

A Bible Study

Introduction

We will be journeying into the scriptures listening to the Apostles and the Written word teach us the Plan of Salvation" In order to do this we will be careful to" rightly divide the word of Truth" (**2 Tim 2:15**).. Concentrating on the highlight of three main divisions of the new testament.

- 1) Gospels- Covering the words and actions of Jesus Christ
- 2) The Acts of the Apostles- covering the actions and preaching of the Apostles
- 3) The Epistles- Covering the letters written to the churches they started in the Acts of the Apostles (Romans to 3 John...)

This bible study is based on Believing the scriptures are divinely inspired and " of no private interpretation" (**2 Peter 1:20-21**)

All effort will be made not to add to or from its teachings (**Deut. 4:2, Pro 30:5-6**)

The purpose is to build upon any knowledge you have about God, and not to convince you of any personal ideas, creeds or doctrine of any Church. We simply desire to share the truth as it is written in the Word of God....

Only by claiming the bible as the sole authority can any of us be confident of our Salvation, for it is the Word of GOD and the not traditions of men that will judge us all in the end....

First let us Read **2 Tim 3:15-16**

Into the Gospels

Read and answer the questions

John 1:1-5 &14

The _____, Which was in the beginning, and was God and became Flesh. Jesus Christ is the Living Word of God.

John 1:11-13

If we believe in Him and receive Him, Jesus gives us power to become the sons of _____ by the supernatural birth. He spoke further about this new birth one night to a ruler of the Jews...

John 3:1-8

The Lord told Nicodemus that everyone who wanted to SEE or ENTER into the Kingdom of heaven, must be born *again* of _____ and the _____..

John 3:16-21

Jesus also told Nicodemus that whoever _____ in Him should have eternal life. Jesus mentioned two seemly different requirements for salvation, one being born again, the other is Believing. Yet, this is not a contradiction. The next scripture explains how believing is related to experiencing the birth of the Spirit....

John 7:38-39

Here, we discover that if we believe on him (According to the word), we will receive His _____ . We find that scriptural belief is more than just a change in the way we think.. It also results in a scriptural experience. Faith motivates us to obey, and obedience brings God's acceptance and blessing.

John 12:35-36 & 42:43

Today, just as in Jesus' day, many believe on Him. But they will NOT _____ Him for fear of what other will do or say.

John 12:44-48⁽¹⁾

In response to their fearfulness, Jesus warns that HIS _____ will judge us, so we must be careful not to reject it. Rather, we should believe and obey it....No matter what others say or Do!

John 17:17-20⁽²⁾

In Jesus' prayer for his disciples, just before HIS crucifixion, he said God's Word is _____ . He also prayed for us and for all those who would believe on HIM *through the apostles' word....*

*To find out what the apostle' word was to be, let us read what Jesus told them to proclaim. The setting of the following great commission scripture in **Luke 24:44-49⁽³⁾** is just after the Lord's Death, Burial, and Resurrection... And just before his ascension into Heaven....*

44 And he said unto them, "These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that *repentance and remission of sins* should be preached *in his name* among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 *And ye are witnesses of these things.*

49 And, behold, I send *the promise of my father* upon you: but tarry ye in Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high."

DID THE APOSTLES PREACH THE MESSAGE JESUS COMMANDED

HOW WAS THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER FULFILLED?

Let us continue our journey into the Word of God by seeing what was preached and what happened at Jerusalem.....

INTO THE ACTS of the APOSTLES

Acts 1:3-5

As we enter the book of Acts, we discover almost immediately that the promise of the father is the baptism of the _____.

Acts 2:1-17

When the Apostles were at Jerusalem, they ,along with many others, were joyously filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other _____ as the Spirit gave the utterance (ability to Speak). The amazed onlookers from many nations who heard them speaking with tongues asked, “ What meaneth this?” Then Peter explained the promised coming of the Spirit and went on to preach Christ and the original apostolic plan of salvation..

Acts 2:36-39

When the people who heard Peter’s words believed that Jesus Christ was their Lord and Saviour, they were sorry for their SINS, and asked Peter and the other Apostles “What must we Do.” Peter replied by preaching the message Jesus commanded to be preached in Luke 24:45-49. In light of this, consider the three elements of the plan of Salvation Peter preached in verse 38:

- 1) REPENTANCE
- 2) REMISSION OF SINS THROUGH BAPTISM IN JESUS’ NAME.
- 3) RECEIVING THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Note: Acts 2:38 is the fulfillment of the “new birth” requirements Jesus mentioned in John 3:5 that were necessary to enter the Kingdom of God

WATER BIRTH= Baptism in the NAME of JESUS CHRIST

SPIRIT BIRTH= infilling of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking with other tongues...

Lets now look at the other examples of people being “Born again of the Water and Spirit as the word Jesus gave his apostles continued to be preached throughout the book of Acts.

Paul Preaching to John's Disciples in Acts 19:.....

NOTICE: Many people who are believers have not even heard of the Holy Spirit that is promised to them. Also, some people say it is not necessary to be baptized or rebaptized (if you were baptized by John the Baptist, would you think it would be necessary to be rebaptized using a different baptismal formula?) Other says it doesn't matter what is spoken when you are baptized. if the Bible indicates it does not matter, then it does not matter... But what if the bible shows us it DOES matter?

Acts 19:1-2 They were believers, but had the heard of the Holy Spirit?

Yes _____ No _____

verse 3-5⁽⁷⁾ Did those baptized by John the Baptist have to be rebaptized in Jesus' Name?

Yes _____ No _____

verse 6 Was receiving the Holy Spirit accompanied by the initial evidence of speaking with other tongues?

Yes _____ No _____

We have found that the apostles preached the following salvation message:

- *** The life of Christ and His Death, Burial and resurrection
- *** Repentance toward God and belief in Jesus Christ
- *** Baptism in Water by immersion in Jesus' Name
- *** Receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit (which was accompanied by the initial evidence of speaking with other tongues)

Now lets us read what the Apostles had to say about the message of salvation they proclaimed in the book of Acts. We can do this by reading the epistles (letters) they wrote to their converts.....

Into the Epistles

As we read the Epistles, we will notice how strongly the Apostles felt about the Gospel (Good News) of salvation. This is not because they were being judgmental. It was because they knew the word Jesus had given them to proclaim was going to judge all men.

What did Peter Say?

“Ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth...being born again...by the word of God.... and this is the word which by the gospel is preached to you” **(1 Peter 1:22-25)**

OBEDIENCE to God's word purifies our souls!!!!

Peter asked a question:

“What shall the end be of them that obey not the Gospel of God?”
(1 Peter 4:17-18)

Paul gave the Answer:

“The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that **obey not the gospel** of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power.
(2 Thessalonians 1:7-9)

It is Eternally important to obey the gospel!!!!

What did Paul say?

“ I marvel that ye are soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.
But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.”
(Galatians 1:7-9)

There is only one gospel!

What did James say?

“Receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.. But be ye doers of the word, and no hearers only, (Deceiving your own selves). For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.”
(James 1:21-24)

THE WORD IS ABLE TO SAVE OUR SOULS!!!!!!

James tells us that if we see something we need to do, as we look into the “Mirror of the word”, We should do it. Let us now consider what we will do with what we have heard.....

Conclusion

DO YOU BELIEVE the Word of God is true and will judge us?

DO YOU BELIEVE Jesus Christ is Lord and Saviour?

DO YOU BELIEVE it is necessary to repent by determining to turn from sin and giving your life to GOD?

DO YOU BELIEVE water baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ is the biblical way to be baptized?

DO YOU BELIEVE the baptism of the Holy spirit is for you today, and when you receive it you will speak in other tongues, just as they did in the bible?

IF YOU BELIEVE THESE THINGS

PRAY RIGHT NOW, ASKING GOD TO ALLOW YOU TO EXPERIENCE ALL THAT HE HAS FOR YOU !!!!

Supplemental Study Scriptures

(1) Matthew 7:13-14

NOTE: God's warning regarding false prophets and the importance of being a DOER and not just a hearer of the WORD.

(2) Matthew 16:15-19

NOTE: Peter, who was given the "keys of the kingdom", because of his revelation of who Jesus Christ was .

(3) Other "Great Commission" scriptures:

NOTE: In Matthew 28:18-20 the word Name is the singular in the command to baptize. The Apostles obeyed this command when they baptized only in the name of JESUS, and did not use titles mentioned here (See Acts 4:12) Mark 16:15-18 stresses the importance of Water baptism and describes the sign that will follow believers.

(4) Matthew 16:15-19

NOTE: Peter, who was given the "keys of the kingdom", uses them to open the "Kingdom Door" by preaching the original apostolic message of salvation for the first time

(5) Acts 8:35-39

NOTE: Philip must have mentioned baptism when he preached Jesus to the Eunuch, because the Eunuch asked to be baptized in water. The Greek root word for baptize is "BAPTO", which literally means "to Cover wholly with fluid, to dip... (See also Romans 6:3-4)

(6) Acts 10:34-43

NOTE: Peter preached the life and lordship of Jesus Christ as well as His death, burial and resurrection.

(7) 1Peter 3:20-21

NOTE: According to Peter baptism is an essential part of the plan of Salvation.

WE ENCOURAGE you to read through the Gospel, Acts and the epistles in detail..
and continue to walk, “INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT”!!!!