

# Series: Baptism – What Does the Bible Really Teach?

## Tonight’s Lesson: “Water Baptism Before Paul” – Part 2

### Introduction

- Last week we began to examine water baptism before Paul’s commission in the book of Acts. We examined water baptism under the Old Testament law and John the Baptist.
- Let’s continue to examine the issue of water baptism before Paul.

### Baptism under Christ’s commissions to the eleven

1. Christ had died, Judas had hung himself, and the eleven were cowering behind closed doors for fear of the Jews. John 20:19
2. Things could not have looked worse, but then Christ appeared to these men and demonstrated to them His bodily resurrection. After this, Christ spent \_\_\_\_\_ days with the apostles, instructing and teaching them of things pertaining to His coming \_\_\_\_\_. Acts 1:3
  - They were to tarry at Jerusalem until Christ baptized them with the Holy Spirit, which would mean supernatural \_\_\_\_\_. Acts 1:4-5; Luke 24:49
  - They were then to witness of the risen Christ, beginning at Jerusalem. Acts 1:8
3. Would water baptism be a vital part of their message as it was under John and under their three-year earthly ministry with Christ? Let’s examine Christ’s commissions.

#### **Matthew 28:16-20**

- They were to preach the things Christ had taught them concerning His \_\_\_\_\_ kingdom, and baptism was once again an integral part of their message.

#### **Mark 16:15-20**

- This passage is clear. \_\_\_\_\_ baptism was to continue to be an integral part of the gospel message they preached.

- If people believed the apostles' message concerning the risen Christ, they would be water baptized to prepare for the \_\_\_\_\_ of this Messiah and the establishment of His kingdom.

## **Baptism under Peter**

1. On the day of Pentecost (a Jewish feast day), the apostles received the baptism of the Holy Spirit as promised by Christ. Acts 2:1-5
2. As instructed, they witnessed (Peter was the chief spokesman) of the resurrected Christ and warned of coming \_\_\_\_\_. Acts 2:32-36
3. When Israel wanted to know what to do, how did Peter answer them?  
Acts 2:37-40
  - He told them to \_\_\_\_\_ and demonstrate their faith in the apostles' message by uniting with the apostles in water baptism.
4. This would result in three wonderful blessings:
  - Remission of \_\_\_\_\_ - vs. 38
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit - vs. 38-39
  - Deliverance from the \_\_\_\_\_ to come on the unbelieving nation of Israel - vs. 40
5. Those that believed Peter's message were united with the little flock (the 120 – Acts 1:15) through water baptism.
6. In Acts 10, God gave to Peter a commission that seemed quite odd. Christ wanted Peter to go to a Gentile's house and tell him of the resurrected Christ.
  - To Peter's amazement, these believing Gentiles received the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ ever being baptized.
  - This was different than the kingdom program that Peter had been instructed in by Christ.
7. Why would God allow Peter to divert from the kingdom program? Why would God give the Holy Spirit to uncircumcised, unbaptized Gentiles?
8. Because God was preparing the Jewish church to receive the man who would take the gospel of God's grace to the \_\_\_\_\_, apart from Israel. This man, the apostle Paul, would become known as the "*apostle of the Gentiles.*" Romans 11:13
9. Would water baptism hold the same prominence under Paul's commission and ministry as it did Peter and the twelve? Next week we will examine God's Word and find out.