

The Path

Day 2 - Acts 2:38

In Acts 2:38 Peter instructed a gathering multitude what they had to do to get in a right relationship with God:

“Then Peter said unto them, _____, and be _____ every one of you in the _____ of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the _____.”

The above message was the first message given on the first day of the church. If God starts anything He will start it right. This is especially true when it comes to His church. The message Peter preached was the right explanation of how to get in the church then; and it's the message we need to obey if we are to get in the church today. We will examine this message briefly today. Next week we will examine it in more detail.

REPENTANCE means to “turn around”: i.e, to turn away from our sins and to turn toward serving Jesus Christ. Repentance recognizes that our own ways of doing things just don't work; and that we must allow the Lord to govern our lives. If you prayed the suggested prayer yesterday asking Jesus Christ to be the master of every area of your life: you repented!

BAPTISM is the burial of our old life. We bury the old sinful life and lifestyle so that we can begin the new life with Jesus Christ. Apostle Paul explains this in Romans 6:3-4:

“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are _____ with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in _____ of life.”

Baptism, like repentance, is a command. Jesus said:

“He that believeth and is _____ shall be saved; ...” Mark 16:16

We must believe and be baptized to be saved.

To those who are considering baptism: you will know you are ready to be baptized when you are ready to bury the old sinful life and walk into the future with Jesus Christ!

Jesus said that we should ask for the gift of the HOLY GHOST. He compared asking for the Holy Ghost to a son or daughter asking their father for bread or fish in Luke 11:10-13:

“For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then being evil know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the _____ to them that ask him?”

When you ask Him for the Holy Ghost, the Spirit will come to you: you will feel Him. When you feel Him you should thank Him, praise Him, and worship Him. Reason being, the Spirit “inhabits” the praises of his people (Psalm 22:3). The more you praise Him the more you will feel Him. Continue to worship and praise the Lord until you are completely filled with the Holy Ghost and begin to speak with tongues just like the Apostles did in Acts 2:4:

“And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to _____ with other _____ (languages) as the Spirit have them the utterance.”

They spoke with tongues as the Spirit prompted them or gave them the words to say.

Not only did the Apostles and first Christians receive the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in tongues, but when others received the Holy Ghost in the book of Acts they spoke with tongues as well.

In Acts 10:46, the Jews know the gentiles had received the Holy Ghost because “they heard them speak with _____ and magnify God”. Apostle Peter when reporting to the other Apostles about the gentiles receiving the Holy Ghost said (Acts 11:15):

“As I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them as on us at the
_____.”

The similarity between the gentiles and the Apostles receiving the Holy Ghost in “the beginning” is the speaking in tongues. When you receive the Holy Ghost you’ll receive it just like they did “in the beginning”. Because I know the Apostles received the Holy Ghost the right way, I would not want to receive it any other way. Would you?

We can know that our experience with God is correct if we have the identical salvation experience that they had in the Bible. If Apostle Peter was saved, if Jesus mother Mary was saved, you are saved because you had the identical salvation experience they did.

Discussion:

1. How do we know the “Acts 2:38” message is the message that we have to obey today?
2. How is baptism a burial of our old life?
3. Why should we want to receive the Holy Ghost just like the apostles received it “in the beginning” (i.e. with the evidence of speaking with tongues)?
4. How do we know that our salvation experience is correct and that we are genuinely “saved” according to the Bible?