

Obeying the Gospel Involves Baptism
(Mark 16:15-16)

Introduction:

1. According to Mark 16:15, Jesus wants everyone to hear the Gospel.
2. He wants everyone to hear the Gospel because we must obey the Gospel to be saved from our sins (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9).
3. Recently, we have shown from the Scriptures that obeying the Gospel involves:
 - a. hearing God's Word
 - b. believing that Jesus is the Son of God
 - c. repentance
 - d. confession.
4. In this lesson we are studying a number of passages which teach that "obeying the Gospel involves baptism."
5. Let us begin by showing how . . .

Discussion:

- I. THE GREAT COMMISSION INDICATES THAT BAPTISM IS A KEY COMPONENT OF THE PLAN OF SALVATION
 - A. (Mark 16:15-16) "Baptism":
 1. is for those who believe (Acts 8:36-38)
 2. results in salvation.
 - B. (Matthew 28:18-20) "Baptism" is:
 1. a command of Christ who has *"all power [authority]"*
 2. for *"all nations"* [everyone]
 3. *"in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"*
 4. to be administered *"unto the end of the world."*
 - C. The Great Commission clearly indicates that "baptism" is a part of the Lord's plan of salvation.
 - D. With the Great Commission in mind, let us turn our attention to . . .
- II. PASSAGES WRITTEN TO CHRISTIANS [Those who have been saved] THAT REVEAL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT BAPTISM
 - A. (Romans 6:3-7) We are *"freed from sin"* when we are baptized into the Lord.
 - B. (1 Corinthians 12:13) We are baptized *"into one body"* [the body is the church -- Ephesians 1:22-23].
 - C. (Galatians 3:26-29) When we are *"baptized into Christ"* we become *"children of God,"* we *"put on Christ,"* and we become Abraham's spiritual descendants.
 - D. (Ephesians 4:5) There is only *"one baptism."*
 1. The Bible speaks of other baptisms that have been fulfilled: the baptism of John (Matthew 3:4-6), the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11), and the baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13-17).
 2. The Bible speaks of the baptism of fire that will occur at the judgment (Matthew 3:11-12).
 3. The baptism in effect at the present time is the baptism commanded by Christ in the Great Commission -- it is to be obeyed until the world comes to an end (Matthew 28:19-20).
 - E. (Colossians 2:12) We are *"buried with him [Christ] in baptism."*
 - F. (1 Peter 3:21) We are saved when we are scripturally baptized.

Conclusion:

1. Jesus invites everyone to come to Him (Matthew 11:28-30).
2. According to Hebrews 5:9, Jesus is *"the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him."*
3. Have you followed the Lord's instructions for the salvation of your soul?