

The New Birth

Bible Study



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God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

John 3:5

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to all seekers of truth.

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Lesson 1

The Need for Salvation

The Bible declares that all mankind are sinners.

1 Kings 8:46

Proverb 20:9

Isaiah 64:6

All mankind is under sin. There is no one righteous.

Romans 3:9-10

Romans 3:19

All fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 3:23

All mankind is under the sentence of death.

Romans 6:23

James 1:15

Everyone needs salvation from sin and it's penalty, death.

Salvation means deliverance from all the power and effects of sin, and it has past, present, and future aspects.

Lesson 2
Salvation is Only by Grace through
Faith in Jesus.

A person can do nothing to save himself.
No amount of good works can save them.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Salvation is a free gift which a person cannot earn or deserves. The atoning work of Jesus Christ - his death, burial and resurrection has made this free gift of salvation available, and the only way to receive it is to believe in Jesus and in the sufficiency of his sacrifice.

Romans 3:24-28

Romans 4:22-25

**There is no salvation outside of the Lord
Jesus Christ.**

John 14:6

John 8:24

The holiness of God demands that he separate himself from sinful man. Separation from God, who is the source of life, means death - physically, spiritually and eternally. God's holy law requires death as the penalty for sinful man. Without the shedding of blood (the giving of life) there can be no forgiveness or release from the penalty of sin and no restoration to fellowship with a holy God.

Hebrews 9:22

The death of animals is not sufficient for the forgiveness of the sin of mankind, because man is much greater than animals and he was created in the image of God.

Hebrews 10:4

Genesis 1:27

No ordinary person can be a substitute for another, for each deserves eternal death for their own sins. So, in order to provide a suitable substitute, God manifested himself in flesh as Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:19

Colossians 2:9

1 Timothy 2:5

1 Timothy 3:16

Jesus Christ is the only sinless man who ever lived, so he is the only One who did not deserve to die and who could be a perfect substitute. His death became an atonement by which God pardons sins without violating his holiness and justice.

Romans 3:23-26

The substitutionary, atoning death of Jesus was made necessary by:

- 1. The sinfulness of man**
- 2. The holiness of God**
- 3. God's law requiring death as the punishment of sin**
- 4. God's desire to provide a way of salvation for sinful man (2 Corinthians 5:19)**

Lesson 3

Saving Faith - Part 1

Faith is the means of salvation only when we believe God and his Word, putting our faith in Jesus Christ and his gospel.

To believe on Jesus includes believing his Word, and truly believing his Word includes obedience. Faith is more than intellectual acceptance, or verbal profession; it includes trust, reliance, commitment, and application. We cannot separate saving faith from obedience.

Acts 6:7

Romans 1:5

Romans 2:6-10

Romans 10:16-17

Romans 16:26

Hebrews 11:6-8

**Obedience to God’s Word is absolutely
necessary for salvation.**

Matthew 7:21-27

John 14:15

John 14:23

Romans 6:17

Romans 15:18

2 Thessalonians 1:7b-10

Hebrews 5:9

1 Peter 4:17

1 John 2:3-5a

1 John 5:1-3

James 2:19

Abraham was saved by faith, but God honored his faith only because it included obedience.

Genesis 15:6

Genesis 22:16

Genesis 26:5

If an Israelite would have professed faith but would not have applied the blood, the death angel would have visited his home. Regardless of his mental belief or verbal profession, to be delivered - the Israelite had to apply the blood to his house.

Exodus 12:13

For his faith to be genuine and effective, he had to obey.

This study will be continued in Part 2 - Saving Faith

Lesson 4

Saving Faith - Part 2

Saving faith is a continuous relationship and a way of life, not just an intellectual condition at a point in time.

Romans 1:16-17

Romans 11:22

1 Corinthians 15:1-2

1 Timothy 4:16

In the eternal sense, salvation is still future.

Acts 15:11

Romans 8:24-25

Romans 13:11

Hebrews 9:28

To inherit eternal life, we must live continually by faith, which means walking in obedience to God's Word.

Through faith we repent from sin.

Mark 1:15

Through faith we obey the command to be baptized.

Mark 16:16

Acts 2:41

Acts 18:8

Through faith we receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

John 7:38-39

Acts 11:15-17

Galatians 3:14

Ephesians 1:13

We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ by obeying Acts 2:38

Obeing Acts 2:38 is not salvation by works. Repentance, water baptism in the name of Jesus, and the baptism of the Holy Spirit are not works of man that earn salvation, but works of God that accomplish salvation in us.

We either allow God to work in us by faith/obedience or refuse to let him work by unbelief/disobedience.

He is the One who calls us, leads us to him, changes our mind and direction (in repentance), washes away our sins (in water baptism), fills us with his Spirit, empowers us for holy living, and keeps us in his grace. The death, burial and resurrection of Jesus purchased them for us. Our faith in Jesus applies them to our lives.

We call on Jesus, make him our Lord and apply his resurrection to our lives through repentance, water baptism and receiving his Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:4

Acts 2:21

Acts 22:16

Faith is the way by which we receive God's grace. It is the way we yield to God, obey his Word, and allow him to perform his saving work in us.

Saving Faith then is:

- 1 - Acceptance of the gospel of Jesus Christ as the sole means of salvation.**
- 2 - Obedience to that gospel in our lives.**

Lesson 5

The Gospel of the New Birth

The gospel of Jesus Christ is the “good news” that Jesus died, was buried, and rose again for our salvation.

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

We respond to the gospel, or apply the gospel to our lives by repentance from sin (death to sin), water baptism by immersion in the name of Jesus (burial with Christ), and receiving the Holy Spirit (new life in Christ)

Acts 2:1-4

Jesus said in John 3:5

When we believe on the Lord Jesus and obey Acts 2:38 we experience the birth of water and the Spirit. We are “born again”.

John 3:3

John 3:8

We actually become a new creation in Jesus Christ.

At repentance and water baptism we bury the old sinful nature and lifestyle, the record of past sins, and the death penalty for sin.

When we receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit we begin to live new, godly lives through the indwelling Spirit.

Read Acts Chapters 2

In Acts 2:37 the listener's wants to know how to be forgiven for rejecting and murdering the Savior and wanted to know what they must do to be saved.

Acts 2:38

A pagan jailer also ask the same question.

Acts 16:30-31

As a result, he was immediately baptized and received an experience that caused him to rejoice.

Acts 16:32-34

Peter's message in Acts 2 and Paul's message in Acts 16 were in agreement.

Lesson 6 Repentance

Repentance is turning from sin to God.

Acts 26:17b-20

The following are necessary aspects of repentance.

Recognition of sin.

Mark 2:17

Confession of sin to God.

Proverbs 28:13

1 John 1:9

Godly sorrow for sin.

Psalm 51:17b

2 Corinthians 7:10

A decision to forsake sin.

Proverbs 28:13

Luke 3:7-8

Acts 26:20

With repentance comes the willingness to make restitution for past sins to the extent possible.

Matthew 5:23-24

Luke 19:8

Repentance is the first response of faith to the call of God.

Mark 1:15

Repentance is absolutely necessary for salvation.

Luke 13:3

Luke 13:5

Acts 17:30

2 Peter 3:9

Without repentance baptism is not effective, and without repentance a person cannot receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38

Acts 3:19

At the moment of repentance, a person begins to let God work in their life. They decide to turn away from sin to God, and allow God to turn to them. As part of the turn from sin, God enables them to break away from sinful habits and desires.

Repentance prepares the way for a person to have a personal relationship with God, qualifying him for water baptism and the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The inward work of salvation begins at repentance, but repentance alone is not the complete work of salvation. Water baptism

makes the turn from sin complete by burying the old man. Repentance and water baptism together bring the full work of the forgiveness of sins. (Acts 2:38)

The baptism of the Holy Spirit makes the turn to God complete by imparting a new nature with power over sin. Only the Spirit brings power over sin and power to fulfill righteousness.

Acts 1:8

Romans 8:2-4

The indwelling Spirit makes new life in Christ a daily reality.

Romans 8:10-13

For the Holy Spirit to dwell continually in a person's life, they must continue to live a repented life.

Lesson 7
Water Baptism - Part 1

Water baptism is part of salvation.

1 Peter 3:21

It is an expression of faith in God by obedience to his Word.

Mark 16:16

Acts 2:41

Baptism by immersion is the only method that represents baptism as burial.

Matthew 3:16

Acts 8:36-39 (8:37 in some versions is in the footnotes)

Romans 6:4

Faith in Jesus Christ and repentance from sin are necessary to it's validity.

Matthew 3:8

Acts 2:38

Acts 8:37 (8:37 in some versions is in the footnotes)

Baptism is more than a symbolic ceremony and more than a public declaration of joining a church. Baptism has always been urgent, and done as soon as the person has heard the gospel message.

The biblical significance of water baptism is as follows:

1. God forgives sins at water baptism. God forgets the record of sin and cancels the penalty for sin. He washes away sins; he buries them forever.

Acts 2:38

Acts 22:16

2. Baptism is part of the new birth.

John 3:5

Titus 3:5

3. Baptism identifies us with the burial of Jesus. It indicates we died to sin by repentance and are burying our past sins, the dominion of sin, and the sinful lifestyle.

Romans 6:4

Colossians 2:12

4. Water baptism is part of the one baptism of water and Spirit that places us into Christ Jesus. It is a personal identification with Jesus and part of entrance into his family.

Romans 6:3-4

Galatians 3:27

Ephesians 4:5

5. Baptism is part of our spiritual circumcision.

Colossians 2:11-13

By the new birth we enter into the new covenant relationship with God.

The Bible teaches that baptism should be administered in the name of Jesus Christ.

Acts 2:38

This includes actually calling on the name of Jesus orally.

Acts 22:16

And re-baptizing those who have been baptized some other way.

Acts 19:1-5

Using the name of Jesus in baptism expresses faith in the:

- **Person of Jesus Christ (who he really is)**
- **Work of Jesus Christ (death, burial and resurrection for salvation)**
- **Power and authority of Jesus Christ (ability to save us by himself)**

Water Baptism Study will be continued in Part 2

Lesson 8

Water Baptism - Part 2

The biblical reasons for baptism in the name of Jesus are as follows:

1 The Bible records five historical accounts of baptism in the New Testament church that describes water baptism. In each case it was done in the name of Jesus.

Acts 2:38

Acts 8:16

Acts 10:48

Acts 19:5

Acts 22:16

The Epistles also allude to the water baptism in Jesus name.

Romans 6:3-4

1 Corinthians 1:13

1 Corinthians 6:11

Galatians 3:27

Colossians 2:12

Even Matthew 28:19 refers to, in Jesus name baptism, for it describes a singular name that represents all the redemptive manifestations of the Godhead, and that name is Jesus.

Matthew 28:19

Zechariah 14:9

Matthew 1:21

John 5:43

John 14:26

Revelation 22:3-4

Moreover, Jesus is the name described in the other accounts of the great commission.

Mark 16:17

Luke 24:47

2. Baptism is a burial with Jesus Christ and no one else.

Romans 6:4

3. Baptism is a personal identification with Jesus Christ, and his name identifies us as his possession.

Romans 6:3

Acts 15:14-17

4. Baptism is for the forgiveness of sins, and Jesus is the only name associated with the forgiveness of sin.

Acts 2:38

Acts 10:43

5. The name of Jesus represents all the power and authority of God.

Matthew 28:18

John 14:14

Acts 4:7

Acts 4:10

When we call on the name of Jesus in faith, his power and authority become available to us.

Acts 3:6

Acts 3:16

6. Everything we do in word or deed should be done in the name of Jesus, and baptism is both word and deed.

Colossians 3:17

7. The name of the Lord Jesus Christ is the highest name known to mankind, and everyone will bow to that name.

Philippians 2:9-11

8. Baptism is part of our salvation, and Jesus is the only saving name.

Acts 2:21

Acts 4:12

1 Peter 3:21

9. Baptism is a public confession of faith in Jesus, signifying acceptance of him as Savior, and Jesus is the only Savior and our only access to God.

Acts 8:12

Acts 8:37 (in footnotes of some versions)

Acts 19:5

John 14:6-11

10. Baptism in Jesus name signifies belief that the fullness of the Godhead is in Jesus.

Colossians 2:9

Baptism in the name of Jesus demonstrates reverence for and obedience to God’s Word over human tradition.

When a person receives the baptism of the Holy Spirit before water baptism, they have new spiritual life; nevertheless, they are commanded to be baptized in Jesus name (Acts 10:48), and we must always obey God’s commands to remain in right relationship to him.

Acts 10:48

Lesson 9
Baptism of the Holy Spirit - Part 1

The baptism with, by, in, or of the Holy Spirit is part of New Testament salvation and is not an optional post conversional experience.

John 3:5

Romans 8:1-16

Ephesians 1:13-14

Titus 3:5

For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body.

1 Corinthians 12:13

If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.

Romans 8:9

The baptism of the Holy Spirit describes how the believer is immersed in and filled with God's Spirit. In Acts the terms baptized, filled, received, fell on, poured out, and come on, all describe this experience.

Acts 1:4-5

Acts 2:4

Acts 10:44-47

**It is promised to all who believe on Jesus
and obey His Word.**

John 7:38-39

Acts 5:32

Acts 11:15-17

Acts 19:2

Galatians 3:14

Ephesians 1:13

The Bible records five historical accounts of receiving the Holy Spirit in the New Testament church: the Jews, the Samaritans, the Gentiles, the apostle Paul, and the disciples of John at Ephesus. This record establishes that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is indeed for everyone.

Luke 11:13

Acts 2:39

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is accompanied by the sign or evidence of tongues.

Mark 16:17

Speaking in tongues means speaking supernaturally, as the Holy Spirit gives utterance, in a language the speaker has never learned.

Acts 2:1-11

Three accounts specifically describe speaking in tongues as the initial evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit baptism.

On the day of Pentecost all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in tongues as the Spirit enabled them. (Acts 2:1-4)

Tongues alone sufficiently identified to the Jews that the Gentiles had just received the Holy Spirit.

Acts 10:44-47

Acts 11:15-17

They KNEW they had received the gift of the Holy Spirit for they heard them speaking in tongues.

The Ephesian disciples also spoke in tongues as the first sign of receiving the Holy Spirit.

Acts 19:6

Baptism of the Holy Spirit study will continue in Part 2

Lesson 10
Baptism of the Holy Spirit - Part 2

The baptism of the Holy spirit is the normal, basic New Testament experience with God - being born of the Spirit. The Spirit is our peace, our rest, our guide to all truth, our adopter, intercessor, sanctifier, seal, and the guaranteeer of our inheritance.

Isaiah 28:11-12

John 16:13

Romans 8:15

Romans 8:26

Ephesians 1:13-14

1 Peter 1:2

Someone can receive the Spirit by repenting, having faith in God, and asking God for his gift. You should always expect speaking in tongues when someone receives the Holy Spirit.

Tongues does not save in any sense, but the Spirit baptism produces tongues as the initial sign. Once a person receives the Spirit, he has power to overcome sin and live a holy life.

Acts 1:8

Romans 8:4

Romans 8:13

If we allow the Holy Spirit to continually fill (control and guide) us, we will bear fruit of the Spirit and become Christ-like.

Galatians 5:22-23

What about the person who repents and is water baptized, thereby receiving the forgiveness of sins, but does not receive the Holy Spirit? He cannot be condemned for sins that are forgiven, yet he cannot enter the kingdom of God without the birth of the Spirit and the holiness imparted by the Holy Spirit.

Jesus has commanded us to be baptized by the Spirit, and for Jesus to be complete Lord of our life, we must obey.

Luke 24:49

John 20:22

Acts 1:4-5

Hebrews 12:14

Romans 8:9

Jesus said in Matthew 28:18 "All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Isaiah 9:6



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