Part I: "Paul Baptizes, Sanctifies, & Ordains A New Twelve In Ephesus!"

Acts 19:1-10

And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the Upper Regions (of Phrygia in Asia Minor), came to Ephesus. And finding Some Disciples He 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." And He said to Them, "Into What then were You Baptized?" So, They said, "Into John's Baptism." Then Paul said, "John (Baptist) indeed Baptized with a 'Baptism of Repentance', saying to the People that They should Believe on Him Who would come after Him (John the Baptist), that is, on Christ Jesus." When They Heard This, They were Baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had Laid Hands on Them, the Holy Spirit Came Upon Them, and They Spoke with Tongues and Prophesied. Now the Men (Disciples) were about Twelve in All. And He (Paul) went into the Synagogue and Spoke (Rhema) Boldly for three months, Reasoning and Persuading Concerning the Things of the Kingdom of God. But when Some were Hardened and Did Not Believe, but Spoke Evil of the Way before the Multitude (People), He (Paul) Departed from Them and Withdrew the Disciples, Reasoning Daily in the School of Tyrannus. And this continued for two years, so that All Who dwelt in Asia Heard the Word (Rhema) of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks. Acts 19:1-10 (NKJV)

Q

"When Did Apollos Leave For Corinth & Paul Arrive In Ephesus?"

Α

In The Year Fall of 53 A.D.

And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul,

having passed through the Upper Regions (of Phrygia in Asia Minor), came to Ephesus. Acts 19:1

O

"How Long Would Paul Stay In Ephesus During His 3rd Missionary Journey?"

Α

Two Years & A Few Months From Fall 53 – 55 A.D.

Paul Finds His Audience in Ephesus, That Claim To Be Followers,

& He Qualifies Their State of Faith & Understanding!

... And finding Some Disciples He said to Them,

"Did you Receive the Holy Spirit when You Believed?" ... Acts 19:2

Paul Continues To Nail Down Where They Stand Before God & Other Believers! ... So, They said to Him, "We have not so much as Heard whether there is a Holy Spirit." And He said to Them, "Into What then were You <u>Baptized</u>?" So, They said, "Into <u>John's Baptism</u>." ...

Acts 19:2b-3

Q

"What Does Paul Do When He Discovers Their Misunderstanding of Faith?"

Α

Paul Reinstructs Them – Just As Aquilla & Priscilla Retaught & Mentored Apollos! ... Then Paul said, "John (Baptist) indeed <u>Baptized</u> with a '<u>Baptism of Repentance</u>', saying to the People that They should Believe on Him Who would come after Him (John the Baptist), that is, on Christ Jesus." ...

Acts 19:4

C

"What Is The Effect Of Sound Preaching, Teaching, & Reinstruction In The Lives Of People With Teachable Spirits?" Δ

They Are Convinced Of Their Misunderstanding & They Replace It With Their New Knowledge & Understanding Because They Are Listening To The Voice of the Holy Spirit of God

When They Heard This, They were Baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus ... Acts 19:5

Q

"How Many Steps Is A Complete Transformation Through Baptism In The Life Of A Christian?"

Α

A Two-Part Complete Transformational Baptism

... And when Paul had <u>Laid Hands</u> on Them, the *Holy Spirit* <u>Came Upon</u> Them, and They <u>Spoke with Tongues and Prophesied</u> ... Acts 19:6

Q

"Is This A Biblical Teaching From God Or Man?"

Α

From God Himself

Jesus Christ Taught A Two-Fold Transformation Process of Baptism
1) <u>Baptism of Repentance By Water</u> (Justification Before God)

For The Complete Forgiveness of Sins & Initial Infilling With The Holy Spirit
To Restore The Likeness of God We Have Lost

By Our Self-Serving & Fallen Intentions, Thoughts, & Actions

2) Baptism of Holiness By Fire (Sanctification In God)

For The Complete Filling With The Indwelling Holy Spirit By Complete Surrender Of Our Will

To Restore The Image of God We Destroyed & Replaced

By Our Self-Indulgence, Self-Occupation, & Self-Worship

Jesus Taught At His Ascension: And being assembled together with Them, He <u>Commanded</u> Them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the <u>Promise of the Father</u>, "Which", He said, "You have Heard (Rhema) From Me; for John (the Baptist) <u>Truly Baptized with Water</u>, but You shall be <u>Baptized with the Holy Spirit</u> not many days from now!" Therefore, when They had Come Together, They asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this <u>Time</u> Restore the Kingdom to Israel?" And He Said (Rhema) to Them, "It is not for You to know <u>Times</u> or <u>Seasons</u> which the Father has put in His Own Authority. But You <u>Shall Receive Power When the Holy Spirit has Come Upon You</u>; and You Shall Be Witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in All Judea and Samaria, and to the End of the Earth!"

Q

"Is This Just An Artifact Of The 1st Century Church & The Original Believers Only?"

A – NO!

All Christians Are Encouraged To Go Beyond

Our Original Commitment & Repentance To Grow From Faith To Faith & To Be Transformed Daily By The Process of Progressive Sanctification Toward Complete Holiness!

Jesus Prayed, "I do not pray that You should take Them out of the world, but that You should keep Them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I AM not of the world. Sanctify Them by Your Truth. Your Word is Truth. As You Sent Me into the world, I Also Have Sent Them into the world. And for Their sakes I Sanctify Myself, that They also may be Sanctified by the Truth. I do not pray for These alone, but also for Those Who will believe in Me Through Their Word; that They all may be One, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that They also may be One in Us, that the world may believe that You Sent Me. And the Glory which You Gave Me I Have Given Them, that They may be One just as We are One: I in Them, and You in Me; that They may be Made Perfect in One, and that the world may know that You Have Sent Me, and Have Loved Them as You Have Loved Me."

John 17:15-23

Paul Teaches, "For in it the <u>Righteousness of God</u> is <u>Revealed from Faith to Faith;</u> as it is written, 'THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH!" ... Romans 1:17

Paul Instructs, "Nevertheless when One Turns to the Lord, the Veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But We All, with Unveiled Face, Beholding as in a mirror the Glory of the Lord, are Being Transformed into the Same Image from 2nd Corinthians 3:16-18 Glory to Glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord." Paul Implores, "I Beseech You therefore, Brethren, by the Mercies of God, that You Present Your Bodies a Living Sacrifice, Holy, Acceptable to God, which is Your Reasonable Service. And do not be conformed to this world, but Be Transformed by the Renewing of Your Mind, that You May Prove what is that Good and Acceptable and Perfect Will of God." **Romans 12:1-2** Paul On God's Will: "Finally then, Brethren, We Urge and Exhort in the Lord Jesus that You Should Abound More and More, just as You received from Us how You Ought to Walk and to Please God; for You know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus. For This is the Will of God, Your Sanctification: that You should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of You Should Know How to Possess His Own Vessel in Sanctification and Honor, not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles Who do not know God; that No One should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the Avenger of all such, as We also Forewarned you and Testified. For God did not call Us to Uncleanness, but in Holiness. Therefore, He Who Rejects This does not Reject Man, but God, Who Has Also Given Us His Holy Spirit."

1st Thessalonians 4:1-8

Paul Continues On God's Will (7 + 1): "Rejoice Always, ¹ Pray without Ceasing, ² in Everything Give Thanks; ³ for <u>This is the Will of God in Christ Jesus for You</u>. <u>Do Not Quench the Spirit</u>. ⁴ Do Not Despise Prophecies. ⁵ Test All Things; ⁶ Hold Fast what is Good. Abstain from every form of Evil. Now <u>May the God of Peace Himself Sanctify You Completely</u>; ⁷ and <u>May Your Whole Spirit</u>, <u>Soul, and Body Be Preserved Blameless</u> ⁸ at the Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <u>He Who Calls You is Faithful</u>, <u>Who Also Will Do It!</u>"

More Next Week On What Exactly Did Jesus Christ
Teach Concerning A Two-Fold Transformational Process of Baptism
In Part II Of This Message!

"Let Us Be Truly God's People Dead To Ourselves & Alive For Him Alone!

Let Us Desire The Deeper Transformation Of Dying To Self & Living For Him!

Let Us Seek A More Complete Understanding

Of What It Means To Be Completely Baptized Into His Spirit!"

"Let Us Daily Ask To Be Made Like Him - Holy,

So That When People Meet Us, They Only See & Experience Him,

And They Only Desire To Walk With Him,

As We Do In Unity & Holiness!"

"Let Us Walk So Closely & Surrendered To God's Sweet Holy Spirit,

Let Him Compel Us To Tell Everyone About

The Relationship We Have With Him In Holiness, Love, & Unity!

And May They Desire & Ask Us How To Have

That Same Relationship With HIM & With Us!"