

Conversions in Acts "Baptism"

Introduction:

1. In Acts 1:8, Jesus gave the apostles a specific plan for evangelizing the world.
2. As Luke showed how this plan was implemented in Acts, he wrote about a number of conversions that occurred.
3. Studying these conversions helps us understand how we become Christians today.
4. Luke also wrote in Acts about a number of important subjects that relate to salvation, including "baptism."

Discussion:

- I. PRIOR TO THE EVENTS RECORDED IN ACTS, JESUS INCLUDED BAPTISM IN THE GREAT COMMISSION
 - A. We learn from Matthew 28:18-20 that baptism:
 1. is a command of Christ who has *"all power"* [authority]
 2. is for *"all nations"* [everyone]
 3. is *"in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit"*
 4. is to be administered *"unto the end of the world."*
 - B. We learn from Mark 16:15-16 that baptism:
 1. is for those who believe (Acts 8:36-38)
 2. results in salvation.
- II. IN ACTS, LUKE SHOWED HOW PEOPLE WERE BAPTIZED AS THEY WERE CONVERTED TO CHRIST, INCLUDING:
 - A. the 3,000 in Jerusalem on Pentecost (2:37-38, 41)
 - B. people in Samaria (8:12)
 - C. the eunuch of Ethiopia (8:38)
 - D. Saul (9:18; 22:16)
 - E. Cornelius and his household (10:48)
 - F. Lydia and her household (16:14-15)
 - G. the Philippian jailer (16:33)
 - H. the Corinthians (18:8)
 - I. the 12 men in Ephesus (19:5).
- III. THE NEW TESTAMENT LETTERS ALSO CONTAIN SOME IMPORTANT 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 church -- Ephesians 1:22-23].
 - C. (Galatians 3:26-27) 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."*
 - 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.