

WORLD VIDEO BIBLE SCHOOL

Fundamentals of the Faith

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LESSON #20 — HOW DOES ONE CONTACT JESUS' BLOOD (PART 2)

How is it that we express our faith in such a way that we can contact the precious soul-cleansing blood of Christ. And to help us do that, we're going to illustrate from the Scriptures using a chart, portraying some important Scriptures on this subject. We want to go to that chart now and begin our study of this vitally important subject: How do we contact the cleansing blood of Jesus?

I'd like to give you a few words of explanation about our chart before we go in and look into the Scriptures on here in detail. We've entitled this chart, "The Great Commission," that is, the Great Commission which was given by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, before He left this earth, before He ascended back into heaven. We've also mentioned the fact that this is a parallel of the Gospel accounts. We find in Acts chapter 1, verse 2, that Luke said that he began to make a record of all things that Jesus did and taught. And that's what we want to look at.

And we need to keep in mind Luke chapter 19, verse 10, where our Lord said that He "came to seek and save that which was lost." He came to provide salvation to mankind who was lost in our sins. And Matthew chapter 1, verse 21, he would be called Jesus because He saved His people from [their] sins.

Now, we divided this chart into three major parts. The top section of the chart is the command as given by Jesus, the Christ, our Lord and our Savior. And we're going to go to the different accounts of the gospel and see the things that Jesus said on this subject, then we're going to combine them to get the combined teaching of the Lord on salvation in this particular respect. Then we'll go to the second part of our chart where we'll show that the Lord not only gave the command, but He promised the apostles the power to do what He said. And then thirdly, we'll study that the apostles and prophets did exactly what Jesus commanded them to do. And to do that, we'll look at the book of Acts, the history book of the New Testament, to look at each of the accounts of conversion shown in that wonderful history book, and learn what they did in response to the command of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Now, the first passage that we want to look at, is found in the book of Matthew, in Matthew, the 28th chapter, verse 18, and verse 19. We'll read that, and then we'll go back to our chart, and we'll notice what the Lord said and put it up, or see how it's portrayed on that chart. Matthew 28, verse 18, and verse 19. "Then Jesus came and spoke to them saying, 'All authority has been given to me, in heaven, and on earth. Go therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.'" So here's one account of what the Lord said on this subject.

Let's go to our chart and notice the key points that are found in these two verses, in Matthew's account of the gospel. We've seen Matthew chapter 28, verse 18, and 19. What did Jesus say? He said, "Go make disciples" or, "teach all nations." And he said, "Baptizing them."

Once those who have heard the gospel and are ready to obey the gospel, baptize them into the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit. And then He said, "Teaching them, teaching them to observe all things commanded by me." So there's Matthew's account of the gospel, as preached by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Go teach, baptize, and teach.

Now, let's look at Mark's account of the Great Commission, if you will, and that's found in the 16th chapter of the book of Mark. Mark chapter 16, verse 15, and 16. Mark 16, verse 15, and 16. "And he said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned.'" There's the record as given by Mark in Mark chapter 16, verse 15, and 16. Now let's go to the chart and notice what the Lord said. Mark 16:15-16. "The Lord said, 'You go preach the gospel and preach it to every creature under heaven. He who believes'" — there we see the importance of faith that we've talked about. But notice also that the Lord said, "and is baptized," just as we saw in Matthew 28. Baptism is mentioned by the Lord in this account. And the Lord said, "He who believes and is baptized shall be saved." There's that key word that we've been looking for. Salvation is associated with belief and baptism in Mark chapter 16, verses 15 and 16.

Now let's go to Luke's account of the gospel. Luke chapter 24, verses 47-49. Luke chapter 24, verses 47-49. "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem, and you are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you, but tarry in the city of Jerusalem, until you are endued with power from on high." Now let's notice how Luke's account is portrayed on our chart. Luke chapter 24, verses 47-49, the Lord told his apostles to go into all nations and begin at Jerusalem. He told them that they should preach, they should preach a particular message. What did he call that message? He said repentance was necessary. Repentance is necessary to receive the forgiveness of our sins. And that would be the result of those obeying the gospel message, remission or forgiveness of sins.

So here we have Luke's account. We've seen Matthew and Mark's account. And Lord willing, when we continue our study next time, we will combine those three accounts of the gospel to get the total picture, if you will, what the Lord said on that subject, this subject of salvation. And that's the best way to determine God's will on this, as well as any other subject. Take all the passages that have to do with that subject, study them, and draw your conclusions.

Man's problem from the beginning, his sin, and God's solution for our sin, His abundant love, as embodied in His beloved Son, Jesus, the Christ. When we ended our class, last time, we were talking about: How is it that our faith is expressed in such a way that we contact the blood of Christ, and our sins are washed away, and we're saved as a result of that? And we introduced the thought of the chart that we were going to use to examine the Lord's teaching on this subject. And we looked at the accounts of the gospel found in Matthew, Mark, and Luke to determine the Lord's teaching. We went through and read each of those passages.

To begin our class today, we want to combine what the Lord said in those three accounts of the gospel, to get His teaching on this subject of salvation. So let's return to the chart. And let's look at the combination of all those teachings. Jesus said teach and preach the gospel to every creature who was under heaven. Then he said that belief was necessary, that we need

to believe in the Father and the Son and the salvation that is in Him. Repentance is also necessary. It is something that we must do. Repentance is a change of mind, that leads to a change in behavior. Then the Lord said it was necessary to be baptized. We saw that in Matthew, and in Mark's account of the Gospel. The result of doing those things, according to the Lord, is that we will be saved, we will receive the remission, or the forgiveness, of our sins. And then God said through His Son, that we should continue to teach those who are baptized, so that they may learn all the things that Jesus has commanded us to do. So there's the combination. There's the message that Jesus gave to His apostles, and said, "You go teach this."

Now, if those men were faithful to the Lord, and to His command, we would expect to find a record of that revealed in the rest of the Bible. Indeed, that's what we're going to find. We want to make one additional point concerning what the Lord said on this subject. It's not in Matthew, Mark, and Luke in those chapters that we indicated. But in Matthew chapter 10, verse 32 and 33, Jesus said, "He who confesses Me before men, I will confess before My Father, and he who denies Me before men, I will deny before My Father." So it's necessary for us to confess our belief in the Lord Jesus Christ as part of that process by which we contact the saving blood of Jesus.

But Jesus did not just give this commandment to His apostles, and leave them on their own, without the power to do what He commanded them. And that's the second section of our chart. We want to look at the fact that Jesus promised power to the apostles to do what He commanded them to do. Let's go to our chart and look at that. He said that He was going to, basically, send the Holy Spirit to them. And we're going to look at a series of passages, Luke 24:49, and several other passages, as you see on your screen at this particular time. We're going to look at those passages of Scripture and see what Jesus promised His apostles.

Let's begin with Luke chapter 24, verse 49, to see this promise of power. Luke chapter 24, verse 49. "Behold, I send the promise of the Father upon you, but tarry in the city of Jerusalem, until you are endued with power from on high." So Jesus said to the apostles, "I'm sending the promise, the promise of the Father to you, but you need to wait. You need to go in the city of Jerusalem, and you need to wait until you receive power from on high to do what I've commanded you to do." What would we expect to see? We would expect the apostles to go into Jerusalem and wait for this power.

But He also mentioned this in John's account of the gospel, in several passages of Scripture that we'd like to look at now. In John 14, verse 26, is the first verse that we want to study. John 14, verse 26. "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance that I said to you." Now, here, Jesus promised a Helper, a Comforter, to send to the apostles. The Holy Spirit would be sent to them. To do what, Jesus? He said, "To teach you all things, and to bring to remembrance all things that I said to you." Jesus wanted them to have the ability to, without error, without any compromise or change in any way, teach what He taught them while He was with them on the earth.

Then we turn over to the 15th chapter of the book of John. John 15, verse 26, and verse 27. Still speaking to his apostles, Jesus said, "But when the Helper comes, Whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me.

And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.” So Jesus again, talks about the Helper, the Comforter. The Father is going to send the Spirit in the name of, by the authority of, Jesus Christ. He is going to testify of Me. That is, the Holy Spirit was going to guide the apostles into the things that Jesus said, while He was here. And they were going to bear witness to Him. They had that ability because they had been with Him from the beginning. They had seen and heard what the Lord said, and the Holy Spirit was going to help them record that, and speak that, in a way that was without error, so all future generations could have that wonderful record.

And then in the 16th, chapter of John's account of the gospel, John 16, verse 13. “However, when He, the Spirit of truth has come, He will guide you into all truth, for He will not speak on His own authority. But whatever He hears, He will speak and He will tell you things to come.” So Jesus promised the apostles that the Holy Spirit would come to them, and would guide them into all truth. What is truth? Jesus said in John 17, verse 17, speaking to the Father, “Your Word is truth.” So Jesus was going to send the Holy Spirit, to guide the the apostles of Christ into all the truth, and He was going to teach them things that would come. Future things, He was going to give them the ability then, to prophesy, to predict, predict things in the future.

For the continuation of this thought, let's look in the book of Acts. In Acts chapter 1, verse 4, and verse 5. Acts 1, verse 4 and 5. “And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, ‘which,’ He said, ‘you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.’” Here, Jesus refers back to the promise that He had made to the apostles, as we saw in Luke 24:49. He said, “I'm going to send the promise of the Father to you.” But what was the promise, Jesus? Jesus said, “The promise is, you, the apostles are going to be baptized with the Holy Spirit. And it won't be very many days from the time that I'm speaking to you that this occurs.” So we should be looking for the fulfillment of the promise to the apostles in the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

And we see that thought in Acts chapter 1, verse 8, the eighth verse of this chapter. He said to them, still speaking to his apostles, “But you shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you. And you should be witnesses to Me, in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” So the Lord said, that the Holy Spirit would come. The power that He had talked about would come when the Holy Spirit came. So we have to look for the coming of the Holy Spirit on the apostles to know that Jesus did what he fulfilled.

And lo and behold, we turn our Bible to the next chapter of the book of Acts, in Acts chapter 2, and look at verses 1 through 4, and see what the Lord said there. “When the Day of Pentecost had 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 the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” Now there's the fulfillment of what the Lord had promised to those apostles. They were waiting in Jerusalem, just as Jesus commanded them to do. And He fulfilled the promise that He had made to them, that He would send the Holy

Spirit to them, to guide them into the truth, to help them remember all things that He said to them, to guide them into all the Word of God. And it happened, Just as he promised it would.

What would we expect to find happening next? Jesus gave them the command. He said, "I'm going to give you power to execute that command." We would expect them to do exactly what Jesus said. And that's what the history book of the New Testament is about: the book of Acts. It contains a record of what those faithful men did in response to the command of Jesus. We would expect them to be teaching the same thing that Jesus told them to teach, if they were faithful to Him. And that brings us to the next section of our chart.