

## Prayer List



### Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Jennifer Derrick—bleed spot has shrunk; more scans around August
- ♦ Florene Howze—health problems
- ♦ Finn Lawson—double ear infection
- ♦ Kynlie Lawson—pain after blockage
- ♦ Jim Ward—health problems

### Others in Need

- ♦ Janet Andrews—treatments done; biopsy results soon
- ♦ Belinda Crawford—eye issues
- ♦ Elise Davis—hip replacement; in rehabilitation
- ♦ Bob Duke—health problems
- ♦ Wayne and Marie Johnson—improving
- ♦ Taylor Mashburn—expecting, also back pain
- ♦ Brenda Mateer—stage 4 cancer
- ♦ Thad McCall—health problems
- ♦ Mary Milsted—lung cancer

Continued in next column...

- ♦ Robbie Oliver—improving
- ♦ Nola Rowell—passed away
- ♦ Patty Ryan (Stanley Ryan's wife)- 2 new lesions
- ♦ Judy Whitehead—heart problems
- ♦ Brenda Wooten—stage 4 cancer
- ♦ Pray for our nation, as chaos and division are rampant in some areas.

## To Our Visitors



We are happy and honored that you are here! Please fill out a visitor's card and give us a chance to get to know you. If you have any questions about anything said or done in Bible class or worship, please ask. We seek to give a Bible answer for everything we do (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).

## Events



**July 26-29**  
Gospel Meeting at Union Hill

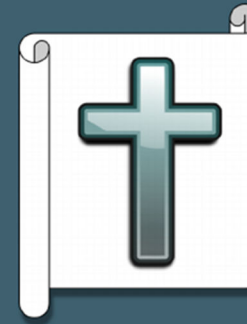
**October 18-22**  
Our Gospel Meeting with Joel Wheeler preaching

## Privileged to Serve



**Announcements**—Glenn Howze  
**Song Leading**—Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Caleb Howze  
**Serving the Lord's Supper**  
 Head: Leo Derrick; Helpers: Caleb Howze, Ethan Howze, Josh Lawson  
**Lord's Supper PM**  
 Head: Mark Howze  
 Helper: Caleb Howze  
**Scripture Reading**—Braden Hilburn

**Faithful Worship** — **1) Praying** to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 11:1-2; John 16:23; Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6); **2) Singing** without mechanical instruments (Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17; Heb. 2:12); **3) Preaching** God's Word (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:42; 20:7); **4) Giving** weekly as prospered, cheerfully (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7); **5) The Lord's Supper** on the first day of every week (Matt. 26:26-28; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20-34; 16:2; Heb. 10:23-31).



# THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of  
The church of Christ in Baker, FL

July 26, 2020

## Meeting Times

**Sundays:**  
 10AM Bible Class  
 11AM Worship  
 6PM Worship

**Wednesdays:**  
 7PM Bible Class

## Holy Spirit Baptism, or Water Baptism?

### Part 1

Jason Patrick Hilburn

When Paul wrote his first inspired epistle to the church at Corinth, he wrote these words: *"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit"* (1 Corinthians 12:13).

When reading the verse above, those who are familiar with the Bible probably automatically think of similar passages, such as Acts 2:38-47, when people were added to the church upon baptism, or Galatians 3:26-28, where Paul said we are *"baptized into Christ"* and there is neither Jew nor Greek, neither bond nor free, etc. Those passages will be discussed, but the question that needs answering is, "What kind of baptism causes one to be added to the one body of the saved?" In First Corinthians 12:13, was Paul referring to Holy Spirit baptism, or water baptism?

### ONLY A FEW PEOPLE RECEIVED HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM

Whatever this baptism is in First Corinthians 12:13, it is something that ALL Christians experience when they are saved and added to the body of Christ; therefore, it CANNOT be Holy Spirit baptism, because that interpretation contradicts inspired conversion accounts. For example, in Acts 8:12-18, the Samaritans were baptized in water to be saved, but did not *"receive the Holy Ghost"* until apostles could get there to lay hands on them. If First Corinthians 12:13 were referring to all Christians being baptized by the Holy Spirit at the same point they enter the one body of the saved, that would not harmonize

## Other Information

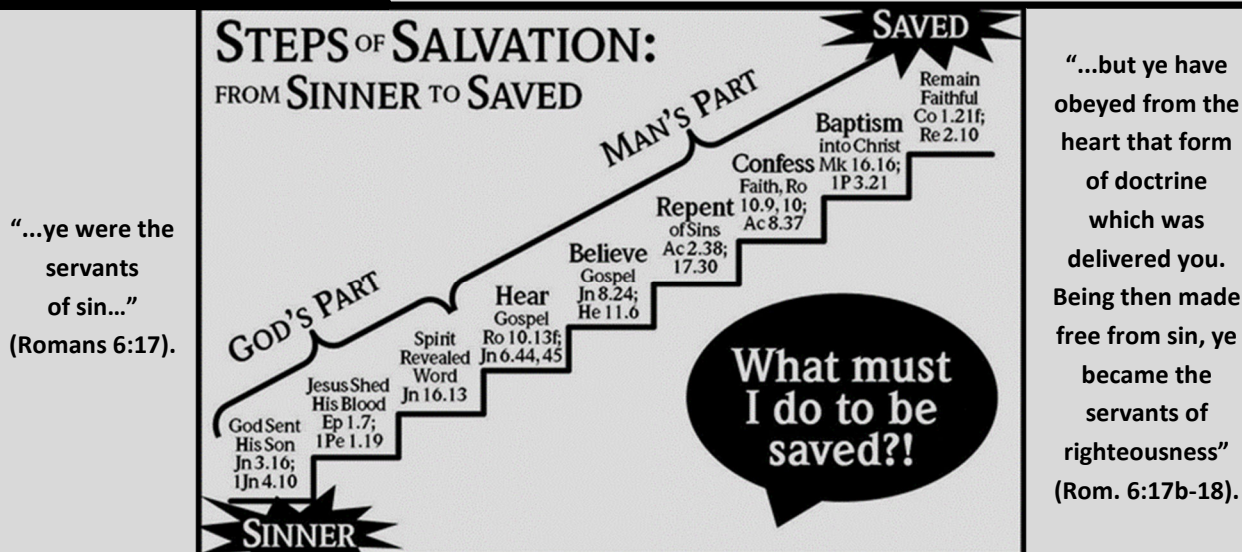
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## STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED



"...ye were the servants of sin..."  
 (Romans 6:17).

"...but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Rom. 6:17b-18).

What must I do to be saved?!

with Acts 8. It would also not harmonize with the conversion of the Ephesians in Acts 19, in which Paul baptized people in water, but they did not receive the Spirit until he (an apostle) laid hands on them. There is no reason to assume that what happened to the Corinthians in Acts 18 was any different than the Samaritans in Acts 8 or the Ephesians in Acts 19 regarding how they were saved or how they received miraculous gifts. They would have received miraculous gifts by the laying on of the apostle Paul's hands after water baptism, not via Holy Spirit baptism (8:12-18; 18:8; 19:5; 6; Romans 1:11; 2 Timothy 1:6).

Claiming that all Christians receive Holy Spirit baptism also would not harmonize with Acts 2 or the book of Acts as a whole, because the book of Acts is drenched with the water of baptism in conversion accounts, while Holy Spirit baptism is noticeably absent in the overwhelming majority of accounts. What happened to Cornelius in Acts 10 made Peter think back to the beginning of the church (Pentecost), although Peter had been present in the events of Acts 8 with the Samaritans (Acts 11:15, 16; cf. 2:1-4; 8:14). This indicates that what happened in Acts 2:1-4 and 10:44-46 was highly unusual. In fact, such events are recorded nowhere else in the Scriptures. Those were two unique days—the first day Jews heard and obeyed the Gospel of Christ (Acts 2), and the first day Gentiles heard and obeyed the Gospel (Acts 10). Even when Holy Spirit baptism was recorded, it was not said to be for anyone's salvation, or for them to be added to the one body. Even beyond Acts, the New Testament repeatedly emphasizes water being involved in man's salvation (John 3:5; Ephesians 5:26; Hebrews 10:22; 1 Peter 3:20, 21).

#### **ALL CHRISTIANS HAVE RECEIVED WATER BAPTISM**

The baptism of Acts 2:38 in the name of Jesus for the remission of sins was the water baptism that Jesus had commanded his disciples to administer throughout the world, beginning in Jerusalem (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15, 16; Luke 24:47). It was that water baptism of the Great Commission that caused people to be added to the Lord's church/body, not Holy Spirit baptism. There is no Scripture teaching that all men (or anyone) becomes saved when they are baptized with the Holy Spirit. When people obeyed the command to repent and be baptized in water, they were saved and added to the church, the one body of the saved (Acts 2:41, 47; Ephesians 5:23, 26; 1 Peter 3:20, 21). This Great Commission baptism was not just for apostles to teach and administer, because we read of other people like Phillip the evangelist teaching and baptizing in Acts 8. In fact, the very wording of the Great Commission implies that others would be taught to make more disciples and baptize (Matthew 28:18-20). Therefore, it was not the Holy Spirit baptizing all these people into the one body! It was men baptizing people by the instructions of the Spirit, which is what Paul means in First Corinthians 12:13 (discussed further below).

Another way we know that the baptism of Acts 2:38 *"in the name of Jesus Christ"* was water baptism is because it was the same water baptism in the name of Jesus that Peter would require again in Acts 10: *"Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized...? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the*

*Lord..."* (Acts 10:47-48). Yes, there were some unique events happening with Cornelius, such as them receiving miraculous gifts before water baptism, but that day was an exception, not the rule. Those special events were necessary to prove to the Jews that Gentiles could also be baptized in water to be added to Christ's church (Acts 10:15; 11:18; cf. 1 Corinthians 14:22). Remember, God could make a donkey talk miraculously if He wanted to, but that does not mean the donkey is a child of God on his way to Heaven! (Numbers 22:28; cf. 1 Sam. 19:15, 23; John 11:49-53). Even though Cornelius had received miraculous power, he was not saved and added to the church until he was baptized in water, just as every person was required to do per Jesus' Great Commission! (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15, 16; Acts 10:6, 35, 47, 48; cf. 2:38-41; 8:35-39; 9:6, 18, 19; 16:15, 32, 33; 18:8; 19:5; 22:16). Miraculous gifts were separate from salvation in Acts 8 and 19, and they were separate from salvation in Acts 10 also.

God does not have one plan of salvation for the Jews, and a different one for Gentiles. In fact, Peter said so to Cornelius: *"...God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him"* (Acts 10:34-35). Cornelius feared God, then worked righteousness to be accepted by God when he was baptized in water for the remission of his sins (10:48; cf. 2:38-41). It was at that point, and not before, that he was added to the one body of the saved. Peter said that one cannot be in God's favor (accepted) until he works the righteous commands of God to be saved (cf. Psalm 119:172). These are not the same kinds of works under consideration in Ephesians 2:8, 9, in which Paul is dealing with meritorious works, or, more specifically, works of the Law of Moses (see Eph. 2:10-19; Rom. 2:17; Gal. 2:15-19, etc.). Nobody can earn salvation, but nobody gets salvation without obeying what God said to get it. God by grace saves when man by faith obeys (Matthew 7:21; Romans 6:16-18; Hebrews 5:9; 1 Peter 1:22), and the consistent form of baptism throughout the New Testament is water baptism, not Holy Spirit baptism.

Paul's language in First Corinthians 12:13 sounds like Galatians 3:26-28, so what kind of baptism is discussed in Galatians 3? Paul was discussing how and when people become children of God (by obedient faith through baptism into Christ). Which baptism causes one to become a child of God? To become a child of God, one must be born again, born of water and of the Spirit (John 3:5). Being born of water and of the spirit is water baptism that is according to the instructions of the Spirit, the Word of God (John 6:63; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:22-25). James said that God *"begat us with the Word of truth"* (James 1:18; cf. 1:21). Peter said we are born of the incorruptible seed, the Word of God (1 Peter 1:22-25). Jesus Himself, just 3 chapters after John 3:5 said, *"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life"* (John 6:63). So Jesus equated the word *"spirit"* with His Words, and He said His Words quicken (give new life, when one is born again). Being born of water and of the Spirit is being born of water baptism via the Word of Jesus (cf. John 3:5; 6:63; Mark 16:16; 1 Corinthians 14:37; Ephesians 5:26, etc.).

*To be continued next week, Lord willing...*

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