

Series: Baptism – What Does the Bible Really Teach?

Tonight's Lesson: "Water Baptism After Paul" – Part 1

Introduction

- A significant event happened in Acts 9 which would truly change the course of history. God reached down and saved His chief enemy, Saul of Tarsus. We know him as the apostle _____.
- Paul logically began his ministry by working towards the conversion of Jerusalem, just as the _____ program had clearly stated. But to Paul's surprise, God had other plans. Acts 22:17-21
- Paul had a commission that would bypass Jerusalem and go straight to the _____ with the message of Jesus Christ.
- Would water baptism play the same prominent role in Paul's ministry to the Gentiles as it did in Peter's ministry to Israel? Let's compare two passages.
 - Peter's words – 1 Peter 3:20-21
 - Paul's words – 1 Corinthians 1:14-17
- Why is there such a clear difference in Paul and Peter's attitude toward water baptism?

Paul's _____ was different than the twelve apostles.

1. There are twelve apostles because there are twelve tribes of Israel. They will sit on twelve _____ judging the twelve tribes of Israel in Christ's kingdom. Matthew 19:27-28
2. Paul knew he wasn't one of the twelve. He distinguished himself apart from the twelve in 1 Corinthians 15:5, 8. Paul's office was the apostle of the _____. Romans 11:13

Paul's _____ was different than the twelve apostles.

1. The twelve were to testify to Israel of Christ's resurrection.
 - They were to evangelize _____ and the cities of Israel first before going to any other nations. Luke 24:47; Acts 1:8; Matthew 10:23

2. Paul's commission was to get out of _____ (Acts 22:18).
Paul's commission was to go straight to the Gentiles. Acts 22:21, 26:16-18

Paul's _____ was different than the twelve apostles.

1. The word "gospel" simply means "good news."
2. How did Paul receive the gospel he preached among the Gentiles? He did not receive it from any of the _____, but by direct revelation of Jesus Christ. Galatians 1:11-12
3. Seventeen years after Paul's conversion, he traveled to Jerusalem and communicated to the twelve the _____ he preached. Galatians 2:2, 7
4. Paul's gospel was that through faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, they (Jew or Gentile) could be totally _____ of their sins and have Christ's righteousness imputed unto them. Romans 10:1-13
 - This is why Paul said that he could preach his gospel without _____ baptism. 1 Corinthians 1:17
5. Paul's gospel centered around the atoning work of Jesus Christ on the cross. 1 Corinthians 1:17, 18, 23, 2:1-2, 15:3
6. You do not find this in Peter's gospel message in the early part of Acts. His _____ news was that Israel's Messiah is risen.
7. This is why you see Peter disappearing from the scene in the book of Acts. Israel's prophetic program was to be interrupted by something new - the dispensation of _____ to all people.
8. As we study Paul's ministry, we see water baptism still being practiced at times (Acts 18:8), yet it would not have the significance that it did under Israel's program.
9. Paul's focus would now be a _____-physical baptism that would unite the believer to Jesus Christ for all eternity. Colossians 2:12-13