

FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINES OF CHRISTIANITY

“Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection: not laying again the foundation...

...of repentance from dead works,

...and of faith toward God,

...Of the doctrine of baptisms,

...and of laying on of hands,

...and of resurrection of the dead,

...and of eternal judgment.

And this will we do, if God permit.”

Hebrews 6:1-3

INTRODUCTION

The crucifixion of Christ is an elementary doctrine from which it is necessary to go on to the rest of the principles of the doctrine of Christ. Many churches spend too much time on sermons of the cross and not enough time on sermons of spiritual growth. Paul perceived the immaturity of the Corinthians and could not teach them anything more than elementary doctrines.

“And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.”

1 Corinthians 2:1-2

Immaturity in the Body of Christ is a condition where there is a need to graduate from milk to meat. Examples of immaturity are strife, division, and envy, which open the door for all other unclean spirits to come in and cause trouble (James 3:16). Immaturity is also known as carnal behavior, walking after the flesh, or behaving childishly (Romans 8). The minute that there is conflict between two carnal Christians, they go at each other fiercely like any unbeliever.

“And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, *even* as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able *to bear it*, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal: for whereas *there is* among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?”

1 Corinthians 3:1-3

To be carnal means to behave or think in a way that is immature or worldly. Carnality is not immorality. Behaving immorally is a separate thing and is dealt with differently. We are to warn a believer involved in immoral behavior to repent. If he doesn't repent, he is expelled from the fellowship of believers until he repents. The believers have a responsibility to pray for his repentance.

“But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.”

1 Corinthians 5:11-13

1, REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

Repentance means not to do it anymore. Go in the way of life and away from the way of death.

“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction (hell), and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life (heaven), and few there be that find it.”

Matthew 7:14

Dead works are what God does not want us to do: INIQUITY, TRANSGRESSION, and SIN. Works of religion are also dead works if the Holy Spirit does not lead us to do it; regardless if it is for the benefit of a church. It is very easy to get busy in a church but you must do only what God leads you to do. He does not want you to get involved with man's plans and doctrines which are uninspired activities with no life.



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The devil's plan is to bring up your past and guilt-trip you about trying to make yourself good enough for God so that you try to please God by your works. A points system is always religion and it is dead works.

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."
Ephesians 2:8-9

If you feel like you are not good enough for God, it means that YOUR LOVE IS BROKE. You need inner healing and you need deliverance from unclean spirits. The enemy spirits get in the way of your faith so they must be cast out. With God's leading, you can contact a ministry that will help you in these areas. You must submit to them and let them do deliverance or whatever God would have them to do in order to help you. Your love must be fixed in three areas: loving God, loving people, and loving yourself.

"Jesus said unto him, **Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**"
Matthew 22:37-39

The new believer in Christ has entered into a covenant with the Lord to turn away from his former lifestyle and to follow Jesus. This is repentance. The devil would like to return a believer back to a life of sin and we see many new Christians eventually fall back into a life of sin and become the servants of sin. Why?

Very soon after salvation, it is important to disciple the new believer and to educate him in the fundamental doctrines of Christ in order to have a solid foundation to grow and mature. One of the first things a new believer must learn and go through is deliverance so that he can be a whole person, living sanctified in holiness unto the Lord. Deliverance is the process of casting out unclean spirits.

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."
1 Thessalonians 5:23

Jesus gives us the power to repent and be free from the bondage of sin, to turn away from our old life of sin. He gives us the authority to cast out enemy spirits (thorns in our flesh) that try to overthrow our will. These unclean spirits want us to return to a life of sin and must be cast out. With fewer unclean spirits operating in our flesh, it is easier to repent in different areas. Deliverance will be a process that takes time, where our lifestyle is changed into a way of holiness, with spiritual warfare along the way to get the enemy spirits out of our life and out of the lives of others.

"And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a *certain* man, kneeling down to him, and saying, Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatic, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water. And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him. Then Jesus answered and said, **O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me.** And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour."
Matthew 17:14-18

"And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, Saying, Let *us* alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God. And Jesus rebuked him, saying, **Hold thy peace, and come out of him.** And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him."
Mark 1:23-26

The scripture below describes the possible consequence for a believer who falls back into sin. The return back to holiness may be more difficult. We must think zero-tolerance for sin. When the devil tries to tempt us again with lust, we go back into spiritual warfare with the Word of God, praying for God's help and guidance and believing that we will win. Again, this is a process that takes time.

"**When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.**"
Matthew 12:43-45



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A certain brother got saved and started following the Lord. He also fell into sin occasionally and kept asking the Lord to deliver him from this particular sin (substance abuse). In time the Lord delivered him and now he has a wonderful ministry serving the less fortunate. Do not give up!

2. FAITH TOWARD GOD

Live works are the opposite of dead works. Live works are the things that God tells us to do; namely, the demonstration of FAITH by obedience to His Word and to His Spirit. We do this because we love Jesus and we want to serve Him, not because we are guilt-tripped into doing it. When we operate in the fruit of the Holy Spirit, it is easier to be led of the Holy Spirit to serve God. Jesus changes us from the inside out and we begin to show the fruit of the Holy Spirit. We operate in love and forgiveness.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.” Galatians 5:22-23

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” Matthew 5:16

“This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.” John 15:12

We must read God’s Word daily (the Bread of life) for our spiritual nutrition and education. It builds our FAITH so that we can begin doing what it says because we BELIEVE it. Get your own personal Bible and spend time with Jesus, then go and do what He has told you to do.

“Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;” John 8:31

“And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that showed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.” Luke 10:30-37

“And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.” Matthew 10:7-8

“What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works. Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” James 2:14-26

ACTION IS THE EVIDENCE OF BELIEF. The action of helping others is a demonstration of God’s love, through us, and it causes others to believe and increase their faith. If we have God’s love in us then it is easier to reach out to people, otherwise fear will get in the way. Continue praying for more of God’s love.

“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear...” 1 John 4:18



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Hebrews 11 is another faith chapter that is good to read in order to get a short biblical history of how different people demonstrated their faith and received their spiritual promise. If you believe God has told you to go somewhere or to do something, you must continue to believe and to position yourself in the direction that He leads, no matter how much time has gone by. Hebrews 11 talks about God promising Abraham a son, even though he and Sarah were in very old age. God eventually blessed them with Isaac, which appeared to be against all physical odds. The Word of the Lord is not limited by this world's expectations.

So far, we have been discussing faith in action. The other aspect of faith has to do with what we say. Do our words match the Bible? Words are spiritual and they may release either blessing or cursing.

"Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."
Proverbs 18:21

"But the tongue can no man tame; *it is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet *water* and bitter?"
John 3:8-11

"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."
Ephesians 4:29

Our words are to bring forth life for those who need to grow in the Lord and judgment upon enemy spirits during deliverance. We also have the power by the Holy Spirit to speak forth into being, proclamations of faith, healing, deliverance, freedom, and life.

"...*even* God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were."
Romans 4:17

"The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound;"
Isaiah 61:1

"And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed *with them*: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed."
Acts 8:6

"And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid *her* in an upper chamber... But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning *him* to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up. And he gave her *his* hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive."
Acts 9:37, 40-41

"And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: he same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked."
Acts 14:8-10

In the verses above, the disciples are using prayers and words of faith by the Holy Spirit to effect miracles for the purpose of helping people physically, emotionally, and spiritually, and for the glory of God.

When a Christian receives prayer for healing, but the Christian perceives "nothing" happened, even though the answer to prayer may be on its way from heaven, and the Christian says "I'm not healed"; he has cancelled his own prayer. His words of unbelief have stopped the healing miracle. By his words he is an unbeliever. Confession of faith is what pleases God! Not confession of unbelief!

"But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."
Hebrews 11:6

Speak those things which be not as though they are! You will see it when you believe it! Yes God can heal you but do you believe that he will heal you? That is the difference!



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3. THE DOCTRINE OF BAPTISMS

The Bible speaks of three baptisms: water, Holy Spirit, and fire.

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan *is* in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."
Matthew 3:11-12

"John answered, saying unto *them* all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire: Whose fan *is* in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable.
Luke 3:16-17

Many Christian denominations focus primarily on water baptism. However, each type of baptism is important and has its particular purpose as explained in the following sections.

WATER BAPTISM – THE OLD PERSON IS BURIED

When a person gets saved (born again) by confession of faith and committing his life to Christ, then he can get water baptism. This is the biblical way:

"Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is water*; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him."
Acts 8:35-38

The eunuch learned he could not get water baptized until he received salvation by faith in Jesus. There are no verses in the Bible that show baptism is for babies or for non-repentant sinners.

The purpose of water baptism is for the "burial" of the old person we used to be and it signifies that we are dead to sin.

"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 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: 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."
Romans 6:1-4

To a certain degree, water baptism also results in deliverance from tormenting spirits, typified by Pharaoh's army.

"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; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; And did all eat the same spiritual meat; And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness."
1 Corinthians 10:1-5

"Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea... For the horse of Pharaoh went in with his chariots and with his horsemen into the sea, and the LORD brought again the waters of the sea upon them; but the children of Israel went on dry *land* in the midst of the sea." Exodus 15:1, 19

Tormenting spirits for the average Christian may be guilt, condemnation, or shame because of his past sinful life. Once the Christian is water baptized, the "old man" is buried and the enemy has no legal right to accuse the Christian. So, the Christian can make the enemy go away with his confession of faith: "I am no longer condemned because my life is for Jesus and I walk after the Spirit". (Rom. 8:1)
So, a type of deliverance has taken place for the Christian, by water baptism, and maintained by faith.



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HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM PART 1 – THE VESSEL IS CLEANED

When a person gets saved, the Holy Spirit comes to dwell in their spirit. In order to be God's child, you must have the Holy Spirit dwelling in you as a result of salvation; otherwise, the unsaved person is an orphan with no spiritual father except for the devil (see verse in blue below). When religious leaders say "we are all God's children" this is another example of false doctrine.

"Then said Jesus to them again, **Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.** And when he had said this, he breathed on *them*, and saith unto them, **Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.**" John 20:21-23

"But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. **Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.** And if Christ be in you, the body *is* dead because of sin; but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." Romans 8:9-11

"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:" Romans 8:16

The initial indwelling of the Holy Spirit when a person gets saved is for the purpose of God claiming ownership of the orphan by bringing his spirit to life and cleansing away his sins by the blood of Jesus so that he can be a clean vessel.

"For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father." Romans 8:15

"Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17

"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." 2 Corinthians 4:7

The Bible describes the presence of the Holy Spirit within us as a type of down payment (earnest money). This small taste of glory will become the fullness of the glory of God's presence when we get to heaven.

"...after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory." Ephesians 1:13-14

Certain Christian denominations teach that a person is saved by water baptism. As previously discussed, this is false doctrine because the purpose of water baptism is for the burial of the old sinner we used to be before we got saved and received salvation by Holy Spirit baptism. The false doctrine comes from a misinterpretation of the following verse:

"And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.**" Mark 16:15-16

This verse is talking about spiritual baptism, not water baptism. A person believes in Jesus as his Lord and Savior and instantly receives a spiritual baptism by the Holy Spirit which washes the person's sins away. THEN the new believer is eligible for water baptism to officially bury the old sinful nature.

Here is a verse from the book of Acts where the Gentiles first became believers in the gospel, then received Holy Spirit baptism, and afterwards they received water baptism.

"While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. 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. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days." Acts 10:44-48



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In the verses below one of the thieves on the cross believes in Jesus and confesses Him as Lord (gets saved), then passes away without water baptism but goes onto paradise with Jesus:

“And with him they crucify two thieves; the one on his right hand, and the other on his left.”
Mark 15:27

“And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.”
Luke 23:39-43

Religious denominations try to explain this by saying that the thief was under the “law of Moses” and so he already had salvation without Jesus. This is ridiculous! The reason the two thieves were hanging on the cross is because THEY BROKE THE LAW OF MOSES (thou shalt not steal) and by the law they had lost their “salvation” and were sentenced to death.

We see below that Jesus had his disciples performing water baptism but Jesus himself did not perform water baptism because He represents the spiritual baptism.

“When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John, (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)”
John 4:1-2

“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.”
1 Corinthians 12:13

HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM PART 2 – THE VESSEL IS FILLED

The second part of Holy Spirit baptism takes place when a believer gets full of the Holy Spirit. It is often called the “baptism of the Holy Spirit” and the manifestation of it is the gifts of the Spirit such as tongues, word of knowledge, and/or prophesying. This results in the believer having more power to resist sin and temptation and to spread the gospel with boldness.

“And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”
Acts 1:4-8

“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” Acts 2:1-4

“And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.”
Acts 4:31

“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.”
1 Corinthians 12:7-11



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Christians who receive this baptism are capable of being “filled” with the Holy Spirit whenever it suits the Lord, such as Stephen the martyr, who was God’s witness to those who were about to stone him.

“When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with *their* teeth. But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.”
Acts 7:54-56

The apostle Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, stood before religious leaders and confessed Jesus.

“And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this? Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, *even* by him doth this man stand here before you whole. This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.”
Acts 4:7-11

The apostle Paul was filled with the Holy Spirit as he stood before the devil’s servant and pronounced judgment upon him.

“But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. Then Saul, (who also *is called* Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, And said, O full of all subtlety and all mischief, *thou* child of the devil, *thou* enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord *is* upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.”
Acts 13:8-11

The pattern of these verses illustrates that when the devil raises up opposition, the Lord will fill up the believer with Holy Spirit power, typically in front of witnesses and the victory is won.

BAPTISM OF FIRE – THE VESSEL IS TESTED

It is our destiny as Christians to go through trial and tribulation in order that our faith be tested. The growth of our faith and the development of our character is what God is after. It is His will to prosper us. We get tested and our reward is faith because our faith is spiritual gold. First the suffering then the glory. If we fall into sin and unforgiveness or do what God told us not to do, the devil will put more suffering on us than what we would ordinarily go through if we had obeyed the leading of the Holy Spirit. Beware of religious doctrine that promotes self-punishment, such as walking on your knees, or punishing yourself during lent, or repeating a certain number of prayers for penance. This is blasphemy because it says that the blood sacrifice of Jesus on the cross was not enough to pay for your sin!

“Confirming the souls of the disciples, *and* exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.”
Acts 14:22

“Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ’s sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy *are ye*; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.”
1 Peter 4:12-14

“Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls *to him* in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.”
1 Peter 4:19

“And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, **Sit ye here, while I shall pray**. And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy; And saith unto them, **My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch**. And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said, **Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.**”

Mark 14:32-36



FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINES OF CHRISTIANITY

BAPTISM SUMMARY

Comparing the three baptisms with the feasts is an important illustration of the phases of Christian life.

Water Baptism

Our “old man” is buried. Our identity is no longer our former sinful self.

(Feast of Unleavened Bread – Passover)

Jesus takes on the sin of the world, dies, and is laid in the tomb.

Holy Spirit Baptism – Part 1

Our dead spirit comes to life when we get saved (born again / born spiritually)

and the Holy Spirit comes to live inside our spirit because we are the Lord’s.

(Feast of First Fruits – Resurrection Offering unto the Lord)

Jesus is resurrected back to life by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit Baptism – Part 2

We get filled with the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Spirit become manifest.

We now have extra power against sin and temptation.

(Feast of Weeks – Pentecost)

God pours out His Spirit and the disciples are filled with the Holy Ghost and begin speaking in tongues and now have the power to go forth into the “fire”.

Fire Baptism

The trials and tribulations in our Christian walk provide the opportunity for our faith to grow, for God’s work to be accomplished, for miracles to happen, and for His Name to be glorified.

(Feast of Tabernacles – the Presence and Glory of God)

The disciples go forth empowered by the Holy Spirit and experience trial, tribulation, and victory. Ultimately, many of the disciples are martyred for their faith in Jesus.

We see the pattern of baptisms in the verses below concerning Jesus.

“Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, **Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness.** Then he suffered him. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased... Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.”
Matthew 3:13-17, 4:1-3

We also see the chronological order of the Holy Spirit poured out in the last days: the latter rain, the fruit, then blood / fire / vapor of smoke, and finally the great day of the Lord.

“Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.”
James 5:7-8

“But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is *but* the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.
Acts 2:14-21



FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINES OF CHRISTIANITY

4. LAYING ON OF HANDS

There are four functions of the doctrine of the laying on of hands: for healing ministry, for impartation of the Holy Spirit, for the ordination of believers as they are sent forth into their calling, and for issues of spiritual warfare.

The following verses are examples of the use of the hands during healing ministry.

“And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name... they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.”
Mark 16:17-18

“Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.”
James 5:14-15

“And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto them, **Believe ye that I am able to do this?** They said unto him, Yea, Lord. Then touched he their eyes, saying, **According to your faith be it unto you.** And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straitly charged them, saying, **See that no man know it.**”
Matthew 9:28-30

In addition to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the impartation of the Holy Spirit (otherwise known as Holy Spirit Baptism - Part 2) can occur with the laying on of hands by those who have the Holy Spirit.

“Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.”
Acts 8:14-17

The verse below is likely in reference to both healing and Holy Spirit signs and wonders.

“Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands. But the multitude of the city was divided: and part held with the Jews, and part with the apostles.”
Acts 14:3-4

The following verses show the use of the hands for the ordination of believers as they are recognized in their calling and sent forth in their calling. The calling of God is a gift from the Lord. The spiritual leadership (presbytery), whether in a church or a home fellowship, recognizes in a believer the calling of God such as evangelist, prophet, missionary, etc. because the believer has been operating in that calling. The presbytery officially confirms the calling during an assembly with the laying on of hands which is a spiritual impartation. Then the believer may also be sent forth into that calling such as Barnabas and Saul were sent forth. Sometimes the recognition of a person's calling can take place when the Holy Spirit gives someone, such as a prophet, a word of knowledge about the person and the prophet lays hand on the believer and confirms to the assembly what the calling of God is for the person.

“As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.”
Acts 13:2-4

“Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.”
1 Timothy 4:14

“Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.”
2 Timothy 1:6



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The fourth type of laying on of hands concerns issues of spiritual warfare, such as when Jesus was arrested, or when during a prayer or deliverance session sometimes the person is not to be touched. For example, when the spirit of lust is being cast out, typically the minister is not to touch the person.

“And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and elders of the people. Now he that betrayed him gave them a sign, saying, Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is he: hold him fast. And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, master; and kissed him. And Jesus said unto him, **Friend, wherefore art thou come?** Then came they, and **laid hands on Jesus**, and took him.”
Matthew 26:47-50

“**Lay hands suddenly on no man**, neither be partaker of other men’s sins: keep thyself pure.”
1 Timothy 5:22

5. RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

A fundamental doctrine of Christianity is that Jesus is risen from the dead. Without His resurrection, there is no Christian faith and no victory over sin and death.

“Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then *is* our preaching vain, and your faith *is* also vain.”
1 Corinthians 15:12-14

“And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen...”
Matthew 28:5-6

“**I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.**”
Revelation 1:18

Jesus was raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit and it is this power that makes resurrection possible. Otherwise, the body without the Holy Spirit is dead.

“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”
Romans 8:11

“For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” James 2:26

Because of the Lord’s victory over death, the followers of Jesus also have the authority to raise the dead and we are commanded to do so. There are ministries today that are raising the dead such as Freedom Ministries with David Hogan.

“**And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead...**”
Matthew 10:7-8

“And when Jesus came into the ruler’s house, and saw the minstrels and the people making a noise, He said unto them, **Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth.** And they laughed him to scorn. But when the people were put forth, he went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose. And the fame hereof went abroad into all that land.”
Matthew 9:23-26

When Jesus rose from the dead He became immortal. So too did His believers rise from the dead immortal and ascend with Him to heaven, on the Feast of Firstfruits.

“And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.”
Matthew 27:52-53

“But now is Christ risen from the dead, *and* become the firstfruits of them that slept.”
1 Corinthians 15:20

Those who “slept” are the saints of God who passed away and are planted in the ground like seed until they “spring forth” like a new crop for the harvest. There can be no resurrection without a dead body.



FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINES OF CHRISTIANITY

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.”
John 12:24

“⁷Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.”
Ecclesiastes 12:7

All people are created with a spirit, soul, and body. The spirit and soul are eternal and it is the physical body that dies and is sown (buried). The spirit is a body that operates in the spiritual world and the soul is our mind, will, intellect, emotion, and/or personality.

“And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
1 Thessalonians 5:23

“It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.”
1 Corinthians 15:44

At death, those who are **saved** will have their spirit and soul depart their body and enter into heaven.

“We are confident, *I say*, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.”
2 Corinthians 5:8

At the resurrection, the spirit and soul are reunited with the body and the result is a glorified body that is immortal. For believers in Jesus who have passed away, the Bible uses the terminology of “sleep” to describe the physical body in the ground that will one day awaken at the resurrection.

“So also *is* the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power: It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body...”
1 Corinthians 15:42-44

“Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory? The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law. But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
1 Corinthians 15:51-57

“But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.”
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Very few Christians realize that the resurrection comes in three parts:

“For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order:

- 1.) Christ the firstfruits;
- 2.) afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.
- 3.) Then *cometh* the end,

...when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy *that* shall be destroyed *is* death.”
1 Corinthians 15:22-26

Resurrection Part 1 took place 2000 years ago when Jesus arose from the grave (Matt. 27:52-53).

Part 2 will take place just prior to the 3½ year Great Tribulation (Rev. 4:1, Rev. 12:5).

Part 3 will take place at the end of the Great Tribulation and will also have the remaining believers who are still alive caught up with the Lord (1 Thess. 4:16-17, Rev. 10:7, Rev. 11:15, Rev. 16:15-17).



FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINES OF CHRISTIANITY

6. ETERNAL JUDGMENT

God's judgment is eternal. He does not make mistakes nor does He make temporary judgments. His judgment is the final say or final decision concerning a person. Where do they stand with God?

"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" Hebrews 9:27

Judgment can be upon one individual or upon a group of people.

For individuals at the time of death, if a person is a believer in Jesus, he is with the Lord; otherwise, nonbelievers will be in hell.

"For to me to live *is* Christ, and *to die is gain*. But if I live in the flesh, this *is* the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not. For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:"
Philippians 1:21-23

"*And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.*"
Luke 16:22-23

A judgment that takes place upon a group of people begins at either the resurrection of the just (saved) or the resurrection of the unjust (unsaved).

"And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust." Acts 24:15

Here are scriptures concerning the judgment that takes place at the resurrection of the just and it is called the judgment seat of Christ.

"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences."
2 Corinthians 5:10-11

"But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in *his* brother's way."
Romans 14:10-12

There is a doctrine among some denominations and it is called "once saved, always saved". Some of these people believe that because they are saved, they have a green light to sin if they want to. The Bible says different. If a "believer" is caught in sin when the Lord shows up he will not escape judgment.

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."
Galatians 6:7-8

"...*Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom *his* lord shall make ruler over his household, to give *them* *their* portion of meat in due season? Blessed *is* that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath. But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken; The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for *him*, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers. And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not *himself*, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many *stripes*. But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few *stripes*. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more."*

Luke 12:42-48



FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINES OF CHRISTIANITY

Today there are church leaders and ministers who are involved in sin such as pornography, fornication, and other sin. The believer cannot think that he can do works for the Lord and also live a life of sin.

“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. 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? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”
Matthew 7:21-23

“Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents. Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.”
1 Corinthians 10:6-10

Neither should the believer think that he can be involved with secret societies such as the freemasons and expect God to be okay with it.

“Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord’s table, and of the table of devils.”
1 Corinthians 10:21

“Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing...*”
2 Corinthians 6:17

At the resurrection of the unjust, which takes place after Christ’s 1000-year reign on earth, the great white throne judgment will take place and unbelievers will receive their eternal sentence. Those who were in hell shall now be cast into a lake of fire; called the second death because it is a spiritual death.

“And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book of life*: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”
Revelation 20:11-15

“Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: For I was an hungered, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did *it* not to one of the least of these, ye did *it* not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”
Matthew 25:41-46

“So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just, And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”
Matthew 13:49-50

Let this teaching of eternal judgment be a strong admonition to every believer in Jesus Christ to walk worthy of their salvation, in love and forgiveness. Behold, Jesus is coming with His rewards for those who will be faithful. He loves us and wants all of us to be saved (1 Tim. 2:4). Jesus desire is for us to look forward to His coming with joy and confidence and not with dread. We are able!

“Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.”
Hebrews 10:35-37

“And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.”
Revelation 22:12



FUNDAMENTAL DOCTRINES OF CHRISTIANITY

IN CLOSING

According to Hebrews 6:1-3, the six fundamental doctrines are:

...**repentance from dead works,**
...**faith toward God,**
...**doctrine of baptisms,**
...**laying on of hands,**
...**resurrection of the dead,**
...**eternal judgment.**

Because of its four parts, the doctrine of baptisms appears to have the most inconsistent understanding among the different Christian denominations today. Thus, a summary of baptism is presented again to help with understanding. Below is its chronological order and the word “vessel” symbolically represents a person:

- 0.) The vessel is unclean and needs spiritual cleansing of sin – the state of a person before they are saved.
- 1.) The vessel is cleansed with spiritual water (**Holy Spirit Baptism part 1**) – the person confesses their sin and receives Jesus as their Lord and Savior, by faith. The blood of Jesus washes away their sin and they are now saved. The person follows Jesus for the rest of their life and serves Him.
- 2.) The old vessel is buried (**Water Baptism**) – the person participates in a physical water baptism to symbolically establish that their identity is no longer the old person they used to be.
- 3.) The vessel is filled with spiritual water (**Holy Spirit Baptism part 2**) – the person receives the baptism of the Holy Spirit in full measure and receives the gifts of the Holy Spirit and has power over sin.
- 4.) The vessel is tested (**Baptism of Fire**) – the person’s faith is tested by trials and tribulation in order for their faith to grow and for the works of God to multiply.

The reason God wrote the Bible* is so that we can know the truth. Regardless of what church or denomination you are in, you must check their beliefs with what the Bible says. The sinful nature of man corrupts the truth. Money has been made and personal kingdoms built because of the use of false doctrine by ambitious men. If you believe too much false doctrine, it could be spiritually disastrous. For example, if a person thought that they were saved because they got baptized when they were a baby and never pursued the opportunity to receive salvation according to the Bible (Romans 10:9-10) then they would die a lost sinner and be tormented in hell. If you have read this entire teaching and are beginning to understand the principles of the doctrine of Christ, then you are being grounded and established in the truth and prepared for the work of God’s Kingdom!

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

John 8:32

“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”

John 14:6

*The King James Version is the most accurate English translation of the Bible, see Gail Riplinger's book: New Age Versions

