Baptism Part 3: Examples Of Conversion

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday August 4th, 2019

Text: Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16

### Intro

1. Jesus gave the Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20 & Mark 16:15-16.
2. Acts is the record of the fulfillment of that commission – “Go” & “Teach,” making disciples of all the nations!
   1. Acts 1:8: Jesus told His apostles they would go into the remotest parts of the earth!
3. A popular teaching among the religious world on baptism is that it is not essential for salvation.
   1. Either it’s optional, mandatory, or not necessary altogether.
   2. Those that teach it is optional or even mandatory teach it is an outward appearance of an inward grace (Not found in Scripture).
   3. Also, it is taught that it is the entrance into a particular denomination.
   4. Because of that many modes are taught: immersion, sprinkling, pouring, etc.
4. When men believe that baptism is not essential to salvation, baptism is often delayed for weeks or even months!
   1. It is often put off till enough people are waiting, and then they have a baptism ceremony.
   2. Since they believe they are already saved before baptism – what's the big hurry?
5. The examples of conversion recorded for us show a pattern of faith in action and an urgency to baptism!
6. Examples of Conversion

## The 3,000 – Acts 2:21-47: Heard (2:37), Believed (2:37: “What do we do?”), Repented (2:38), Baptized (2:38, 41), Obeyed (2:40-42: “Be saved…,” “received the word of God,” “devoted themselves…”)

1. Mark 16:16: Believed (Acts 2:37) & Baptized (Acts 2:41)
2. Immediately or delayed? – “That day” (Acts 2:41)
3. **Samaritans** – Acts 8:5-14: Heard (8:6: “attention,” “heard”), Believed (8:12), Baptized (8:12)
4. Mark 16:16: Believed (Acts 8:12) & Baptized (Acts 8:12)
5. Immediately or delayed? – “When they believed” (Acts 8:12)
6. **Simon** – Acts 8:13: Heard (8:6: “crowd”), Believed (8:13), Repent (8:9: “formerly”), Baptized (8:13), Obeyed (8:13: “continued on…”)
   * + 1. Mark 16:16: Believed (8:13) & Baptized (8:13)
       2. Immediately or delayed? – Part of the crowd, “when they believed” (8:6, 12)
7. **Eunuch** – Acts 8:26-39: Heard (8:34-35: “Please tell me…”), Believed (8:37), Confessed (8:37), Baptized (8:38)
8. Mark 16:16: Believed (Acts 8:37) & Baptized (Acts 8:38)
9. Immediately or delayed? – Didn’t wait…“he ordered the chariot to stop” (8:38)
10. ***Also:*** If baptism is optional or unnecessary, how did the Eunuch know he was to be baptized after Philip “preached Jesus to him” (8:35)? *Philip taught baptism is necessary to salvation as Jesus said it in Mark 16:16!*
11. **Saul** – Acts 9:1-18; 22:10-16; 26:2-21; Gal. 1:23; I Tim. 1:13: Heard (22:10: “What shall I do, Lord?;” 22:15: “seen and heard”), Believed (9:11: “praying”), Repent (Gal. 1:23: “once;” I Tim. 1:13: “formerly”), Confess (22:10: “Lord”: *G2962 Kurios, Supreme Authority),* Baptized (22:16; 9:18), Obeyed (26:19-20: “not…disobedient,” but kept declaring…”)
    * + 1. Mark 16:16: Believed (9:11: “praying”) & Baptized (9:18)
        2. Immediately or delayed? – “he got up and was baptized” (9:18). He had been fasting for 3 days (9:9) and it was so important he was baptized first then ate and drank to regain his strength! Ananias asked him, “Why delay?” (22:16)
        3. His spiritual condition before the Lord was more important to him than his physical condition (was weak, needed strength).
12. **Cornelius** – Acts 10:1-48; 11:1-18: Hear (10:33), Believed (10:43: “everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins”), Baptized (10:48)
    1. Mark 16:16: Believed (10:43) & Baptized (10:48)
    2. Immediately or delayed? – At the end of his sermon “he ordered them to be baptized” (10:48).
    3. The day they heard the gospel from Peter they were baptized! They didn’t wait but obeyed the “order” (not optional) to be baptized then asked Peter to stay!
    4. ***(Note:*** *They didn’t say they needed to think about it and then ask Peter to stay a few days)*
13. **Sergius Paulus** (highest ranking converted official recorded in the NT)– Acts 13:4-12: Heard (13:7), Believed (13:12: With all the other examples of belief leading to baptism and Jesus Himself saying it must, Mark 16:15-16, it can be necessarily inferred he was a baptized believer; Acts 2:38; 10:43)
    1. Mark 16:16: Believed (Acts 13:12). Baptism not recorded in this account (but to have the belief that leads to forgiveness of sins, he would have to be baptized – Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 10:43)
    2. Immediately or delayed? – Not recorded in this account
14. **Lydia** – Acts 16:13-15: Heard (16:14: “listening”), Believe (16:15: “faithful”), Baptized (16:15)
    1. Mark 16:16: Believed (Acts 16:15: faithful) & Baptized (Acts 16:15)
    2. Immediately or delayed? – Not recorded in this account
15. **Jailer** – Acts 16:25-34: Hear (16:30: “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”), Believed (16:34), Repent (16:33: “washed their wounds”), Baptized (16:33)
    1. Mark 16:16: Believed (Acts 16:34) & Baptized (Acts 16:33)
    2. Immediately or delayed? – “immediately” (Acts 16:33) – He didn’t wait!
    3. ***Note:*** After baptism they were considered to have “believed in God!”
16. **Crispus & Corinthians** – Acts 18:8; I Cor. 1:2; 15:58: Heard (18:8), Believed (18:8), Baptized (18:8), Obeyed (I Cor. 1:2; 15:58)
    1. Mark 16:16: Believed (Acts 18:8) & Baptized (Acts 18:8)
    2. Immediately or delayed? – When they heard the word and believed (Acts 18:8)
17. **Galatians** – Gal. 3:26-27; 5:22-26: Belief/Faith (3:26), Baptized (3:27), Obeyed (5:22-26)
    1. Mark 16:16: Believed (Faith – Gal. 3:26) & Baptized (Gal. 3:27)
    2. Immediately or delayed? – Not recorded in this account
18. **Ephesian Disciples** – Acts 19:4-5: Heard (19:5), Believed (19:4), Baptized (19:5), Obeyed (6:10-18)
    1. Mark 16:16: Believed (Acts 19:4) & Baptized (Acts 19:5)
    2. Immediately or delayed? – “When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.” They didn’t wait! Even though they had been baptized before (in John), when they heard they needed to be baptized into Jesus, they were baptized (for the forgiveness of sins – Acts 2:38)!
19. **Colossians** – Col. 1:3-10; 2:11-12: Hear (1:5-6), Believe (1:4: “faith in Christ;” 2:12: “faith”), Baptized (2:12), Obeyed (1:10: “Walk in a manner worthy…”)
    1. Mark 16:16: Believed (Col. 1:4: faith) & Baptized (Col. 2:12)
    2. Immediately or delayed? – Not recorded in this account
20. In these cases we can see the commission of Jesus to “Go” & “Teach” being fulfilled with the result of men and women believing and being baptized (with an urgency)!

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| *Mt. 28:18-20* | **Examples of Conversion** | | | | | *Mk. 16:15-16* |
| **Examples** | **Hear** | **Believe** | **Repent** | **Confess** | **Baptized** | **Mark 16:16** |
| **Pentecost**  Acts 2:14-41 | 2:37 | 2:37 | 2:38 |  | 2:38, 41 | Believed (2:37) & Baptized (2:41) |
| **Samaritans**  Acts 8:5-14 | 8:6 | 8:12 |  |  | 8:12 | Believed (8:12) & Baptized (8:12) |
| **Simon**  Acts 8:13 | 8:6 | 8:13 | 8:9 |  | 8:13 | Believed (8:13) & Baptized (8:13) |
| **Eunuch**  Acts 8:26-39 | 8:34-35 | 8:37 |  | 8:37 | 8:38 | Believed (8:37) & Baptized (8:38) |
| **Saul**  Acts 9:1-18; 22:10-16; 26:2-21; Gal. 1:23;  I Tim. 1:13 | 22:10, 15 | 9:11 | Gal. 1:23  I Tim. 1:13 | 22:10 | 22:16; 9:18 | Believed (9:11: “praying”) & Baptized (9:18) |
| **Cornelius**  Acts 10:1-48 | 10:33 | 10:43 |  |  | 10:48 | Believed (10:43) & Baptized (10:48) |
| **Sergius Paulus**  Acts 13:4-12 | 13:7 | 13:12 |  |  |  | Believed (13:12) |
| **Lydia**  Acts 16:13-15 | 16:14 | 16:15 |  |  | 16:15 | Believed (16:15) & Baptized (16:15) |
| **Jailer**  Acts 16:25-34 | 16:30 | 16:34 | 16:33 |  | 16:33 | Believed (16:34) & Baptized (16:33) |
| **Corinthians**  Acts 18:8 | 18:8 | 18:8 |  |  | 18:8 | Believed (18:8) & Baptized (18:8) |
| **Galatians**  Galatians 3:26-27 |  | 3:26 |  |  | 3:27 | Believed (3:26) & Baptized (3:27) |
| **Ephesians**  Acts 19:4-5 | 19:5 | 19:4 |  |  | 19:5 | Believed (19:4) & Baptized (19:5) |
| **Colossians**  Col. 1:5-10; 2:11-12 | 1:5-6 | 1:4; 2:12 |  |  | 2:12 | Believed (1:4) & Baptized (2:12) |

## Conclusion

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| **Scriptures** | **Hear** | **Believe** | **Repent** | **Confess** | **Baptized** | **Obedience** |
| ***Jesus’ Teaching*** | *John 5:24* | *John 3:16-18* | *Luke 13:3-5* | *Mt. 10:32* | *Mark 16:16* | *John 8:31* |

1. Jesus Himself said, “He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved” (Mk. 16:16).
2. With no other source but the Scriptures one can see faith and baptism are commanded and that no other mode of baptism but immersion is recorded! *(All others are added by men)*
3. Having heard the gospel, how long should you wait to obey it: IMMEDIATELY OR DELAY?
4. If you haven’t yet, why not obey the gospel NOW, recognizing that “now is ‘THE DAY OF SALVATION!’” (II Cor. 6:2)
5. If not a Christian, why not obey the gospel now? Repent and be baptized into His name!
6. If a Christian in error, don’t wait till it’s eternally too late. Repent and be renewed!
7. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!

