

January 2002

## DO YOU NEED TO BE RE-BAPTIZED?

By Mark Legendre

In Acts 19:1-7 we read about a group of disciples that were re-baptized by the Apostle Paul. They had been "**baptized unto John's baptism**" already, but apparently this baptism was no longer valid after "**baptism into Christ for the remission of sins**" went into effect on the day of Pentecost. (Acts 2:38) Either these disciples had been baptized unto John's baptism after the day of Pentecost, or it was necessary to re-baptize every person who had only been baptized unto John's baptism. In either case they needed to be baptized again.

**WHAT ABOUT YOU?** Do you perhaps need to be re-baptized? If you had water sprinkled or poured on you for baptism, then you need to be baptized again. Baptism in the Bible is "**by immersion only!**" (Rom. 6:3-4/Jn. 3:23/Col. 2:12) If you were baptized believing that you were already saved, then you need to be baptized again because baptism in the Bible is "**in order to be saved.**" (Mk. 16:16/1 Pet. 3:18) If you were baptized when you were just a baby, then you need to be baptized again. Babies are not proper candidates for baptism, for they "**cannot believe in Jesus, they have no sins to repent of, they cannot speak to confess Christ, and have no sins that need to be washed away!**" (Jn. 8:24/Lk. 13:3/Mt. 10:32/Acts 22:16)

Since we must "**do all things in the name of Jesus Christ?**" (Col. 3:17), and that means "**by His authority**", we must also baptize according to what the scriptures teach. Baptism must be "**the right person (an accountable adult), the right reason (for the remission of sins/in order to be saved), and the right method (immersion).**" Then and only then can you say that you have been truly baptized and then and only then can you say that you have been saved!

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## ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S BIBLE QUESTIONS:

The two names given in the Bible for the place where Jesus was crucified are (1) Golgotha, which means "*the place of a skull*", and (2) Calvary. (Luke 23:33/Matthew 27:33)

The man that Paul and Barnabas had a dispute over was John Mark. Paul did not want to take Mark with them on their preaching journey because he had left them once before. Paul ended up taking Silas with him and Barnabas took Mark with him. (Acts 15:36-41)

## QUESTIONS FOR THIS MONTH:

What was the name of the couple that Paul met and stayed with when he came to Corinth? (What was the occupation that they had in common?)

What is the name of the king spoken of by Isaiah the prophet who would be raised up by God to let Israel return from the Babylonian captivity and rebuild the city of Jerusalem?

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### **WHAT WE UNDERSTAND THROUGH FAITH!**

By Mark Legendre

In Hebrews 11:3 we read the following: ***"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."*** It is through faith that we understand that God created this universe in which we live. But this belief is not without evidence, for the universe in which we live cries out of God's existence. Psalms 19:1 says ***"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows His handiwork."*** We further read in Hebrews 3:4 the following: ***"For every house is built by some man; but He that built all things is God."***

Common sense tells us that this universe didn't just come into existence through a chain of ***"accidental occurrences"***, but through the ***"wise planning of the eternal and all-powerful God."*** This is the clear teaching of Romans 1:18-20 which says ***"?For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."*** Clearly therefore it is only the ***"?fool who says in his heart, There is no God."*** (Psalms 14:1)

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Our new Bible classes have just gotten under way. We would like to encourage faithful participation on the part of all the members of this congregation in these classes. They are an important part of ***"bringing up our children in the nurture and admonition of the of Lord."*** (Ephesians 6:4)

Please continue to remember all of our sick in your prayers. And remember to pray for the spiritual health and growth of our congregation as well.