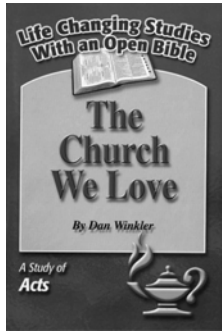


The Role of the Holy Spirit (in Acts)

Wednesday Night - Adult Bible Class, Instructor: Kanny Durr, Asst. Minister



- Directing
- Encouraging
- Convicting
- Building up
- Strengthening



Building a "Better Me" from the text (Page 19)

Compare the plan of Salvation in Acts 2 vs Acts 3.

Acts 2:47

- *46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.*

Building a "Better Me" from the text (Page 19)

UNSAVED

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CHURCH
Acts 2:47

God ADDS those who are saved to the CHURCH. Being saved and being in the church are the same thing.

Ephesians 5:23 - For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is Head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

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SAVED

CHURCH
Acts 2:47
Body of Christ
Eph 5:23

The church and the BODY OF CHRIST are the same thing. (Colossians 1:24)

Ephesians 1:7 - In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace⁸ which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence.

GRACE
Eph 1:7

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SAVED

CHURCH
Acts 2:47
Body of Christ
Eph 5:23

All men are under the GRACE of God. In Christ (i.e., His BODY) we have the forgiveness of sins, because of God's GRACE.

Ephesians 2:8 - ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and not of yourselves; it is a gift of God, ⁹not of works, lest anyone should boast.

GRACE
Eph 1:7
Eph 2:8

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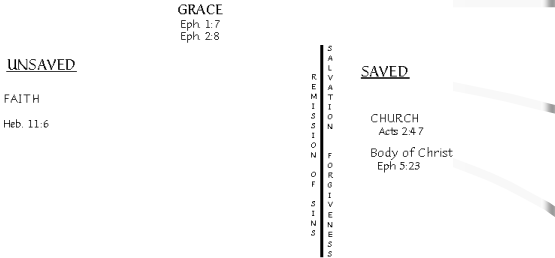
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SAVED

CHURCH
Acts 2:47
Body of Christ
Eph 5:23

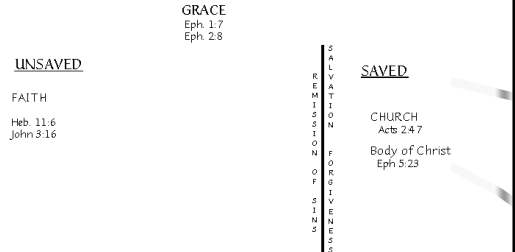
GRACE is a free gift from God. No benefit comes from any gift unless it is accepted, opened, and used. We are not saved by GRACE alone, but through faith. (Romans 5:15; 3:24)

Hebrews 11:6 **But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.**



FAITH is required to please God.
FAITH and believing are essentially the same thing.

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that **whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.**



We can have "everlasting life" if we believe in Jesus. Is it FAITH that puts us across the line of salvation? Let the Bible answer.

James 2:14, 17, 19

14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? **Can faith save Him?**

15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food,

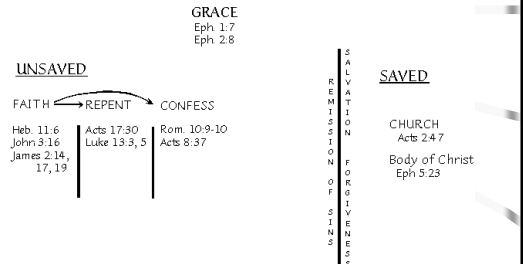
16 and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?

17 Thus also **faith by itself**, if it does not have works, **is dead.**

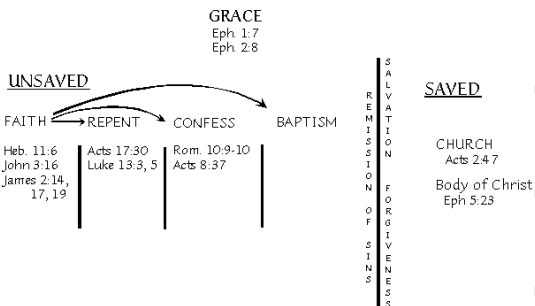
18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. **Even the demons believe** -- and tremble!

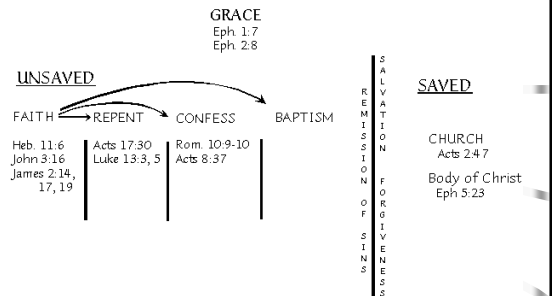
Acts 8:37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, **"I believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God."**



Is it confession that puts us across the line of salvation?
Was the man in Acts 8 saved when he confessed?
Now read the entire story about him to find the answer.



The Ethiopian eunuch's FAITH was strong enough to lead him to BAPTISM.

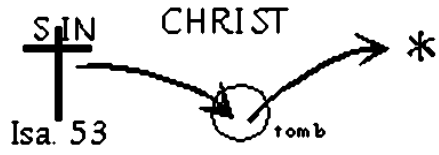


The Old Testament book of Isaiah was written about 700 years before Christ was born.

Let's see what the eunuch learned from the passage he was reading in Isaiah 53.

Isaiah 53

¹ Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? ² For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him. ³ He is despised and rejected by men, A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. ⁴ Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. ⁷ He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth. ⁸ He was taken from prison and from judgment, And who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; For the transgressions of My people He was stricken. ⁹ And they made His grave with the wicked -- But with the rich at His death, Because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth. ¹⁰ Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, And the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand. ¹¹ He shall see the travail of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, For He shall bear their iniquities. ¹² Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.



Because of SIN against God, man deserves punishment by DEATH. Christ took our place because of His love for us. The sins of the whole world were nailed to the cross. Christ suffered for us and died a cruel death. He was buried, but was resurrected to a NEW LIFE (without the sins) on the third day. Our sins are taken away if we are washed in His blood. (I Peter 2:24; Revelation 7:14)

A flowchart titled "UNSAVED" on the left and "SAVED" on the right. The path from UNSAVED to SAVED is marked with four stages: FAITH, REPENT, CONFESS, and BAPTISM. Arrows connect these stages in sequence. Below each stage are specific Bible verses: FAITH (Heb. 11:6, John 3:16, James 2:14, 17, 19), REPENT (Acts 17:30, Luke 13:3, 5), CONFESS (Rom. 10:9-10, Acts 8:37), and BAPTISM (Acts 2:38). To the right of the path, the word "SAVED" is written vertically. Below it, the terms "GRACE" (Eph. 1:7, Eph. 2:8), "CHURCH" (Acts 2:47), and "Body of Christ" (Eph. 5:23) are listed. At the top left of the flowchart is a small diagram of a cross labeled "SIN" and a tomb labeled "CHRIST".

How do we take advantage of this free gift (sacrifice) from God? How do we get our sins taken away? Different men have different opinions about this important issue. We can KNOW our sins are washed away only by doing what the Bible tells us.

Acts 2:38

³⁶ "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

³⁸ Then Peter said to them, "**Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**"

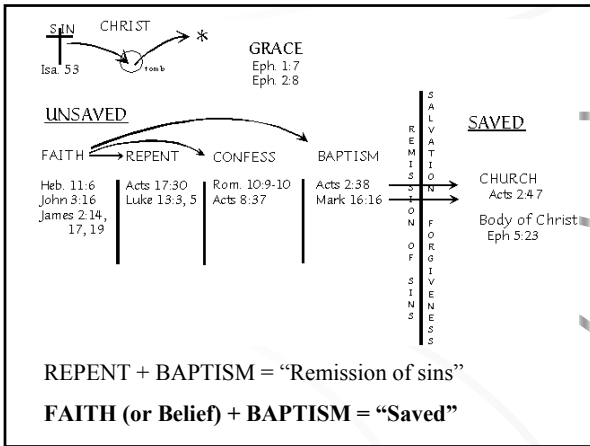
³⁹ "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

A flowchart similar to the one in the previous block, showing the path from UNSAVED to SAVED through FAITH, REPENT, CONFESS, and BAPTISM. It includes the same Bible verses and the terms "GRACE", "CHURCH", and "Body of Christ". At the top left is a small diagram of a cross labeled "SIN" and a tomb labeled "CHRIST". Below the BAPTISM stage, there is a photograph of a man being baptized in a pool of water. At the bottom of the flowchart, the text reads: "REPENT + BAPTISM = 'Remission of sins'".

Mark 16:16

¹⁵ And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

¹⁶ "**He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.**"

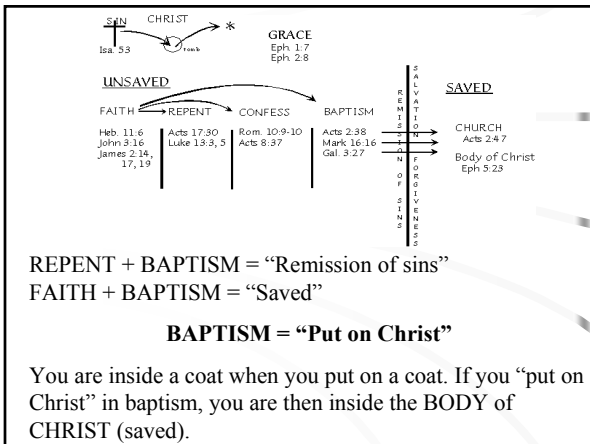


Galatians 3:27

26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

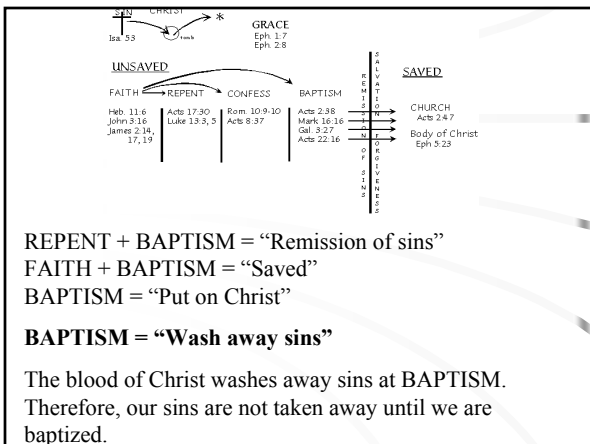


REPENT + BAPTISM = "Remission of sins"
 FAITH + BAPTISM = "Saved"
BAPTISM = "Put on Christ"

You are inside a coat when you put on a coat. If you "put on Christ" in baptism, you are then inside the BODY of CHRIST (saved).

Acts 22:16

"And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord."



REPENT + BAPTISM = "Remission of sins"
 FAITH + BAPTISM = "Saved"
 BAPTISM = "Put on Christ"
BAPTISM = "Wash away sins"

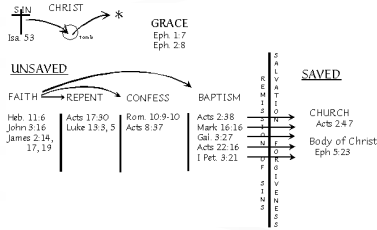
The blood of Christ washes away sins at BAPTISM. Therefore, our sins are not taken away until we are baptized.

I Peter 3:21

20 who formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

21 **Baptism**, which corresponds to this, **now saves you**, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a clear conscience, **through the resurrection of Jesus Christ**,

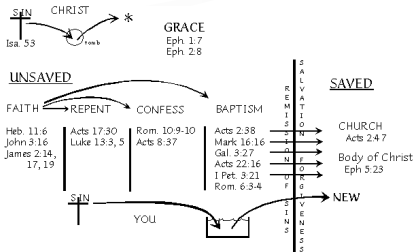
22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers subject to Him. (RSV)



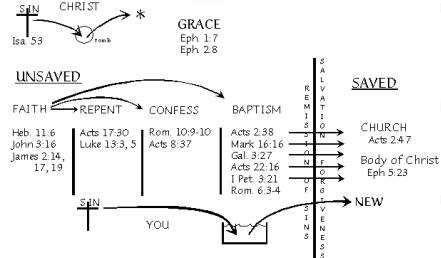
REPENT + BAPTISM = "Remission of sins"
 FAITH + BAPTISM = "Saved"
 BAPTISM = "Put on Christ"
 BAPTISM = "Wash away sins"
BAPTISM = "Saves"
 We are **SAVED** through the "resurrection of Jesus."

Romans 6:3-4 ³ Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, ⁶ knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. ⁷ For he who has died has been freed from sin. ⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him.



Once you have crucified your old ways (sins) when you REPENT, the dead person must be buried. BAPTISM, a watery grave, corresponds to the burial and resurrection of Christ. This is the Biblical way to be born again, a new person free from sin. (Galatians 5:24; II Timothy 2:11)



Even after crossing the line of salvation, we must **continue in His word** to remain His disciples. (John 8:31)

After baptism we must **continue to walk in the light** so that the blood of Jesus may continually cleanse us from sin. (I John 1:7)

God promises to give us the eternal crown of life only if we **remain faithful** to Jesus all of our lives. (Revelation 2:10; Matthew 10:22)

You cannot enter Heaven unless you do God's will. (Matthew 7:21)

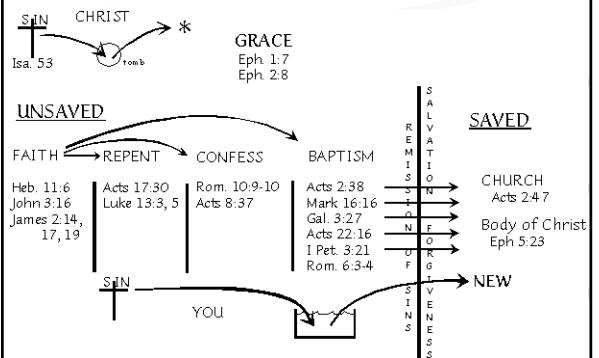
If you love the Lord you will keep His commandments. (John 14:15)

Jesus is the source of "eternal salvation to all who obey Him." (Hebrews 5:9)

We must obey from the heart the form (pattern) of doctrine which the Bible delivers. (Romans 6:17)

The gospel is the good news that Jesus died for sin, was buried and raised, never to die again. (I Corinthians 15:1-4)

We obey that pattern when we put to death our sinful way and are buried in water, raised to walk a new life. (Romans 6:4)



Building a “Better Me” from the text (Page 19)

EXAMPLES OF PEOPLE BECOMING CHRISTIANS

Scripture	Hearing	Faith	Repent	Confession	Baptism
Acts 2:36-42 Pentecostonians	X	X	X		X
Acts 8:4-13 Samaritians	X	X			X
Acts 8:26-39 Eunuch	X	X		X	X
Acts 22:1-16; 9:17-20 Saul of Tarsus (Paul)	X		X		X
Acts 10:25-48; 11:12-14 (Cornelius)	X				X
Acts 16:13-15 (Lydia)	X				X
Acts 16:23-34 (The Jailer)	X	X			X
Acts 18: 4-11 (The Corinthians)	X	X			X
Summary	X	X	X	X	X

Exercises you will enjoy (Page 20)

1) What did Peter tell the people to do to “call on the name of the Lord” and be saved from their sins?

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

2) From Acts 2 and Acts 3 what are the characteristics of preaching that contributes to church growth?

These sermons were PERSONAL, ANALYTICAL, BIBLICAL, SIMPLE, and HELPFUL

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4. Conversions Grow	The Church We Love (Acts 8:1-9:42)
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12. 'Giants' In The Shadows Of	The Church We Love (throughout Acts)
13. Glorious Descriptions Of	The Church We Love (throughout Acts)



Next week we will answer the questions on pages 22-23 (Lesson #3).

That is all of our time for tonight, and as always we thank you so much for your time. We look forward to sharing God's Word next week as we examine "Great Preaching Builds the Church we Love!"