

Understanding Water Baptism

I would like to start with a short introduction of how we are saved by grace through faith. This includes understanding what the grace of God teaches us and how faith operates which leads us to how we are born again of water and of the Spirit as Jesus instructs us. This process of being born again can only be found by applying Acts 2:38 **and there is no other way.**

Ephesians 2:8

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

To be saved by grace you have to apply what grace teaches you. To be saved through faith you must apply how faith operates.

Grace teaches us:

Titus 2:11-12

11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

Faith operates by love.

Galatians 5:6

6 For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; **but faith which worketh by love.**

Grace teaches us: to deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, to live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world.

Jesus said,

John 14:15

15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

So to fulfill what the Apostle Paul spoke in:

Ephesians 2:8

8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

You must then apply the process of each into the verse.

Ephesians 2:8 Brackets inserted by me

8 For by grace [which teaches us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live

soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world] are ye saved through faith; [which worketh by love.] and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

So if faith works by love, and Jesus said, If ye love me, keep my commandments; then you are saved by grace through obedient faith which works by love, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of grace given by God.

1 John 5:3

3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: **and his commandments are not grievous.**

With this understanding of how grace works and how faith operates

You then must remember that....

2 Timothy 3:16

16 **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:**

Then we all follow after what Jesus tells us to do, which is....

Jesus told us we must repent.

Luke 13:3,5

3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

5 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

Jesus told us we must believe and be baptized.

Mark 16:16

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Matthew 28:19

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Jesus told his disciples what to do and revealed the name to them.

Luke 24:47

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

The disciples were obedient and fulfilled both Matthew 28:19 and Luke 24:47.

Acts 2:38-39

38 Then Peter said unto them, **Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.**

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Colossians 3:17

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

This would include the baptism.

The foundation that the Gospel stands on....

Ephesians 2:20

20 And are built upon the foundation **of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;**

Jesus was both an Apostle and Prophet.

Hebrews 3:1

1 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, **consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;**

Deuteronomy 18:15-19

15 The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee **a Prophet from the midst of thee,** of thy brethren, like unto me; **unto him ye shall hearken;**

16 According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not.

17 And the LORD said unto me, They have well spoken that which they have spoken.

18 I will raise them up **a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.**

19 And it shall come to pass, **that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.**

Acts 3:22-24

22 For Moses truly said unto the fathers, **A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.**

23 And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear **that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.**

24 Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days.

The Misunderstanding of the Roman's Road

According to the teaching of the Roman's road, which is the supposed road of salvation found throughout the book of Romans, a believer is brought to the knowledge that every one of us are in need of salvation because "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God." (Romans 3:10-11) "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God". (Romans 3:23) And since there is none righteous and all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, we are under the penalty of sin. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

However we can escape death! Because of the great love and mercy of God! "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8) Since Christ took our place we can now find salvation through him! And how do we partake of such great salvation as this?

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (Romans 9:9-10) "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)

Who can argue with that! Sounds fantastic!! Looks like a great breakdown and summary of all anyone needs to do to find the great plan of salvation that God has outlined for us to follow! Just follow the Roman's Road!

However, there is GRAVE ERRORS IN THIS TEACHING!!! AND GREAT FOLLY!!!

This summary teaches a person that all they need to do is acknowledge that they are a sinner. Acknowledge that God gave his Son Jesus to die for our sins. And then to confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, believing that God raised him from the dead, and YOU WILL BE SAVED!!! For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. WRONG!!!!

This condensed summary known as the Roman's Road is a road to HELLFIRE!!!! It is laced with the POISON OF ASPS!!!!

Matthew 7:21-24

21 NOT EVERY ONE THAT SAITH UNTO ME, LORD, LORD, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that DOETH THE WILL of my Father which is in heaven.

22 MANY WILL SAY TO ME IN THAT DAY, LORD, LORD, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I NEVER KNEW YOU: depart from me, YE THAT WORK INIQUITY.

24 Therefore whosoever **heareth these sayings of mine, and DOETH THEM**, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

Very clearly Jesus tells us that not every one that cries Lord, Lord to him will be saved as the false teaching of the Roman's Road declares! You may say, is this not a contradiction of scriptures? The answer is no. It is scripture **TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT!!!!**

According to the Roman's Road theology, one does not even have to repent of their sins in order to obtain salvation. Though there are slight variations where some will teach that you must repent of your sins, it is lacking in the scripture teaching that is being used and thus there are people who will tell you all you need to do is acknowledge that you are a sinner, while also acknowledging that God gave his Son Jesus to die for our sins, and then just believe in your heart unto righteousness; and with your mouth confess that Jesus is Lord and you will be saved!

Jeremiah 17:9

9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?

Proverbs 28:26

26 He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool: but whoso walketh wisely, he shall be delivered.

Proverbs 18:2

2 A fool hath no delight in understanding, but that his heart may discover itself.

So what is the folly of the Roman's Road theology? It is scripture **TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT!!!!** It is scripture that is not following after **Isaiah 28:9-12** "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear."

For with what? Stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people? To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear?

This is referring to the receiving of the Holy Ghost when the day of Pentecost was fully come after the ascension of Jesus Christ! This outpouring of the Holy Ghost of which the believers were receiving, **was being poured out by Jesus Christ!** "This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, **he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.**" (Acts 2:32-33) This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing!! "**Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.**" (Matthew 11:28-30) "In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, **If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.** (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: **for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.**) Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, **Of a truth this is the Prophet.**" (John 7:37-40) **YET THEY WOULD NOT HEAR!!!!** "**How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?** as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and

bring glad tidings of good things! **But they have not all obeyed the gospel.** For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?" (Romans 10:14-16)

These scriptures are mysteriously lacking from the Roman's Road, even though it is THE NEXT VERSES OF SCRIPTURE AFTER SAYING, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13)

The Roman's Road takes a leap frog over the book of Acts where we learn of the birth of the New Testament Church as the believers were gathered together at Jerusalem waiting upon the promise of the Holy Ghost to be poured out upon them as was covered in the book of Acts chapter 2. **The same chapter where the Comforter, the refreshing, and the rest was given to the believers evidenced with the speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gave them the utterance!** (Acts 2:4) **Where the plan of Salvation was given to the people** in the same chapter after explaining to them **that they, the Jews, had crucified their Messiah!**

Acts 2:29-41

29 Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the **patriarch David**, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

30 **Therefore being a prophet**, and knowing that **God had sworn with an oath to him**, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, **he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;**

31 He seeing this before **spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.**

32 **This Jesus hath God raised up**, whereof we all are witnesses.

33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, **he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.**

34 For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand,

35 Until I make thy foes thy footstool.

36 **Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.**

37 Now when they heard this, **they were pricked in their heart,** and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, **Men and brethren, what shall we do?**

There it is!!! The people were cut to the heart and pricked!!! And knowing that they had crucified their Messiah and that what they were witnessing was the outpouring of the Holy Ghost upon the believers of which the Prophet Joel had prophesied to them that would come, they asked the apostles, "MEN AND BRETHREN, WHAT SHALL WE DO?"

38 Then Peter said unto them, **Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.**

EVERY ONE OF YOU!!!

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, **even as many as the Lord our God shall call.**

THE PROMISE WAS TO ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS!!!

40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, SAVE YOURSELVES from this untoward generation.

41 Then they that gladly received his word WERE BAPTIZED: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

As Jesus said, “**He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.**” (Mark 16:16) Even as the Apostle Peter spoke elsewhere saying, “The like figure whereunto **even baptism doth also now save us**” (1 Peter 3:21)

Let’s take a closer look at Romans chapter 6.

Romans 6:1-2

1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

2 God forbid. How shall we, **that are dead to sin**, live any longer therein?

Romans 6:16-18

16 Know ye not, that **to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey**, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, **but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.**

18 Being then **made free from sin**, ye became the servants of righteousness.

Very important to hear and understand! **Verse 18** just told us that **the form of doctrine that they obeyed from the heart** is what allowed them **to be made free from sin**.

So if we go back to the beginning of this chapter again we will discover **the topic of baptism** and that of **the promise of the Holy Ghost**.

Romans 6:1-9

1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

2 God forbid. How shall we, **that are dead to sin**, live any longer therein?

Notice carefully the question asked here, “How shall we, **that are dead to sin**, live any longer therein?” The Apostle Paul goes on **to explain how** we become dead to sin.

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were **baptized into Jesus Christ** were baptized into his death?

4 Therefore **we are buried 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 newness of life**.

5 For **if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death**, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

Notice the **if clause** in verse 5. **If** we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection. **Also** in verse 3 the Apostle Paul speaks of **the baptism in Jesus name** as the way that **we are planted together in the likeness of his death**. **This is that form of doctrine that they obeyed from the heart which was delivered to them.**

6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that **the body of sin might be destroyed**, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

7 **For he that is dead is freed from sin.**

8 Now **if we be** dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also **live with him**:

9 Knowing that Christ being **raised from the dead dieth no more**; death hath **no more dominion over him**.

If you are not planted together in the likeness of **his death**, the body of sin **will not be destroyed** and **you will perish in your sins** because your old man **was not crucified with him** and therefore **you will not be dead with Christ** nor will you be freed from sin **that you inherited from Adam**.

Colossians 2:10-14

10 And ye are **complete in him**, which is **the head** of all principality and power:

11 In whom also ye are **circumcised** with the circumcision made without hands, in **putting off the body of the sins of the flesh** by the circumcision of Christ:

12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also **ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God**, who hath raised him from the dead.

13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he **quicken together with him**, **having forgiven you all trespasses**;

14 **Blotting out** the handwriting of ordinances **that was against us**, which was **contrary to us**, and **took it out of the way**, **nailed it to his cross**;

This is how you are made **free from sin**. You are **baptized in Jesus name** that the **body of sin may be destroyed** by the **circumcision of Christ**.

When a person repents of their sins **they must also be baptized in Jesus name for the remission of their sins**. Because as we just read in Colossians **this is where** “ye are **circumcised** with the circumcision made without hands, in **putting off the body of the sins of the flesh** by the circumcision of Christ: **Buried** with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him **through the faith of the operation of God**, who hath raised him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses**”.

{Hear both passages of scripture from Colossians and Romans when put together.}

We must die out to sin in repentance and then be baptized into Jesus Christ by invoking his name as we are being baptized that the “circumcision made without hands” might take place “in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ” “that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin.” “And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses” “For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection” “Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him”

Therefore we are baptized for the dead that the circumcision of Christ might take place **which destroys the body of sin** which we inherited from birth. **This takes place in water baptism**

whereby our sins are remitted or washed away **upon the invoking of the name** of Jesus Christ **through the faith of the operation of God**. “For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection”. But you **must be** planted together in the likeness of his death by being “baptized into Jesus Christ” where we are “baptized into his death”. **Or we will not be** in the likeness of his resurrection **because the body of sin was not destroyed**.

This is why Jesus said in...

Mark 16:16

16 He that **believeth and is baptized shall be saved**; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

The Apostle Peter tells us that **it is by water baptism that we are saved**. This is because the body of sin **was destroyed by the circumcision made without hands** in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh **through the faith of the operation of God**, who hath raised Jesus from the dead.

1 Peter 3:18-21

18 For Christ also hath **once suffered** for sins, **the just** for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, **being put to death** in the flesh, **but quickened** by the Spirit:

19 By which also **he went and preached** unto the spirits in prison;

20 Which sometime were disobedient, **when once the longsuffering of God waited** in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, **wherein few**, that is, **eight souls were saved by water**.

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:

Not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, **but where the body of sin is destroyed**. Your **Adamic sins** being cut away or washed away by the circumcision made without hands!!

This is why Jesus also told us,

Matthew 28:19

19 Go ye therefore, and **teach** all nations, **baptizing them** in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

And the Apostle's who were given **full understanding** of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ **understood the name** of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost **was the name of Jesus**.

And thus **the baptismal commission** was given by Jesus to baptize them **in the name** of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. And **the baptismal formula** was given when the day of Pentecost was fully come and the Holy Ghost was poured out upon the believers. **The formula being found in Acts 2:38** which reads, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you **in the name of Jesus Christ** for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

In summary, we are to **repent** of our sins and to **be baptized** every one of you **in the name** of Jesus Christ **for the remission** of sins. This is where **the body of sin** is destroyed that the Apostle Paul was referring to when he said, "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ **were baptized into his death**? Therefore we are **buried with him** by baptism **into death**". It is then **a promise of God** that if you repent of your sins and are baptized in Jesus name for the remission of your sins **that you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost**. "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the LORD our God shall call."

This is that **form of doctrine** that was delivered to them **that they obeyed from the heart**. Thus to these as well as to those of us who have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine that was delivered to us know "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." This being because **we were obedient to the gospel of Jesus Christ**, which is the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Therefore another GREAT FOLLY OF THE ROMAN'S ROAD OF SALVATION IS THAT THE SAME PEOPLE WHO, "...confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation", (Romans 10:9-10) (which is the finale of the Roman's Road false doctrinal teaching) is the same people who just 4 chapters earlier we were told that "...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." (Romans 6:17-19)

So now you see how it was that these people were really saved. They obeyed that form of doctrine which was delivered to them and these same people were then given further instruction letting them know that since they had obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered to them as found in the book of Acts 2:38-39 which says, "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call"; that these same people were then instructed "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation", (Romans 10:9-10) because they had already partook of the plan of Salvation being obedient unto the faith as fully expounded upon in Romans chapter 6.

Therefore the Roman's Road of Salvation is really fulfilled in the book of Acts chapter 2:38!!! And the Roman's Road of Salvation is therefore A FALSE DOCTRINE LACED WITH THE POISON OF ASPS!!!! AND IS IN GRAVE ERROR!!!! FILLED WITH GREAT FOLLY!!!!

If Remission of Sins came by Repentance Alone

Isaiah 28:9-10

9 **Whom** shall he teach knowledge? and **whom** shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are **weaned from the milk**, and **drawn from the breasts**.

10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

At this time I would like to demonstrate to you how the many different denominations and diverse doctrines of the Christian world **do not apply** what the Prophet Isaiah has told us concerning gaining doctrinal knowledge and understanding and how they also **do not apply** what the Apostle Paul told us concerning all scripture which reads, "**All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:**" (2 Timothy 3:16)

Many people believe that when you believe on Jesus Christ, repent of your sins, and accept Jesus Christ as your personal savior that you are saved. But if this be the case **then why** are there scriptures that appear to contradict this teaching?

And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and **wash away thy sins**, calling **on the name** of the Lord. (Acts 22:16)

If remission of sins came by repentance alone then why did Ananias tell Paul to be baptized calling on the name of the Lord to wash away his sins?

Then Peter said unto them, **Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins**, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (Acts 2:38)

If remission of sins came by repentance alone then why did the Apostle Peter tell us to repent and be baptized for the remission of sins?

In whom also **ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands**, in **putting off** the body of the sins of the flesh **by the circumcision of Christ**: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also **ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God**, who hath raised him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, **having forgiven you all trespasses**; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; (Col 2:11-14)

If remission of sins came by repentance alone then why did the Apostle Paul tell us that the circumcision of Christ took place when you are buried with him in baptism wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God?

Jesus answered, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.** (Jn 3:5-7)

If remission of sins came by repentance alone then why did Jesus tell us we must be born again of water and of the Spirit?

And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three **agree in one**. (1 Jn 5:8)

They agree in being born again. Blood, water, and Spirit = Death (repentance), burial (water baptism in Jesus name), and resurrection (being filled with the Holy Ghost.)

If remission of sins came by repentance alone then why did Apostle John tell us that the blood, water, and Spirit agree in one?

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
(Mk 16:16)

If remission of sins came by repentance alone then why did Jesus tell us He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved?

ANSWER: Your sins are not remitted when you repent of your sins. They are remitted when you repent and are baptized in Jesus name as says the scriptures. **This is why Jesus said he that believes and is baptized shall be saved.**

What you are seeing is examples of people **not applying how the word of God is set up** precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

Acts 8:14-17

14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

15 Who, when they were come down, **prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:**

16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: **only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.**)

17 **Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.**

Acts 10:44-48

44 While Peter yet spake these words, **the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.**

45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, **because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.**

46 **For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.** Then answered Peter,

47 **Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized,** which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

48 **And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.** Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

The first thing the Apostle Peter **commands** them to do is to be **baptized in the name of the Lord**. It was not an option! He commanded it!! For he knew that in order for you to receive

remission of sins that was inherited from your birth, you had to not only repent of your sins, but also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. For he knew that this was the fulfilling of being born of water as Jesus instructed Nicodemus. Whereas the receiving of the Holy Ghost was the fulfilling of being born of the Spirit as Jesus told Nicodemus.

Acts 19:1-6

1 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,

2 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.**

3 And he said unto them, **Unto what then were ye baptized?** And they said, Unto John's baptism.

4 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.**

5 **When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.**

6 **And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.**

Water baptism by submersion is absolutely essential to the new birth experience, or the process of being born again!!!! **Not only** is it in the water that we are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, or the cutting away of our sins that takes place, **it is also when we put on the name of Christ.** That is why it is **so important** that when you are baptized, that you are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. **For that is when you take on His name.**

Listen to this account of what took place when Apostle Paul (Saul of Tarsus) received the Holy Ghost:

Acts 9:17-18

17 And **Ananias** went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, **and be filled with the Holy Ghost.**

18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, **and arose, and was baptized.**

Many Christian people will try to tell you that when you see many scriptures we refer to as water baptism is actually speaking of Spirit baptism, but here we see very clearly that the Apostle Paul received the Holy Ghost (Spirit baptism) and then he **“arose, and was baptized.”** Again this showing clearly that the Apostle Paul was born again of water and of the Spirit as Jesus spoke to Nicodemus. Also another strong point here is the Apostle Paul tells us in Ephesians that there is “One Lord, one faith, one baptism,” (Eph 4:5) This is why so many people try to say that many of the scriptures we refer to are actually speaking of Spirit baptism. However, we see that when the Apostle Paul was born again of water and of the Spirit it was clearly shown that he received the Holy Ghost and then **“arose, and was baptized.”** Thus fulfilling being born again of water and of the Spirit as Jesus instructed Nicodemus.

Now Listen to Apostle Paul retelling this account:

Acts 22:12-16

12 And one **Ananias**, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there,

13 Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him.

14 And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth.

15 For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of **what thou hast seen and heard.**

16 And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

Here again, we see that it is in the water baptism, that your sins are cut away with the circumcision made without hands, and thus why we invoke the name of the Lord, for our sins are being washed away. Not by magic of the water. **But because of the faith of the operation of God.**

It is also important for you to realize that infant baptism or the sprinkling of water being used in baptism **is not scriptural.** In a nutshell this was instituted by the Catholic Church. A baby can not understand the Gospel and therefore cannot believe the gospel and is unable to confess Jesus as the Lord of their life.

A child should not be baptized **until** the child has been taught about Jesus and desires then to go to Heaven. **At that time** you can tell your child that all of mankind was born in sin, and we must repent for those sins. And that means that we are sorry for them and don't want to do them anymore. **If the child confesses** that they love Jesus and want to go to Heaven and they tell Jesus they are sorry for all of their sins, **it is time** to let them know that **we also need** to be baptized into His name so our sins can be washed away. (**Note:** of course I am not meaning the water magically makes sin disappear)

If the child then says I want to be baptized. Then they have confessed Jesus, understood that they needed to repent for their inherited sin from Adam, and **they have faith** that when they are baptized that their sins will be washed away or remitted.

Unfortunately, many people try to refute that being baptized is essential to salvation. In order for them to say this, **they directly go against what Jesus spoke** when he said, He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. **They also go against the commandment** given by Jesus saying, Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

They also ignore the first message taught by the Apostle Peter when the Holy Ghost was poured out, when he told everyone that they must repent, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and that ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

They ignore that it is in the baptism that the Lord performs the circumcision made without hands. **They ignore** the words of the Apostle Paul when he tells us what Ananias said concerning the water baptism, which was, "why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

They also miss **the types and shadows** given to us from the Old Testament concerning blood, water, and Spirit.

The children of Israel upon their Exodus was told by God to **prepare a lamb without blemish**, a male of the first year **and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it. And ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD'S passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.** And **the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you**, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, **when I smite the land of Egypt.** (Exodus 12:1-28)

1 Corinthians 10:1-2

1 Moreover, brethren, **I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;**

2 **And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;**

Here we have a shadow of the New Testament Covenant of salvation of the killing of a lamb without blemish, the shedding of blood, the parting of the water of the Red Sea, and being under the cloud of which was the Spirit of the Lord. This we are told that we should not be ignorant of that they were all baptized unto Moses in **the cloud and in the sea!** Again we see that water baptism and Spiritual baptism took place!! Just like Jesus told Nicodemus that we must be born of water and of the Spirit to enter into the kingdom of heaven and just like the Apostle Paul received the Holy Ghost (Spirit baptism) and then he **“arose, and was baptized.”** (Water Baptism)

1 Peter 3:20-21

20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited **in the days of Noah**, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls **were saved by water.**

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:

This particular passage many times is used to try to justify that baptism is nothing more than the answer of a good conscience toward God. **Again, ignoring** all the other scriptures and **missing the point of what was spoken.**

The Apostle Peter is the very one that told us, Repent, and be baptized **every one of you** in the name of Jesus Christ **for the remission of sins**, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, **even as many as the Lord our God shall call.**

Here, the Apostle Peter has again stressed, that just as Noah was saved by water, we also **by like figure** are saved by water **through baptism in Jesus name.** Then stating, not the putting away of the filth of the flesh. Meaning, we aren't getting into the water to be baptized for the flesh but

for our souls. It is the answer of a good conscience toward God, because of our faith of the operation of God, which was the **circumcision of Christ**, the circumcision made without hands. **The cutting away or washing away of our sins!!!!** This is “precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:” and to whom the Lord shall teach knowledge and to whom he shall make to understand doctrine. (Isa 28:9-10)

1 John 5: 6

This is he that came by **water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood.** And it is the **Spirit** that beareth witness, because **the Spirit is truth.**

John 19:34-35

34 But one of the soldiers **with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.**

35 And he that saw it **bare record, and his record is true:** and he knoweth that he saith true, **that ye might believe.**

It was the Spirit that bare this record as we just read in 1 John 5:6 “And it is **the Spirit** that beareth witness, because the **Spirit is truth.**”

1 John 5: 8

8 And there are three that **bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.**

Now we are told that there are three that bear witness in Earth. The Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one. These three agree in how we are born again of water and of the Spirit. We know that the Spirit is the Spirit of Truth, the Holy Ghost; and that when the soldier pierced Jesus’ side, there came out blood and water **and the blood of Jesus is applied to us when we are baptized in Jesus name with full water submersion.**

So when we Repent, and are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, it is a promise that you will receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, which will be evidenced with the speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance.

The Blood of Jesus Christ is applied to us in Water Baptism!! This is something you will hear preached periodically. I have heard our Pastor also say the blood is applied to our sins in water baptism in Jesus name and have heard many Pastors, Evangelists, and Preachers says this.

So how do we know that the blood is applied to our sins in water baptism in Jesus name after we first have repented of our sins?

The answer lies in understanding the Old Testament Covenant and the Earthly Tabernacle which was a type of the Heavenly Tabernacle.

Hebrews 8:1-2

1 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: **We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;**

2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

Hebrews 9:19-24

19 For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people,

20 Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you.

21 Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry.

22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

23 It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

Matthew 26:28

28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Hebrews 10:16-23 Brackets inserted by me

16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;

17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. {Acts 2:38}

18 Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.

19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

21 And having an high priest over the house of God;

22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. {Acts 2:38}

23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Just as the Old Testament the blood and water were mingled and Moses sprinkled the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you and this was only a type of the true tabernacle in the heavens which the Lord pitched, and not man.

In the New Testament Covenant we are to come in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water which takes place in water baptism in Jesus name.

Ephesians 5:24-27

24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 **That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,**
27 **That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.**

The washing of water being Acts 2:38 where the blood is applied in the water as we have now been circumcised by the **circumcision of Christ**, the circumcision made without hands. **The cutting away or washing away of our sins!!!** And sanctified by the truth as it is written “**Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.**” (John 17:17)

We also see the **washing away of blood** in the Old Testament Tabernacle when the Levitical priesthood performed animal sacrifices **on the Brazen Altar which blood was then washed in the Brazen Laver. Thus the water and blood mingled together.**

The Brazen Altar, where the sacrifices were done, was a shadow of Jesus Christ, the sacrificial lamb of God, which was sacrificed as our atonement, to reconcile, which is to restore friendly relations, between us and God. “**For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;**” (1 Tim 2:5)

The Brazen Laver, was a shadow of the water baptism in Jesus name, where our old man is buried with Christ, and **His blood remits or washes away our sins.**

Titus 3:5-6

5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us,
by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;
6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;

Again you see **water and the Spirit** in the washing of regeneration and the **continual renewing of the Holy ghost.**

The Greek word in use for washing:

loo-tron' from <G3068> (louo); **a bath, i.e. (figurative) baptism** :- washing.—Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary

The Greek word in use for regeneration:

pal-ing-ghen-es-ee'-ah from <G3825> (palin) and <G1078> (genesis); **(spiritual) rebirth (the state or the act), i.e. (figurative) spiritual renovation; specially Messianic restoration** :- regeneration.—Strong's Talking Greek & Hebrew Dictionary

As you can see, if one applies **how the word of God is set up** precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little while remembering that **all scripture** is given by inspiration of God, “and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:” (2 Timothy 3:16) **the many false doctrines that abound today would cease to be.**

So just because you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, does not mean you are saved. **Nor** are you saved because you repented of your sins. **You must fulfill all of what the Lord tells us to do in order to obtain the born again experience.**

The lack of understanding is this:

The Gospels told us of the life of Jesus Christ, His teachings, the miracles He performed, His death and His resurrection. And before His ascension into Heaven, He told His followers that they needed to go to Jerusalem and wait upon the promise of the Holy Ghost.

The book of Acts was the establishment of the Church. It contains the fulfillment of the receiving of the Holy Ghost, the message of salvation, the persecution of the Church, the miracles that took place after the death of Jesus, and the fulfilling of what the Lord commanded them to do, which was, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

The Epistles were letters written to the **already established Churches** and in some cases individuals. The instructions contained in them, were given to instruct the followers of Christ on how they should now live. They already partook and understood that they needed to be born again, by repenting, and being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of their sins, and they already understood the promise of the receiving of the gift of the Holy Ghost, evidenced by speaking in another tongue as the Spirit gives the utterance.

So the mistakes being made are these: looking into the epistles for the plan of salvation instead of in the book of Acts where the completion of the New Testament Church began. As well as **ignoring any scripture** that appears to go against the teaching of what they hold to be true.

This ultimately leads to ignoring that all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness. **It also ignores** that doctrinal understanding will come precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little.

With this understanding, let's look again at the subject of water baptism.

Jesus told us, he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved and Jesus also told us except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

John 3:1-7

- 1 There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:
- 2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.
- 3 Jesus answered and said unto him, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**
- 4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

5 Jesus answered, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter** into the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh **is flesh**; and that which is **born of the Spirit** is spirit.

7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, **Ye must be born again.**

Several things to discuss here. First off this born again process is not a fleshly birth but a spiritual birth as stated in verse 6. Also it is **very important to remember** that these instructions that were given here are instructions **that were given just 7 verses prior to this scripture.** **16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

Yet people will cling to verse 16 and claim to be born again while ignoring everything else Jesus spoke. For instance: Did Jesus not just tell Nicodemus, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, **he cannot enter** into the kingdom of God? Did Jesus not also tell us except ye repent, **ye shall all likewise perish.** Did Jesus not also tell us He that **believeth and is baptized** shall be saved.

God did so love the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. That is why we need to follow after the instructions that Jesus gave to us. **Not just some of it.** All scripture is given by inspiration of God.

So we must be born again of water and of the Spirit. To fulfill being born of water **you must be baptized** as Jesus said, he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.

Matthew 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power is given unto me** in heaven and in earth.

19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

20 **Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:** and, lo, I am with you always, **even unto the end of the world.** Amen.

Notice Jesus said, teach all nations, **baptizing them,** and teaching them to observe **all things** whatsoever I have **commanded** you. Not just some things. **But all things.** For all scripture is given by inspiration of God.

So here Jesus tells us to **baptize them in the name of** the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. So what is the name?

Jesus tells us the name!

John 5:43a

43 **I am come in my Father's name,** and ye receive me not:

John 17:6, 26

6 **I have manifested thy name** unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

26 And **I have declared unto them thy name**, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, **and I in them.**

John 14:16-18, 26

16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another **Comforter**, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 Even **the Spirit of truth**; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: **but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.**

18 **I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.**

26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send **in my name**, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Luke 24:45-49

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

46 And said unto them, **Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:**

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, **until ye be endued with power from on high.**

Jesus opened their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, **and told them what to speak.** He told them to preach repentance and remission of sins in His name. **And they did!!!** He also told them to go to Jerusalem and wait for the promise of the Holy Ghost. **They did!!!!**

So when the Holy Ghost was poured out as the Lord had promised, the Apostles told everyone, **including you and me**, what they **needed to do in order to obtain salvation.**

Acts 2:36-39

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, **what shall we do?**

Notice that the Apostle Peter, preached to them exactly what the Lord told them.

38 Then Peter said unto them, **Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins**, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

(Lk 24:47 **repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.**)

(Jn 14:26 But the Comforter, **which is the Holy Ghost**, whom the Father will send **in my name**, he shall teach you all things, and **bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.**)

The Apostle Peter continues.....

39 **For the promise** is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

The Plan of Salvation **for every** generation! **Remember:** The Holy Ghost will come into you with the evidence of speaking in another tongue as the Spirit gives the utterance. (Acts 2:4)

That is enough to tell you that the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost **was Jesus.** The **Apostles did exactly what the Lord told them** to do. They preached repentance and remission of sins in His name, with the understanding that the Lord had just given to them, **thus fulfilling baptizing everyone in the name of** the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

There is **not one occurrence** given in the Bible of anyone being baptized in the titles of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Colossians 3:17

17 And whatsoever ye do in **word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus**, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

This includes Baptism!!