

Bible Beacon

"Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)

Volume 2, Issue 15

April 13th, 2003

The Baptism of the Twelve Ephesians

Kevin Cauley

At the end of Acts 18 and the beginning of Acts 19, we have a very interesting account of salvation. The account is one in which those who were candidates of salvation submitted to two different baptisms, the baptism of John, and then, the baptism of Jesus. This account is an interesting one, because it teaches us some things about baptism that are not found anywhere else in the Bible. Let's study this passage together and see if we can learn some things from God's word.

First, we see that one can teach that Jesus is Lord, yet teach baptism wrong. We read in Acts 18:24, 25 the following: "And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John." Notice the facts that we find here regarding Apollos. First, he was a Jew. Second, he was born at Alexandria. Third, he was an eloquent man. Fourth, he was mighty in the scriptures. Fifth, he came to Ephesus. Sixth, he was instructed **in the way of the Lord**. Seventh, he was fervent in spirit. Eighth, he spake and taught diligently **the things of the Lord**. Ninth, he knew only the baptism of John. Apollos was both instructed in the way of the Lord, and taught the things of the Lord, yet, he did not know the Lord's baptism? How can this be? Evidently, Apollos had been around Jerusalem sometime during the earthly ministry of both John the baptizer, and Jesus, but Apollos had missed the Lord's critical teaching about baptism

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Kevin's Korner

This past week was an interesting mix of different activities. As you all know, Austin has been sick.



This past Thursday, we were finally able to determine the cause of his illness--pneumonia. The doctor we saw on Thursday said it was a BIG pneumonia. We then were able to get the right prescription for him and since then he has been improving day by day. We certainly hope that he will be well enough to go to school on Monday. Please continue to pray for his recovery.

On Wednesday afternoon, I went visiting and decided to stop by John Gass' place. John recently bought a new (to him) vehicle and I noticed that his old vehicle was just parked in the grass. I asked him what he was going to do with it and he said that he was going to sell it. After I left there, I called Frank Barnard to see if he wanted to buy my old blue Dodge Dakota pickup which I bought brand spanking new in 1990. Of course, now it has over 160,000 miles, has been peeling blue paint for a couple of years, and is extremely hot in the summer with no A/C (especially when I am wearing a coat and tie). Looking back on the price of the pickup, I got to thinking about how much money it cost me per mile (for the original price) and it came out to five cents per mile. Thinking that I had got my money's worth out of it, I decided that it was time for a new pickup truck. So I asked John how much he wanted for it and we made a deal. So, now I am the owner of a 1990 Ford F-150 short bed, two-tone (brown and green) pickup truck with 99,000 miles and an A/C.

The gospel meeting at Casseville is being held this week starting today and continuing through Thursday. I am planning on going to a couple of

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these lectures this week. Let's make Thursday night the night that we plan on going together as a group for those who want to go. The lectures begin each night at 7:00 PM. William Woodson is the speaker for the meeting. I have heard him speak before and I guarantee that you will learn something. For those who want to go, let's meet at the church building here in Berryville at 5:30. This should get us there about 30 minutes early. Let me know if you want to go so we can make all of the traveling arrangements.

Speaking of other events, there is a youth rally that will be held in Springfield at the Kansas Expressway church of Christ on Saturday, May 3rd, 2003 starting at 9:00 AM. Rusty has already said that we are going to take a group up to this rally. Willie Franklin is the speaker for the youth rally this year and from what I have heard, he is an excellent speaker. I am excited about going to hear him and I hope that you are excited as well about this great opportunity for our youth. If you want to help with some of the expenses in getting our kids to this youth rally, keeping them fed, and getting them back home again, see Rusty or Brent. I am sure that they would be willing to talk with you about that.

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during the period of the Great Commission. Therefore, he did not know that baptism was now being administered by the authority of Jesus. Those who submitted to the baptism that Apollos knew, were not submitting to the authority of the Lord. Did Apollos teach that Jesus was the Lord? Yes. Did he teach others to believe in the Lord Jesus? Yes. It should be obvious that just because one believes in Jesus doesn't mean that one's baptism is correct.

Second, we see that if your baptism isn't right, you've got to get it right! It is interesting that Paul came after Apollos to the same city, Ephesus, and inquired about the baptism of these disciples. We read in Acts 19:1-3 "And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, we have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism." Paul used a process of discovery to determine if their baptism was valid or not. He first asked if they had received the Holy Spirit since

they believed. (Again, we note that the text says that they had believed. They believed that Jesus was the Christ, but their baptism was not right.) Their response was that they had not heard of the Holy Spirit. This response was indicative of their baptism, because Paul then asked, "Unto what then were ye baptized?" They should have heard of the Holy Spirit at their baptism because the baptism that Christ commanded in Matthew 28:18-20 was "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." The fact that they did not hear about the Holy Spirit, indicated to Paul that they were not baptized correctly. Their baptism wasn't right and they had to get it right!

Third, we see that to get their baptism right, it had to be by the authority of Jesus. Paul explains in Acts 19:4, 5, "Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus." The phrase "in the name of the Lord Jesus" means by the Lord's authority. John's baptism was not based upon the authority of the Lord Jesus. Was it based upon the belief that the Messiah was coming? Yes it was (Luke 2:4). Was it based upon repentance unto remission of sins? Yes it was (Luke 3:3). Was it water baptism? Yes it was (Luke 3:16). Was it immersion? Yes it was (John 3:23). What was different about the baptism of John from the baptism of Jesus? The baptism of Jesus was based upon the authority of Jesus as given in the Great Commission. Jesus said, "All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth." This meant that after this time, John's baptism had no more authority. Only the baptism commanded by Jesus, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit had the authority of Christ. This authority was powerfully demon-

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Elders: Clay Bozarth, Leon Duncan, Bruce Foster, Bill Fort, Glenn Quigley

Deacons: Ken Smith, Brent Stevens, Rusty Windle.

Preacher: Kevin Cauley 870-423-6707

Times of Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class: 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:.....10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00 PM
Ladies Bible Class:10:30 AM
Wed. Evening Bible Class: 7:00 PM

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strated in the resurrection of Christ of which baptism is a likeness (Romans 6:1-10). If our baptism is not based upon the authority of Christ, then all we did was get wet like these men at Ephesus. What is baptism based upon the authority of Christ? It is baptism for salvation (Mark 16:16); it is baptism for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38); it is baptism for discipleship (Matthew 28:18-20); it is baptism for washing away sins (Acts 22:16); it is the point at which we believe God forgives us of sins (Colossians 2:11-13); it is baptism that saves (1 Peter 3:21). John's baptism did not have THIS authority—the authority to grant salvation! We must understand that to be baptized right, we must acknowledge what Christ has authorized baptism to do—forgive sin and grant salvation! The beautiful results of the reception of the Holy Spirit by these disciples indicated this very fact. Verse 6 states, "And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied." The prophecy made by Joel and quoted by Peter in Acts 2:17-21 proved the relationship of the miraculous measure of the Holy Spirit with individual salvation. These men were now saved.

Let us always respect the authority of Christ in baptism and understand that one may teach that Jesus is Lord, yet teach baptism wrong. Let us understand that if your baptism is not right, you've got to get it right! And let us understand that correct baptism only comes as authorized by Jesus today and that His authority has placed baptism and salvation together (Mark 16:16).

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned" (Mark 16:15, 16).

Sunday's Sermons

For April 13th

Morning..... Christian Sobriety
Scripture Titus 2:11, 12
Evening..... Q&A
Scripture NA

















Appearance Matters

I was sitting at a stop light this morning. The lady in front of me was going through papers in her car. When the light changed to green, she did not obey it. A green light is a commandment, not a suggestion! When the light turned red again, she had still not moved, so I began (with my windows up) screaming epithets and waving my hands, beating on the steering wheel. My expressions were interrupted when a police officer, with gun drawn in hand, tapped on my window and demanded that I get out of the car. Against the protestations of, "You can't arrest me for hollering in my car," he put me in the back of his. After about two hours in a holding cell, the officer came and advised me that I was free to go. I said, "I knew you couldn't arrest me for yelling in my car. You haven't heard the last of this, officer!" The officer replied, "I didn't arrest you for shouting in your car. I was directly behind you at the light. I saw you screaming and throwing your tantrum and said to my self, 'What a Jerk!' But then I noticed the cross hanging from your rear view mirror, the bright yellow 'Choose Life' license plate, and the 'Jesus is Lord' bumper sticker and I thought you must have stolen the car."

(Anonymous)
Via The Southwestern
Austin, Texas

Our Record

Week of 4/6

							
							
	Sunday Class						60
	Sunday A.M.....						58
	Sunday P.M.						62
	Wednesday						54
	Contribution.....						\$1669.25
	Budget						\$1760.00

News, Notes and Prayer List



- Please remember the following in your prayers: Austin Cauley, Becky Childress, Curtis Hull, David Kernodle.
- We extend our sympathies to the family of Carol Beacher. Carol passed away last week and is the niece of Neva Welch.
- A good friend of mine, Bill Medart, lost his mother, Alice, this morning. Please remember this family in prayer.
- Your kind and thoughtful expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. Thank you for your support. The Gladys Kimes Family.
- Lucille Wright is in room 104 of the Berryville nursing home.
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs.
- Art Roberts and Mary Patterson are confined to their homes.
- The Williams family invites everyone to an Easter egg hunt Sunday afternoon April 20th, from 2-4 PM at Loretta Williams house. There will be prizes for everyone age 13 and under (does that include Rusty?). Refreshments will be served after the hunt. If you need directions, then please ask one of the Williams family.
- The monthly elders and deacons meeting will be next week.
- Tonight is our monthly question and answers night. Please come for this study time.
- Our monthly potluck is scheduled for next week. Please make your plans to attend.
- There will be a gospel meeting in Cassville this week. We have a youth rally coming up in Springfield. See Kevin's Korner for details.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Tomato Sauce.



Men to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Sunday Morning:	April 13th, 2003	April 20th, 2003
Song Leader:	Larry Elliott	Bill Fort
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Bob Moore	Clay Bozarth
Scripture:	Perry Foster	Brent Moore
Lord's Table:	Clay Bozarth	Leon Duncan
	Glenn Quigley	Ken Smith
(assist)	Bruce Foster	Larry Elliott
	Matt Bassing	Perry Foster
Closing Prayer	Brent Stevens	George Eddings
Sunday Night:		
Songs:	Bruce Foster	Glenn Williams
Preacher:	TBA	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Dale Pinkley	Rusty Windle
Scripture:	Brent Moore	Ray Duncan
Lord's Table:	George Eddings	Raymond Kimes
	Rusty Windle	Matt Bassing
Closing Prayer	Glenn Quigley	Hugh Atchley
Wednesday		
Songs:	Kevin Cauley	Glenn Quigley
Opening Prayer:	Ken Smith	George Eddings
Invitation:	Larry Elliott	Rusty Windle
Closing Prayer:	Brent Stevens	Dale Pinkley
Monthly Assignments		
Announcements	Brent Stevens	
Worship Coordinator	Ken Smith	
Communion Prep	Tiffany Windle	Megan Williams
Communion Carry	Bob Moore	Brent Moore

The "Berryville Bible Beacon" is published by the Berryville church of Christ. Please contact Kevin Cauley at work at (870) 423-3068 or at home at (870) 423-6707 or e-mail bvcc@alltel.net to contribute information.

For questions or comments, please call (870) 423-3068 or write us at:
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