**Truth Sowers Life Group**

August 04, 2013

**Who Was the Apostle Paul?**

**Paul Third Missionary Journey**

Our key scripture for this study is:

**1 Thess 5:12, 13**

*12And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, 13and to esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake. Be at peace among yourselves.*

**Acts 19:1-7**

And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples 2he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.”

3And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?”

So they said, “Into John’s baptism.”

4Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.”

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**Luke 3:16**

John answered, saying to all, “I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Paul was asking them if they had been baptized with the baptism that John spoke about, the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Every believer receives the Holy Spirit when they are saved.

**Romans 8:9**

9You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, **if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you**. And if anyone **does not have the Spirit of Christ**, they **do not belong to Christ**.

**You can reverse this and say, “If you DO belong to Christ, you DO have the Spirit of Christ.**

**Romans 8:16**
16  The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

**How many of you have a DEEP, STEADY, ASSURANCE that you are a CHILD OF GOD?**

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5**When they heard** *this,* they were **baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.** 6And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. 7Now the men were about twelve in all.

**When they heard – this**. Any word in italics was not in the original manuscripts and was added for clarification. So, we could read Acts 19:5 like this: 5**When they heard***,* they were **baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.**

Paul has just started his 3rd Missionary Journey and has come to Ephesus. He met 12 believers in Ephesus who had been baptized into John’s baptism, a baptism of repentance.

**Were these men in Ephesus saved?** It is pretty obvious they were. But they didn’t know about water baptism or baptism in the Holy Spirit.

They **were baptized into the body of Christ** at the moment they believed and didn’t even know it had happened like most of us!

BUT, all they had heard about was John the Baptist’s baptism which was a **“baptism of repentance.”**

**Hebrews 6:1, 2 (NKJ)**

Therefore, leaving the discussion of the **elementary *principles* (Grk. arche – foundation, cornerstone or beginning) of Christ**, let us go on to perfection (**Grk. teleiotes – completeness - maturity**), not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, 2**of the doctrine of baptisms**, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. 3And this we will do if God permits.

**Ephes. 4:4-6***There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; [5] One Lord, one faith, one baptism, [6] One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

     When Paul says, "one baptism", he is speaking of the **baptism that saves us**. When we believe in Jesus Christ and make him the Lord of our lives, the Holy Spirit **immerses us into the Body of Christ** but as we will see later, the other two baptisms available for the believer, at least in Paul’s day, although important, **do not save us**.

**1 Cor. 12:13 *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.***

**Which “BODY” is Paul speaking of? The Body of Christ!**

**He is referring to the baptism into the Body of Christ.**

**In each baptism there is an “AGENT” that performs the baptism and there is a “RECIPIENT” that is fully immersed into the person of the Godhead or water.**

***Galatians 3:27****For as many of you as have been* ***baptized into Christ*** *have put on Christ.*

To put on Christ means to be clothed with Him; to assume His person and character; and to act the part and sustain the character of Christ in daily life. - Dake

***1 Peter 3:21****The* ***like figure whereunto even******baptism doth also now save us*** *(not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:*

We KNOW that **water baptism does NOT save us**. Peter was talking about how Noah, his wife, his three sons and their wives were carried safely through the flood waters by the ark. We

The twelve Ephesian men **were then baptized in water**.

Then Paul laid hands on them and they **were baptized in the Holy Spirit**.

You may not believe the baptism in the Holy Spirit is available for believers today but if you believe the Bible, you MUST believe it was something that was prevalent around the time of Pentecost and later on.

**Acts 2:38, 39** **The Gift of the Holy Spirit is for All Believers**

38Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And **you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit**. 39**The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off**—**for all whom the Lord our God will call**.”

The **INITIAL EVIDENCE of being baptized in the Holy Spirit is ALWAYS speaking in tongues**.

* Acts 2:4 – The first time on the Day of Pentecost. These were **KNOWN tongues but NOT to the ones speaking**.
* Acts 8:18 – When Simon the Sorcerer **saw** Grk. theaomai – **perceived, beheld**. It does not specifically say they spoke in tongues when they were baptized in the Holy Spirit but it Simon SAW that they had received. It is widely accepted among scholars that this is what happened since it is what happened in the other instances in the book of Acts.
* Acts 10:46 – The first time gentiles were baptized in the Holy Spirit at Cornelius’ house.
* Acts 19:6 - The twelve men in Ephesus spoke in tongues when Paul laid hands on them and they were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

**Illustration.**

The Apostles were not able to be saved (baptized into the Body of Christ) **until Jesus was resurrected**. They were hiding out, after his crucifixion, afraid they too would be murdered. Jesus walked into the room in which they were hiding. Jesus breathed on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

**John 20:19 – 22**

19Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace *be* with you.” 20When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” 22And when He had said this, He breathed on *them,* and said to them, **“Receive the Holy Spirit.”**

**After this, we see a change in the Apostles’ lives. We don’t see them hiding out any longer. We see them at the Mount of Olives at Jesus’ ascension. We also see them at the Temple on the day of Pentecost. Because of what Jesus said and because of this change in their lives, I believe this is the moment when they were born again!**

**They received the Holy Spirit when they were saved yet, they were “baptized” in the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.**

**Genesis 2:7 (KJV)**
7  And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

**Luke 3:16**

16John answered, saying to all, “I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

**When we get saved, it is like taking a pitcher full of water and filling an empty glass full of water. Being baptized in the Holy Spirit is like taking that full glass of water and immersing it completely into that pitcher of water where the glass is completely full and completely surrounded by water also.**

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Acts 19: 8Then Paul went to the synagogue and preached boldly for the **next three months**, arguing persuasively about the Kingdom of God.

**What do you think he taught about?** Obviously that Jesus is the Son of God and the only way to the Father. Do you think he taught things like I taught on the SECRET KINGDOM? SPIRITUAL LAWS? TITHING? In 3 months, it **had to be more than just Jesus, the Son of God**.

 9But some became stubborn, rejecting his message and publicly speaking against **the Way**. So Paul left the synagogue and took the believers with him. Then he held daily discussions at the lecture hall (school) of Tyrannus. 10This went on for the next two years, so that people throughout the province of Asia—both Jews and Greeks—heard the word of the Lord.

11God gave Paul the power to perform unusual (extraordinary) miracles. 12When **handkerchiefs or aprons that had merely touched his skin** were **placed on sick people, they were healed** of their diseases, and evil spirits were expelled.

**If this worked with Paul, why won’t it work with us? Don’t we have the same Holy Spirit working in our lives?**

13A group of Jews was traveling from town to town casting out evil spirits. They tried to use the name of the Lord Jesus in their incantation, saying, “I command you in the name of Jesus, **whom Paul preaches**, to come out!” 14Seven sons of Sceva, a leading priest, were doing this.

**It was not the Jesus they knew! They obviously did not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ!**

15One day the evil spirit answered them, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but **who are you**?” 16Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding.

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**~~5.~~**~~Now the sagacity (The quality of being discerning, sound in judgment, and farsighted) and wisdom which God had bestowed on Solomon was so great, that he exceeded the ancients; insomuch that he was no way inferior to the Egyptians, who are said to have been beyond all men in understanding; nay, indeed, it is evident that their sagacity was very much inferior to that of the king's. He also excelled and distinguished himself in wisdom above those who were most eminent among the Hebrews at that time for shrewdness; those I mean were Ethan, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol. He also composed books of odes and songs~~ **~~a thousand and five~~**~~, of parables and similitudes~~ **~~three thousand~~**~~; for he spake a parable upon every sort of tree, from the hyssop to the cedar; and in like manner also about beasts, about all sorts of living creatures, whether upon the earth, or in the seas, or in the air; for he was not unacquainted with any of their natures, nor omitted inquiries about them, but described them all like a philosopher, and demonstrated his exquisite knowledge of their several properties.~~ **~~God also enabled him to learn that skill which expels demons, which is a science useful and sanative (having the power to cure) to men~~**~~. He composed such incantations also by which distempers are alleviated. And he left behind him the manner of using exorcisms, by which they drive away demons, so that they never return; and this method of cure is of great force unto this day; for I have seen a certain man of my own country, whose name was Eleazar, releasing people that were demoniacal in the presence of Vespasian, and his sons, and his captains, and the whole multitude of his soldiers. The manner of the cure was this: He put a ring that had a Foot of one of those sorts mentioned by Solomon to the nostrils of the demoniac, after which he drew out the demon through his nostrils; and when the man fell down immediately, he abjured him to return into him no more, making still mention of Solomon, and reciting the incantations which he composed. And when Eleazar would persuade and demonstrate to the spectators that he had such a power, he set a little way off a cup or basin full of water, and commanded the demon, as he went out of the man, to overturn it, and thereby to let the spectators know that he had left the man; and when this was done, the skill and wisdom of Solomon was shown very manifestly: for which reason it is, that all men may know the vastness of Solomon's abilities, and how he was beloved of God, and that the extraordinary virtues of every kind with which this king was endowed may not be unknown to any people under the sun for this reason, I say, it is that we have proceeded to speak so largely of these matters.~~

The Works of Flavius Josephus – Antiquities 8.2.5

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**Mark 16:17-18 (KJV)**
17  And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name **shall they cast out devils**; they shall **speak with new tongues**;
18  They shall **take up serpents**; and if they **drink any deadly thing**, it shall **not hurt them**; they shall **lay hands on the sick**, and **they shall recover**.

**Luke 10:17-20**

17The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, **even the demons submit to us in your name**.”

18He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. 19**I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.** 20However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

**These were UNREGENERATED MEN. How much more do you think we have power and authority over demons?**

Jude

9Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, “**The Lord rebuke you**!”

**We have no power but we have all authority through the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ!**

**Ephesians 6:10-13**

10Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12For **we do not wrestle against flesh and blood**, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places.* 13Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

**Rev. 12:3, 4**

3And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. 4His tail drew a third of the **stars of heaven** and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

**Many Bible scholars teach 1/3 fell in the beginning.**

**Hebrews 12:22**

22But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels,

**John 14:12**

Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

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17When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor. 18Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed what they had done. 19A number who had practiced sorcery brought their books together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the books, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas. 20In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.

Here the idea is that of pretending by incantations to raise the dead, coerce spirits to reveal the unknown, foretell events, heal, inflict diseases, counteract evil by amulets of charms, interpret dreams, calculate sex of children before birth, and foretell by the planets the daily life. This sounds like the 20th century. Many confessed and showed the deception of their deeds of pretending supernatural skill in these things .They made known their deceptions. The books that taught these so-called sciences and how to do these things were burned

21After all this had happened, Paul decided[[d](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts%2019&version=NIV#fen-NIV-27607d)] to go to Jerusalem, passing through Macedonia and Achaia. “After I have been there,” he said, “I must visit Rome also.” 22He sent two of his helpers, Timothy and Erastus, to Macedonia, while he stayed in the province of Asia a little longer.

23About that time there arose a great disturbance about the Way. 24A silversmith named Demetrius, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought in a lot of business for the craftsmen there. 25He called them together, along with the workers in related trades, and said: “You know, my friends, that we receive a good income from this business. 26And you see and hear how this fellow Paul has convinced and led astray large numbers of people here in Ephesus and in practically the whole province of Asia. He says that gods made by human hands are no gods at all. 27There is danger not only that our trade will lose its good name, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be discredited; and the goddess herself, who is worshiped throughout the province of Asia and the world, will be robbed of her divine majesty.”

28When they heard this, they were furious and began shouting: “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!” 29Soon the whole city was in an uproar. The people seized Gaius and Aristarchus, Paul’s traveling companions from Macedonia, and all of them rushed into the theater together. 30Paul wanted to appear before the crowd, but the disciples would not let him. 31Even some of the officials of the province, friends of Paul, sent him a message begging him not to venture into the theater.

32The assembly was in confusion: Some were shouting one thing, some another. Most of the people did not even know why they were there. 33The Jews in the crowd pushed Alexander to the front, and they shouted instructions to him. He motioned for silence in order to make a defense before the people. 34But when they realized he was a Jew, they all shouted in unison for about two hours: “Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!”

35The city clerk quieted the crowd and said: “Fellow Ephesians, doesn’t all the world know that the city of Ephesus is the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis and of her image, which fell from heaven? 36Therefore, since these facts are undeniable, you ought to calm down and not do anything rash. 37You have brought these men here, though they have neither robbed temples nor blasphemed our goddess. 38If, then, Demetrius and his fellow craftsmen have a grievance against anybody, the courts are open and there are proconsuls. They can press charges. 39If there is anything further you want to bring up, it must be settled in a legal assembly. 40As it is, we are in danger of being charged with rioting because of what happened today. In that case we would not be able to account for this commotion, since there is no reason for it.” 41After he had said this, he dismissed the assembly.