAT?

## Application



**1 Peter 4:7-16** 7 The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer. 8 Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. 9 Be hospitable to one another without complaint. 10 As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 11 Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. 12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; 13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation. 14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. 15 Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler; 16 but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.



A PRIMER  
ON THE  
HOLY SPIRIT





**Acts 10:44-48a** <sup>44</sup> While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. <sup>45</sup> All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. <sup>46</sup> For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered, <sup>47</sup> "Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we *did*, can he?" <sup>48</sup> And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

## 10. Jesus' gift/baptism of the Holy Spirit is given as immediate proof and validation of salvation (genuine belief/repentance/faith in Jesus as Lord)

- ▶ **Holy Spirit fell upon** – ἐπιπίπτω *epiipipto*: to fall upon
- ▶ **Poured out** – ἐκχύννω *ekchunno*: to pour out, fig. *to bestow*
- ▶ **Gift** – δωρεά *dorea*: a gift
- ▶ **Tongues (languages)** – γλῶσσα *glossa*: the tongue, a language
- ▶ **Magnifying** – μεγαλύνω *megaluno*: to make or *declare great*
- ▶ **Verses on indwelling and seal of the Holy Spirit:** John 14:16–17, 15:26, 16:7–15, Romans 8:9, Eph. 1:13–14, 4:30, 1 Cor. 3:16, 2 Cor. 1:22, 6:16–19, 12:9, Eph. 2:22, 3:17, 2 Tim. 1:14, Titus 3:3–7

# The Promise of the Holy Spirit (His names/roles)

John 14:16-17,26, 15:26-27, 16:8-14

- ▶ **14:16** "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; <sup>17</sup> *that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.
- ▶ **14:26** "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.
- ▶ **15:26** "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, *that is* the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me, <sup>27</sup> and you *will* testify also, because you have been with Me from the beginning.
- ▶ **16:8** "And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; <sup>9</sup> concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; <sup>10</sup> and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; <sup>11</sup> and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.
- ▶ **16:13** "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. <sup>14</sup> "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you.

# The Seal of the Holy Spirit – God's Mark/Proof of Ownership (Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:30-32)

- ▶ **1:13** In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation-- having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, <sup>14</sup> who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.
- ▶ **4:30** Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. <sup>32</sup> Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.



# The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit at Conversion

## Romans 8:9-11

- ▶ <sup>9</sup> However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.  
<sup>10</sup> If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

# The Temple of the Holy Spirit (our hearts/body)

## 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, 5:1-5, 6:19-20

- ▶ <sup>21</sup> Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, <sup>22</sup> who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.
- ▶ <sup>1</sup> For we know that if the earthly tent which is our house is torn down, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. <sup>2</sup> For indeed in this *house* we groan, longing to be clothed with our dwelling from heaven...<sup>5</sup> Now He who prepared us for this very purpose is God, who gave to us the Spirit as a pledge.
- ▶ <sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

# The Tests/Proofs of the Holy Spirit - Doctrinal, Moral, Fellowship

2 Cor. 13:5, 1 John 2:3-6, 3:24-4:4, 4:9-21

- ▶ **2 Cor. 13:5** <sup>5</sup> Test yourselves *to* see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you-- unless indeed you fail the test?
- ▶ **1 Jn. 2:3-6 (Moral/Obedience Test)** <sup>3</sup> And by this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. <sup>4</sup> The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; <sup>5</sup> but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By this we know that we are in Him: <sup>6</sup> the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked...3:6-11 <sup>6</sup> No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has seen Him or knows Him. <sup>7</sup> Little children, let no one deceive you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; <sup>8</sup> the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, that He might destroy the works of the devil. <sup>9</sup> No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. <sup>10</sup> By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother. <sup>11</sup> For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another;
- ▶ **1 John 3:24-4:4 (Doctrinal Test)** The one who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. We know by this that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us. <sup>4:1</sup> Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup> By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; <sup>3</sup> and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the *spirit* of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world. <sup>4</sup> You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.
- ▶ **1 Jn. 4:9-21 (Fellowship/Love Test)** <sup>9</sup> By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has beheld God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup> By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have beheld and bear witness that the Father has sent the Son *to be* the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup> And we have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him... <sup>21</sup> And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.



# The Good Confession enabled by the Holy Spirit

## 1 Corinthians 12:3-7

- ▶ 1 Cor. 12:3-7 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. <sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. <sup>5</sup> And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all *persons.* <sup>7</sup> But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

# Access to God and Building of the Church by the Power the Holy Spirit - Ephesians 2:18-22

- ▶ <sup>18</sup>... through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, <sup>20</sup> having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*, <sup>21</sup> in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, <sup>22</sup> in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

# Gift of the Inspired Holy Scriptures by the Holy Spirit

2 Peter 1:20-21, 2 Timothy 1:13-14

- ▶ 2 Pet. 1:20-21 <sup>20</sup> But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is *a matter* of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup> for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.
- ▶ 2 Tim. 1:13-14 Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup> Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to *you*.



# The Miracle of Salvation/Conversion by the Holy Spirit - Titus 3:5-7

- ▶ Titus 3:5-7 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to *the* hope of eternal life.

# The Change/New Life/fruits of the Holy Spirit

## Galatians 5:22-26

- ▶ Gal. 5:22-26 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup> Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.

**Baptism/indwelling/seal of the Holy Spirit** (regeneration at conversion)

**VS**

**The filling/empowering/enabling by the Holy Spirit** (power for special times & tasks)

(Greek words πληρώω pleroo – to make full, fulfill/complete – and πίμπλημι pimplemi – to fill, be full of)

**1. John the Baptist Prophecy of Jesus baptizing with the Holy Spirit**

(Mt. 3:11, Mk. 1:8, Lk. 3:16, Jn. 1:33)

**2. Jesus' Promise of the Holy Spirit** (John 7:38–39, John 14:7)

**3. The Disciples Promise or Receiving the Holy Spirit**

(11 disciples – John 20:22)

**4. The Coming/Falling of the Holy Spirit/Baptism of the Church**

(Pentecost – Acts 2, Samaritans – Acts 8, Gentiles Acts 10, OT saints in Ephesians – Acts 19)

**5. The Filling of the Holy Spirit at special times for special missions**

Lk. 1:15, 1:41, 1:67, Acts 2:4, 2:8–11 / Psalm 16:8–11, 4:8, 4:31, 9:17, 13:9, 13:52,  
Rom. 15:13, 15:14, 15:19, 2 Cor. 7:4, Eph. 1:23, 3:19, 5:18, Phil. 1:11, 2:2, 4:19, Col.  
1:9, 1:25, 4:17, 1 Thess. 1:11, 2 Tim. 1:4, 1 John 1:4, 2 John 1:12.



# Baptism/indwelling/seal of the Holy Spirit VS The filling/empowering/enabling/completing by the Holy Spirit

(Greek words πληρώω pleroo – to make full, fulfill/complete – and πίμπλημι pimplemi – to fill, be full of)

## ▶ The Filling of the Holy Spirit at special times for special missions

- John the Baptist mission while in his mother's womb to turn Israel back to God – Lk. 1:15,
- Elizabeth prophesying blessedness of Mary's womb – Lk. 1:41,
- Zacharias – prophesying redemption for Israel – Lk. 1:67,
- Jerusalem believers speaking the gospel in different languages – Acts 2:4,
- OT quote/Psalm of the power/ability to be full of gladness/joy in God's presence – Acts 2:8–11/Psalm 16:8–11,
- Peter speaking courageously and confidently of Jesus resurrection and the only way of salvation when on trial – Acts 4:8,
- Peter, John, early church praying/room shaken speaking the Word of God with boldness – Acts 4:31,
- Ananias baptizing Saul and him proclaiming Jesus is the Son of God in the synagogues – Acts 9:17,
- Saul/Paul boldly rebutting Elymas the magician in front of the proconsul at Salamis – Acts 13:9,
- Paul and Barnabus and other believers filled with joy despite persecution – Acts 13:52,
- Paul's prayer for the Roman believers to have joy and peace in believing and to abound in hope and power by the Holy Spirit – Rom. 15:13,
- Believers being full of goodness, knowledge, and able to admonish one another – Rom. 15:14,
- Signs and wonders given to Paul by the power of the Holy Spirit – Romans 15:19,
- The filling of Paul with comfort and joy in regards to the Corinthians – 2 Cor. 7:4,
- The fullness of Christ/God given to the church – Eph. 1:23, 3:19,
- Command by God through Paul for believers to be filled/controlled by the Holy Spirit instead of alcohol so they speak to one another in psalms, hymns, spiritual songs, sign and make melodies in their hearts to the Lord...always giving thanks for all things in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and to be subject to one another in the fear of Christ – Eph. 5:18,
- The filling of believers/Ephesians with the fruit of righteousness/right living – Phil. 1:11,
- The filling of believers to be of the same mind, love, and unity and purpose in the Spirit – Phil. 2:2,
- God promises to supply/fill all our needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus – Phil. 4:19,
- The prayer for believers to be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding – Col. 1:9,
- Fulfilling/carry out our ministry of preaching the Word of God – Col. 1:25,
- Our completion in Christ/removal of sin – Col. 2:10, and overall to fulfill the ministry God has given us – Col. 4:17,
- Living a life worthy of our calling and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power – 1 Thess. 1:11,
- Filled with joy – 2 Tim. 1:4,
- Joy made complete – 1 John 1:4, 2 John 1:12.

# SO WHAT?

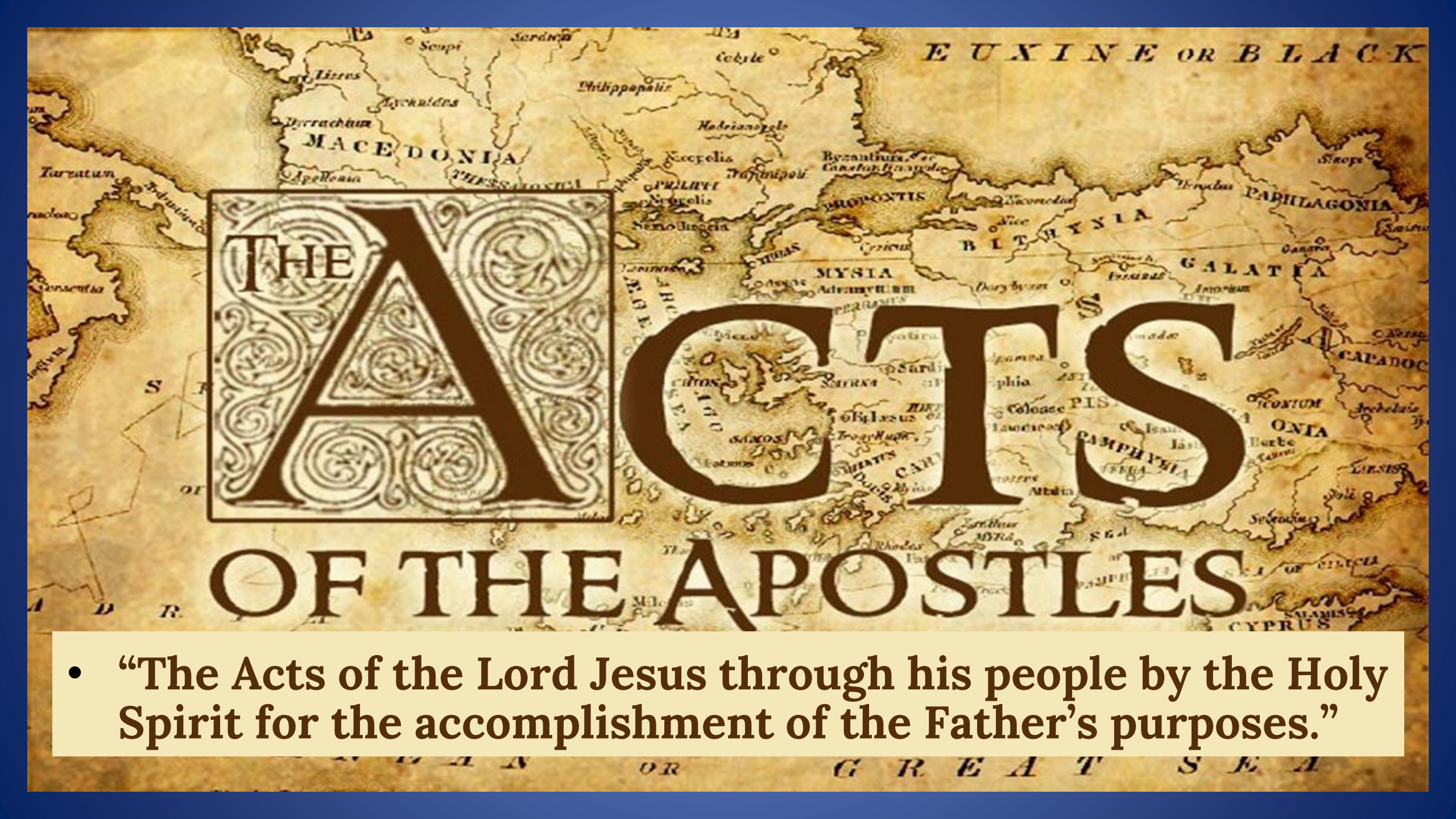
## Application



**Galatians 5:22-25** 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. 24 Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.







# THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

- “The Acts of the Lord Jesus through his people by the Holy Spirit for the accomplishment of the Father’s purposes.”



Today's Sermon Title:

Acts 10:43-48

A man in Roman-style armor, including a breastplate and shoulder guards, is kneeling on a tiled floor in a grand, dimly lit room with large stone columns. He has his hands clasped in prayer and is looking down. A red cloak is draped over his shoulders.

# “The Gospel Peter gave Cornelius”

(10 Truths of Evangelism) Pt. 5

(The Gift of the Holy Spirit)

## Recap/Summary of Acts 10 (Peter's Gospel Message to Cornelius and friends)

### 10 Truths of Biblical Evangelism:

1. (10:36a) The Gospel is a message of **Peace** (reconciliation with God)
2. (10:36b) Jesus is the **Christ** (the anointed/chosen one of God to save and to judge)
3. (10:36c) Jesus is **Lord** (the ultimate authority – King of kings, Lord of lords)
4. (10:37–39a) Jesus' **Perfect Life** = imputed righteousness/right standing with God
5. (10:39b) Jesus' **Sacrificial Death** on the cross = payment for our sins by His blood
6. (10:40) Jesus' **Victorious Resurrection** = eternal life (promise of our resurrection)
7. (10:41) Jesus' post-resurrection **Appearances** (validation by eye-witness testimony)
8. (10:42) Jesus' **Great Commission** (we are ALL commanded to preach the gospel)
9. (10:43) Jesus' awesome gospel/good news of salvation is **Available to EVERYONE**...everyone who believes (repents and trusts in Jesus by faith for salvation from God's wrath) receives forgiveness of sins
10. (10:44–46) Jesus' gift/baptism/seal of the **Holy Spirit** is given as immediate proof/validation of salvation

**Acts 10:42-48** <sup>42</sup> "And He ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> "Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins." <sup>44</sup> While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. <sup>45</sup> And all the circumcised believers who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out upon the Gentiles also. <sup>46</sup> For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered, <sup>47</sup> "Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we *did*, can he?" <sup>48</sup> And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay on for a few days.

11. (10:47–48) Jesus' commands every true believer to be baptized/immersed in water as evidence of genuine salvation (an outward sign of their inward commitment and participation in the new covenant)



**Acts 10:44-48a** <sup>44</sup> While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. <sup>45</sup> All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. <sup>46</sup> For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered, <sup>47</sup> "Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we *did*, can he?" <sup>48</sup> And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

Application of Acts 10: Believer's Baptism in water should follow SOON after conversion/making the good confession/commitment (Jesus is Lord) as EVIDENCE/proof of salvation

- ▶ **Baptized in water** (βαπτίζω *baptizo*: to dip, sink, immerse, envelope/overwhelm completely)
- ▶ **Who have received the Holy Spirit** (λαμβάνω *lambano*: to take, receive)
- ▶ **Baptized in the NAME of Jesus Christ** (ὄνομα *onoma*: a name, authority, cause)

# Verses on Believer's Baptism:

- ▶ **Command to baptized:** Matt. 28:18–20 (Why does God command believers to be baptized in water?)
- ▶ **Symbolism of Baptism** (Jesus life, death, resurrection, spiritual rebirth, spiritual cleansing)
- ▶ Rom. 6:3–11, Acts 22:16 (Why should a believing child wait to be baptized if they don't yet comprehend the symbolism of baptism?)
- ▶ **John the Baptist's baptism of repentance** (preparation for salvation)
- ▶ Matt. 3:11, Mk. 1:8, Lk. 3:16, Jn. 1:26, 1:31, 1:33, 3:23, Acts 1:5, 11:16
- ▶ **Jesus' baptism** (why do you think Jesus was baptized?)
- ▶ Matt. 3:13–17, Mk. 1:9–11, Lk. 3:21–22
- ▶ **Jesus' disciple's baptizing** (why do you think the disciples rather than Jesus did the baptizing?)
- ▶ Jn. 3:22, Jn. 4:1–2
- ▶ **10 examples of Believer's Baptism in water in the book of Acts:**
- ▶ Acts 2:41, Acts 8:12, Acts 8:13, Acts 8:35–39, Acts 9:18, Acts 10:47–48 Acts 16:14–15, Acts 16:33, Acts 18:8, Acts 19:1–7

# Matthew 28:18-20

- ▶ <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.  
<sup>19</sup> "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."



# Romans 6:1-11

- ▶ What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup> May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup> Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup> For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness of His resurrection*, <sup>6</sup> knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; <sup>7</sup> for he who has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup> Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, <sup>9</sup> knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him. <sup>10</sup> For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. <sup>11</sup> Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

# Acts 22:13-16

- ▶ 'Brother Saul, receive your sight!' And at that very time I looked up at him. <sup>14</sup> "And he said, 'The God of our fathers has appointed you to know His will and to see the Righteous One and to hear an utterance from His mouth. <sup>15</sup> 'For you will be a witness for Him to all men of what you have seen and heard. <sup>16</sup> 'Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.'

# Luke 12:50 and 1 Peter 3:18-22

- ▶ <sup>50</sup> "But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is accomplished!
- ▶ <sup>18</sup> For Christ also died for sins once for all, *the* just for *the* unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; <sup>19</sup> in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits *now* in prison, <sup>20</sup> who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through *the* water. <sup>21</sup> Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you-- not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience-- through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.



## 10 Examples of Believers Baptism in Scripture

- No examples of infant baptism or sprinkling
- All examples occur on the same day as conversion

Reference	Occurrence
Acts 2:41	The 3000 who accepted Peter's invitation were baptized that same day
Acts 8:12	The men and women who responded to Philip's gospel message were baptized
Acts 8:13	Simon the Sorcerer believed and was baptized (possible occurrence of false profession & baptism - not 100% avoidable)
Acts 8:35-38	The Ethiopian eunuch believed with all his heart that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and was baptized the same day at the first site of water
Acts 9:18	Saul (Paul) was baptized three days after his introduction to Jesus, but the same day he received the Holy Spirit.
Acts 10:48	Comelius' household (Gentiles) believes Peter's preaching as evidenced by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and they were baptized
Acts 16:14-15	Lydia from Philippi: the Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul, and she was baptized.
Acts 16:33	The Philippian jailer in charge of Paul and Silas is converted and he and his entire family are baptized that same night
Acts 18:8	Crispus, the Corinthian synagogue ruler, along with his household and many Corinthians heard, believed, and were baptized
Acts 19:1-7	12 Ephesian men who knew of John's Baptism of repentance, believe on Christ Jesus and are baptized in his name

## Acts 8:35-39

- ▶ <sup>35</sup> Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him. <sup>36</sup> As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" <sup>37</sup> *And 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."* <sup>38</sup> And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup> When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing.

# 1. Who Should Be Baptized?

- A. Acts 2:41 - Those who had received his word were baptized that day
- B. Acts 8:12 - Those who believed were baptized, men and women alike.
- C. Acts 18:8 - When they heard were believing and being baptized.

▶ Conclusion: Everyone that has repented and by faith believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and Lord should be baptized. (Romans 10:9-13)

Romans 10:9-13 <sup>9</sup> that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; <sup>10</sup> for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. <sup>11</sup> For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes in Him will not be disappointed." <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call upon Him; <sup>13</sup> for "Whoever will call upon the name of the LORD will be saved."

## 2. Why Be Baptized?

- A. Obedience - Christ commands every believer to be baptized. Jesus said:
- 1) Matthew 28:19 - Make disciples of all the nations and baptize them.
  - 2) 1 John 2:3-6 – Obedience is a test/proof of our faith.

- B. The example set before us - The early church practiced baptism.
- 1) Acts 8:36-38, Acts 10:44-48, Acts 16:31-33, Acts 18:8 -

▶ Conclusion: Baptism is an act of obedience to Christ's command (Matthew 28:19) that was obeyed by the first Christians

Matthew 28:18-20 18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."



# 3. What Is The Meaning of Baptism?

## A. Baptism is not a saving ritual.

- a) Ephesians 2:8-9 – We were saved by God’s grace through faith and not by our works
- b) Titus 3:5 - “He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy...”

## B. Baptism is a declaration of our identification with Christ in his death, burial, and resurrection.

- a) Colossians 2:12 “having been buried with Him in baptism . . .”
- b) Romans 6:4 “we have been buried with Him through baptism . . .”

## C. Baptism is symbolic

- 1) Death - Going down into the water- “Baptized into His death” (Romans 6:3) – *Atonement for sin.*
- 2) Burial - Down under the water or submerged- “Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death” (Romans 6:4a) - *Burial of the old sin nature.*
- 3) Resurrection - Coming out of the water- “In order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:4b) – *New Life Now/Eternal Life Later*
- (4) Spiritual Cleansing – Picture of washing/forgiveness - “Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name” (Acts 22:16)
- (5) New Birth - Picture of rebirth. “You must be born again” (John 3:7) – *New Birth.* Water is a symbol of birth/spiritual regeneration - “He saved us...by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit”(Titus 3:5, 2 Cor. 5:15-27) – *New Nature*

**Conclusion:** Baptism is symbolic and *only demonstrates* our salvation. Baptism in no way adds to, enhances, or makes possible our salvation. If we were in any way saved by baptism, we would then be saved by our own deeds.

Romans 6:3-5 3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection,

# 4. How are we to be baptized?

## A. Biblical example

1) Baptism in the New Testament was by immersion in water.

- a) Matthew 3:16 - "And after being baptized, Jesus went up immediately from the water..."
- b) Acts 8:38-39 - "and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water..."

## B. The definition of the word - The word "baptism" means "to dip, to immerse".

- a) Kittle's Theological Dictionary of New Testament Words: "to dip in or under"
- b) Thayer's, Greek-English Lexicon: "to dip, dip in, immerse"

**Conclusion:** There is sound Biblical, grammatical and historical evidence for baptism by complete emersion.

Acts 8:36-39 36 And as they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" 37 And 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." 38 And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch; and he baptized him. 39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch saw him no more, but went on his way rejoicing.

# 5. Who may do the baptizing?

- A. Matthew 28:19 - A general command for all believers to “make disciples”, and does not stop them from baptizing those new believers they lead to Christ.
- B. Acts 8:38 - Philip, commonly called a deacon (Acts 6:5), baptized the new Ethiopian convert.
- C. Acts 9:18 - Ananias, simply called “a disciple” (Acts 9:10), Baptized the new convert Saul, later called Paul.
- D. 1 Corinthians 1:17 - Paul said, “Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel,…” Even as an Apostle and missionary, Paul did not say that only he could baptize but he left the joy to others.

**Conclusion:** Any believer who is walking in obedience to Christ and His Word may baptize another believer who is in need of being baptized.

(Because of the principle of headship (Ephesians 5:23-24 <sup>23</sup> For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself *being* the Savior of the body. <sup>24</sup> But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives *ought to be* to their husbands in everything.) and biblical leadership/submission (1 Peter 5:5/Hebrews 13:17), as well as the responsibility we have before the Lord in making sure the people we baptize are truly saved and born again, our preference as a church is for Elders or Dads to baptize)



# 6. When Should We Be Baptized?

- A. Acts 2:41 – “So then, those who had received his word were baptized”
- B. Acts 8:12 – “But when (or as) they believed. . .they were being baptized”
- C. Acts 9:15, 18 - . . . Paul arose and was baptized as soon as he was able.”
- D. Acts 16:32-33 – “and immediately he was baptized, he and all his household”

**Conclusion: In Scripture the response to the command to be baptized was inextricably tied together with conversion and took place immediately after conversion.**

(Because all 10 examples of believer’s baptism in Scripture took place on the same day as conversion we believe and teach that the principle to be followed is to be baptized SOON after conversion as proof of conversion. But we stress that baptism is NOT a requirement for salvation (the Bible says only belief through repentance and faith are required to receive salvation as a gift ) nor is baptism the source of salvation since Jesus’ blood & righteousness are what saves us)

Acts 2:38-41 <sup>38</sup> And Peter said to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> "For the promise is for you and your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God shall call to Himself." <sup>40</sup> And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!" <sup>41</sup> So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

# 7. Why is Baptism Important?

Baptism is an Important “S.T.E.P.”

**S**ymbol of salvation (picture of the gospel: death, burial, resurrection, washing, and rebirth)

**T**estimony of faith in Jesus Christ (his disciple)  
to the body of believers (part of the church)  
to any unbelievers who attend (testimony)

**E**vidence of genuine salvation (Holy Spirit)  
of Jesus’ Lordship in your life (obedience to Christ and His Word)

## Personal Confession

that “Jesus is Lord!”

that “I am a Christian!”

that “I am forgiven and have eternal life in Jesus!”

that “I believe in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus”

that “I have repented and died to my old life and living for self”

that “I have faith and placed my trust in Jesus’ blood and righteousness to save me”

that “I have new life now and eternal life later because I am a new creation in Jesus”

**Conclusion: Baptism is Picture of my salvation, a Public declaration of my faith (identifying with Jesus and other Christians), and Proof of my repentance and faith that follows and obeys Jesus as Lord.**

Acts 22:16 16 'And now why do you delay? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.'

# SO WHAT?

## Application



**1 Peter 3:18-22** 18 For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, in order that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; 19 in which also He went and made proclamation to the spirits now in prison, 20 who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water. 21 And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you-- not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience-- through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.



