

ACTS 2

1. What did all the believers do after Jesus returned to heaven?

-The believers returned to Jerusalem and waited for Jesus to baptize them with the Holy Spirit.

2. How were the believers baptized with the Holy Spirit?

-Jesus sent the Holy Spirit down from heaven to come into the hearts and lives of the believers.

3. Where does the Holy Spirit live today?

-He lives in everyone who believes in Christ.

4. Do Christians today need to wait to be baptized with the Holy Spirit?

-No.

-If you believe that Jesus has saved you from your sin, then the Holy Spirit has already come to live in you.

5. What does it mean to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

-It means to be controlled by the Holy Spirit.

6. If we allow the Holy Spirit to control us, how will this help us?

-The Holy Spirit will help us to obey God.

-The Holy Spirit will help us to understand God and His Word.

-The Holy Spirit will help us to live and witness for

Jesus.

7. What did Peter say was the evidence that Jesus was now sitting at the Father's right hand as Lord of heaven and earth?

-That the Holy Spirit had come to live in the lives of those who believe in Christ.

8. Why did Peter say that Jesus is the Christ?

-Because Jesus is the greatest Prophet of God.

-Because Jesus is the greatest High Priest.

-Because Jesus is the greatest King.

9. What did many Jews do when they understood that they were sinners and believed in Jesus as their Savior?

-They were baptized.

-In the Bible, the first baptisms were by John the Baptist.

Let's read Matthew 3:1-2 & 5-6

1-In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea,

2-and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

5-People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan.

6-Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

-John the Baptist taught the people that they should repent of their sins for the Savior was coming soon.

-Those who agreed with God's message that John taught were baptized.

-In the Bible, this baptism is known as John's baptism.

-Those who were baptized by John believed that they had sinned against God.

-Those who were baptized by John believed that God would send the Savior to save them from their sins.

-Before Jesus began His ministry on earth, He was baptized by John:

Let's read Luke 3:21-22

21-When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened

22-and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

-After John baptized Jesus with water, God the Holy Spirit descended from heaven onto Jesus.

-During all of Jesus' years on earth, He allowed God the

Holy Spirit to control Him, and to speak through Him.

-Before Jesus returned to heaven, He told His disciples what they must do.

Let's read Matthew 28:18-20

18-Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

19-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,

20-and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

-Jesus told His disciples to baptize all who believed in Christ as their Savior.

-Is there a difference between John's baptism and the baptism that Jesus commanded His disciples?

-Here is what John the Baptist said:

Let's read Mark 1:8

8-[John said] "I baptize you with water, but [Christ] will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

-What is necessary for baptism?

-For baptism, two steps are necessary. What are these two steps?

-The first step of baptism is repentance.

-John's baptism was a baptism of repentance.

-John called on the people to repent of their sins, and be baptized.

-The second step of baptism is receiving God into your life.

-One may also look at baptism as follows:

-The first step is asking God to take away the bad.

-The second step is asking God to fill you with the good.

-The first step is asking God to take away your sin.

-The second step is asking God to come into your life.

-Because God is holy and cannot live with sin, the step of repentance must come first, asking God to take sin away.

-Then, and only then, can God the Holy Spirit fill your life.

-John's baptism of repentance was the first step,

-Yet the second step of receiving the Holy Spirit needed to wait until Jesus returned to heaven to send the Holy Spirit.

-What does the baptism of John teach?

-That people had repented and were waiting for the Savior to come.

-What does the baptism that Jesus gave to His disciples teach?

-That people have repented, and have believed in Jesus as their Savior.

-In whose name did Jesus tell the disciples to baptize believers?

-In the name of God the Father, God the Savior, and God the Holy Spirit.

-If we believe in Christ, God is now our Father, Jesus is now our Savior, and the Holy Spirit now lives in us.

-How did John the Baptist baptize those who repented?

-He lowered them under the water, and raised them up again.

-How did Jesus tell His disciples to baptize those who

believed in Christ?

-To lower them under the water, and raise them up again.

-In baptism, how is being lowered below the water a picture of death?

-It is a picture of Jesus dying for our sins.

-It is also a picture of Christians dying to sin.

-For the Christian, Jesus' death is our death.

-God says that the sinful part of all who believe in Christ died when Jesus died.

-In baptism, how is being raised back up above the water a picture of new life?

-It is a picture of Jesus rising from the dead.

-It is also a picture of Christians rising to a new life.

-For the Christian, Jesus' resurrection is our resurrection.

-God says that all who believe in Christ were raised to a new life when Jesus rose from death to life.

-Can baptism wash away a person's sins?

-No.

-Can baptism pay for our sins?

-No.

-Must a person be baptized to be saved?

-No.

-Why cannot baptism save us?

-Because baptism is that which people do, and there is nothing that people can do to save themselves.

-Because the death of Christ on the cross alone is all that can save us from sin, death, and Satan.

-We became children of God immediately when we believe in Jesus as our Savior.

-If we believe in Christ, we can go to heaven even if we are never baptized.

-Why should believers be baptized?

-Because Jesus commanded believers to do so.

-Why did Jesus command believers to be baptized?

-To teach us and to teach others.

-When we are baptized, what are we teaching ourselves and others?

-That the death of Christ is our death.

-That the resurrection of Christ is our resurrection.