

104.20. BAPTISM & ALL THINGS, IN JESUS NAME?

While reading through what God has given me to share here; I would suggest that you start with prayer, asking God to give you a discerning mind, to be able to study, test & prove His word & too have the wisdom, strength & courage to change, any learned beliefs, or traditions which you may have heard, or believed based on who taught it to you, without implementing God's command of testing all that we are taught, before just believing, because even religious leaders are fallible & whether you want to believe it, as God does, or not, they could be teaching doctrine, they did not test, even if unintentionally, which is why we turn everything over to God & search & test what He tells each of us. Everybody believes their own learned "truths", just as they learned & believed them, but some of them, as all are not in harmony, by default have to be wrong; Why couldn't it be yours? Just because it aint? You are investing & betting your eternal life on someone else's learned & taught beliefs, isn't that worth some extra precaution & testing here?

God wants us all to test & prove His every word, with an open willing mind & He doesn't need, or want anyone to argue for Him, which is surely not my intent here. My intent is to listen to what He tells me; to search it, study it, prove it & pass it on, regardless of how much of my past belief system that it dismantles, as we either want God's truth, or become content with Man's teachings, inferences & traditions? It's up to us to find the truth.

Peter replied, repent & be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus, eis the forgiveness of your sins (eis =for, in Greek) & you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, Acts 2:38.

The key to studying translations is to remove all of any men's inferences & your unproven learned beliefs & to understand verses in context with all scripture. e.g., this verse does not say that we must be baptized to be saved, it says that we should repent & get baptized, as Jesus has already paid for & forgiven our sins. He's only being crucified once & now He awaits our part; which is obedience through repentance & baptism, as faith in Grace, is the key to salvation & is found through repentance.

The Greek word eis, is used a great many times in the NT & is translated different ways & like the word "for" can have different meanings, the word eis in Acts 2:38 can be translated "because of" or "in view of". As seen in Matthew 12:41 where, eis, is the result of an action, as the people of Nineveh "repented eis the preaching of Jonah" (eis= at). the meaning of this passage is they repented "because of" or "as the result of" Jonah.

So, Acts 2:38 can say they were baptized, as a result of, or because they already believed & received forgiveness, John 1:12; Like in Peter's next 2 sermons, where he puts the forgiveness of sins with the act of repentance & faith in Christ without mentioning baptism, Acts 3:17-26; Acts 4:8-12.

The Greek word eis, is also used with the word baptism in Matthew 3:11, baptize eis repentance (eis=for), for does not mean, in order to get repentance; but were baptized for they had repented. Romans 6:3, says baptized eis His death (eis= into), i.e. because of His death. 1 Corinthians 10:2 baptized eis/into Moses, does not mean the Israelites were baptized in order to get Moses as a leader, but because he was their leader.

So, in Acts 2:38 they should be baptized, because they had received forgiveness. There are also many other verses showing that "eis" does not mean to get something.

Also, with the sentence structure going from 2nd person plural to 3rd person singular & back, connects forgiveness of sins, with the command to repent. Which says you (plural) repent, for the forgiveness of your (plural) sins & let each one (singular) of you be baptized (singular). So, you all repent for the forgiveness of your sins & let each be baptized.

There is also a difference between a condition of salvation & a requirement. The Bible is clear that belief is a condition & a requirement, but baptism, as important as it is, is not. The Bible does not say that if a man is not baptized, that he will not be saved. One can add conditions to faith & still be saved.

Errors can occur when one assumes added conditions, e.g., baptism, going to church, giving to poor etc. are required, as they may be evidence of salvation, but are not required for it.

Mark 16:16; Whoever believes & is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned, which is true on its own merits; but we are not to add that you must be baptized to be saved, as it does not say that. It says that if you believe & are baptized you will be saved & if you believe & are not baptized you will be saved & if you believe & eat cake you will be saved & if you believe & ? add what you wish, as if you believe, you will be saved & if you don't believe you will not. It shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved, Acts 2:21. So baptism, though very important, is not required to receive forgiveness, Acts 10:43, as seen when Peter tells Cornelius that through Jesus' name, all who believe in Him, receives forgiveness of sins & having believed Peter's message, the Holy spirit fell upon all listening, Acts 10:44. After they believed & received forgiveness & the Holy Spirit,

Cornelius & his family were baptized, Acts 10:47-48. So, they received forgiveness & the Holy Spirit & then were baptized.

Baptism is important, as a public declaration of one's faith in Christ & showing that one has been justified, but it is not the means of forgiveness.

The Bible is clear that we are saved, by Grace alone, through Faith alone, in Christ alone.

Part of what God has said to me about Matthew 28:19, is be discerning & be careful, as sometimes people do play with words for their own purpose? But there is no proof of this verse being original text, or manipulated; so study, pray, go to God & go from there? This verse is believed by many to have been rewritten centuries after Jesus, as it contradicts the clear teaching that baptizing is to be done in the name of Jesus, by adding in the name of the Father, Son & Holy ghost, of which we know of nowhere where the Apostles ever baptized this way, but always, in the name of the Jesus, as found in the books of; Acts, Romans, Corinthians, Galatians & Colossians. There is no place in original Bible texts where anyone was ever baptized in the name of the Father, the Son & the spirit? & doesn't rightly fit with other teachings? As all ancient writings say that baptism was in the name of Jesus, until this new baptismal formula came about in the later churches. It claims this as an updated version, of salvation? but my God does not get updated, or change to fit man's needs, as He is the same yesterday, today & tomorrow, as One true God, whose Son & One true Christ, is working through the spirit of His & our Father to offer salvation to all, in His name alone.

This supposed “trinity exposing baptismal formula” of Matthew 28:19, was used by the dominating influence of the later church, to support a trinity, that is mentioned nowhere in God’s word.

Read carefully, as even if it were God’s unaltered word, that instructed that we were to baptize in the name of the Father, Son & Holy ghost, that still in no way supports, or says anything about a trinity, without man’s inferences & additions, which God forbids. Also, if trinity believers, believe that God is God, Jesus is God, the spirit is God, are they baptizing in the name of God & God & God?

If God had considered something as important as a trinity, as part of His doctrine, He surely would have mentioned & explained it, or do you believe He is a God of confusion? as that’s what trinity doctrine is & it has confused the church for centuries now? It has twisted God’s truth about Himself, as it makes no sense, contradicts itself & leaves many places open for man to fill in, with His inferences, of what it is & how God works, according to religious leaders?

There is but One God, who is much bigger than any trinity & one Son, who inherited all the power & character of His Father God, so that when you see Him, in Essence we are seeing all the Glory & power of God the Father & His spirit that dwells within Him & all who accept Him, but you are not seeing God All Mighty, as God said any who sees Him will die, so you are seeing the Son & Christ filled with God’s spirit, sent by God.

This is why God says that we are not to just sit back & be told by the religious leaders what to believe, but are to test & prove all things, as He knew that even biblical & religious manuscripts are not protected from man’s ego, pride, greed & dominating influence, as He says scripture was inspired by God, but doesn’t say that it wasn’t tampered with by man &

when a verse like Mathew 28:19 contradicts all others, then we need to question, investigate, test & prove, or disprove its authenticity.

As God's children we know the true inspired meaning of Matthew 28:18-19, as Jesus came & spoke to them, saying; All authority has been given to Me in Heaven & on earth. Go therefore & make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in my name. Since all authority has been given to the Son, by His Father God, baptizing should be done in His name & in His name only, as commanded by Him, in all other baptism versus.

A great many baptisms, healings & miracles were done in Jesus' name & by faith in His name people were healed, Acts 3:1, as Jesus said whatever you ask in My name, that will I do? Paul told the church; whatever you do, in word, or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him, Col. 3:17.

This does not mean that asking in His name is a magic key. "In Jesus name" is not some mystical code for getting our prayer answered. "In Jesus name" is a humble admission that our requests come through Christ alone, to God the Father. Asking "in Jesus name" says that we know that we cannot fulfill our requests; so we ask through Christ. You have not because you ask not; You ask & do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures, James 4:3.

We should be using, "In Jesus Name" in every interaction & in every part of our day & life, as this respect & reverence asks by Jesus will, for His glory & in His power. We should think of every interaction as done in Jesus' name, as an offering to Him, as we live for an audience of one; whatever we do, we do it from the heart, Colossian 3:23 & for the Lord alone, knowing that our reward is from the Lord.

We need to be serving our Lord Jesus, every second of every day. Everything we do, every step we take, every word we say, should be thought of as an offering to Jesus first, as it should also be coming from Him, who lives through us in the first place. When we are responding properly, without reacting, to a person that has upset us, we should respond, as responding to Jesus & from Jesus. We may feel like that person doesn't deserve love, patience, or kindness, but Jesus says they do & what we do to them, we do to Him. As you work, you are doing it as an offering to Christ, even when you don't feel appreciated, do it as if it were for Christ, as Jesus deserves your best, treat coworkers with compassion & generosity, not because of who they are, but because of who Jesus is, as we're all servants of the same Master & what you do to them, you do to Jesus, Matt 25:40.

When responding to a spouse, you are responding to a gift from Jesus, as He is the one that allowed you to have loved ones, you may not feel like your spouse deserves a kind response, but Jesus does & wants you to be kind, because of who He is within you, not because of who you, or they are, or if they deserve it or not, because He does deserve our best. Parents are not perfect, but they are God-appointed & how you respect & respond to them is how you respect & respond to Jesus, children do not belong to you; they have been entrusted to you by God, who intends that you show & teach them patience, respect & love, like God has shown you.

So again, whatever you do, do everything that you do for the glory of God. 1 Cor. 10:31, who gave you the ability to be kind & loving & who puts people in your life for Him to use these abilities on. We are to seek & use God's will in all we do, as Jesus said seek the Father's glory & will

& even when we pray, we must believe that God the Father will grant our requests. I say to you, all things for which you pray & ask, believe that you have received them & they will be granted you, Mark 11:24. But you must ask in faith without doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven & tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect to receive anything from the Lord, being doubleminded man & unstable, James 1:6-8. We understand that our prayers should seek to glorify God & be according to His will & we must believe that He is a loving God who wants to & is able to grant all our requests, as He can & will, when they match His will.

God truly knows what we need & what we don't need & will not answer prayers, for things that He can see, that would cause harm down the road.

Remember we only know what we think we want & need, at this moment, but He sees our future & knows what we need, to complete us, down the road, as He don't just see us in the now, He sees us in our future & in our completion; so be patient, with the one who sees & knows what is best for you, even when we don't see it.