Issues Concerning Baptism

Reading - 1 Corinthians 1:11-17

**1. JESUS WASN'T BAPTIZED FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS!**

We can agree that Jesus was not baptized for the remission of His sins, for indeed He had no sin (Hebrews 4:15).

Why was Jesus baptized anyway? [John 1:29-34] John the Baptist told why he baptized Jesus...***The next day John sees Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world. This is he of whom I said, After me comes a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me. And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water. 32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizes with the Holy Ghost. 34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.***

**2. THE BLOOD OF CHRIST REMITS OUR SINS, NOT BAPTISM! *[Matthew 26:28] For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.***

[Acts 2:38] ***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.***

If we can't believe Peter in [Acts 2:38] when he said baptism was for the remission of sins, why would we believe Jesus when He used the same words to say His blood was shed for the remission of sins?

Quote: G.R. Beasley-Murray, Principal of Spurgeon's College in London, later Senior Professor at Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, KY, “Baptism In The New Testament”. “**Peter's response, however, to the cry of his conscience stricken hearers on the Day of Pentecost was not "Repent and believe" but "Repent and BE BAPTIZED"! (Ac 2.38). Naturally faith was presumed in repentance, but Peter's answer told the Jews how to become Christians: faith and repentance are to be expressed in baptism. (page 393)”**

**3. BAPTISM IS A WORK, AND WE'RE NOT SAVED BY WORKS**

***(Romans 10:9-10) That if thou shalt confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. {10} For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.***

Similarly, **faith** itself is a **work**, for [John 6:28-29] says: ***Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? {29} Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he has sent.***

If works have nothing to do with our salvation, then faith also has nothing to do with the salvation of a person!

**4. PAUL SAID CHRIST DIDN'T SEND HIM TO BAPTIZE**

In this passage, Paul mentioned that he learned they were divided over the preacher who **baptized** them. In this context, Paul said he was glad he hadn't baptized any more of them than he had.

Paul's work in Corinth in ***(Acts 18:8) And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized***

Example of an ellipsis: ***(1 Peter 3:3-4) Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; {4} But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.***

**5. WHAT ABOUT THE THIEF ON THE CROSS?**

**How do you know the thief on the cross wasn't baptized?** ***(Matthew 3:1-6) In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, {2} And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.... {5} Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judea, and all the region round about Jordan, {6} And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.***

Christ hadn't commanded anyone in the world to be baptized in His name at the time He was crucified. ***Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins. [Acts 2:38]***

Likewise, the thief on the cross lived under the Law of Moses. He was not under the covenant you and I are subject to, for Christ's covenant didn't go into effect until He died. [Hebrews 9:16-17].

**6. More than one citation.**

1. Acts 2:38 still teaches baptism is for the remission of sins:

2. ***Acts 22:16*** still teaches: ***And now why do you tarry? arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord***.

3. ***Mark 16:16*** still teaches: ***He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believes not shall be damned.***

4. ***1 Corinthians 12:13*** still teaches: ***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.***

5. ***Galatians 3:27*** still teaches: ***For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.***

6. ***Romans 6:3-4 still teaches: 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.***

7. ***Colossians 2:12-13*** still teaches: [we are] ***Buried with him in baptism, herein also ye are risen with [him] through the faith of the operation of God, who has raised him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, has he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses.***

8. ***1 Peter 3:21*** still teaches: ***The like figure whereunto [even] baptism does 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:***