**Truth Sowers Life Group**

May 19, 2013

**Who Was the Apostle Paul?**

**Paul Third Missionary Journey**

**Introduction:**

Our key scripture for this study is:

**1 Thess 5:12, 13**

*12And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, 13and to esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake. Be at peace among yourselves.*

**PAUL’S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY**

 **Paul Goes Back to Antioch**

**Paul has just met Aquila and Priscilla and Apollos.**

### Acts 18

New Living Translation (NLT)

18Paul stayed in Corinth for some time after that, then said good-bye to the brothers and sisters[[d](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts%2018&version=NLT#fen-NLT-27539d)] and went to nearby Cenchrea. There he shaved his head according to Jewish custom, marking the end of a vow. Then he set sail for Syria, taking Priscilla and Aquila with him.

19They stopped first at the port of Ephesus, where Paul left the others behind. While he was there, he went to the synagogue to reason with the Jews. 20They asked him to stay longer, but he declined. 21As he left, however, he said, “I will come back later,[[e](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts%2018&version=NLT" \l "fen-NLT-27542e" \o "See footnote e)] God willing.” Then he set sail from Ephesus. 22The next stop was at the port of Caesarea. From there he went up and visited the church at Jerusalem[[f](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts%2018&version=NLT#fen-NLT-27543f)] and then went back to Antioch.

23After spending some time in Antioch, Paul went back through Galatia and Phrygia, visiting and strengthening all the believers.[[g](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts%2018&version=NLT" \l "fen-NLT-27544g" \o "See footnote g)]

### Apollos Instructed at Ephesus

24Meanwhile, a Jew named Apollos, an eloquent speaker who knew the Scriptures well, had arrived in Ephesus from Alexandria in Egypt. 25He had been taught the way of the Lord, and he taught others about Jesus with an enthusiastic spirit and with accuracy. However, he knew only about John’s baptism. 26When Priscilla and Aquila heard him preaching boldly in the synagogue, they took him aside and explained the way of God even more accurately.

27Apollos had been thinking about going to Achaia, and the brothers and sisters in Ephesus encouraged him to go. They wrote to the believers in Achaia, asking them to welcome him. When he arrived there, he proved to be of great benefit to those who, by God’s grace, had believed. 28He refuted the Jews with powerful arguments in public debate. Using the Scriptures, he explained to them that Jesus was the Messiah.

**ACTS CHAPTER 19**

**While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior regions until he reached Ephesus, on the coast, where he found several believers. 2“Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” he asked them.**

**“No,” they replied, “we haven’t even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”**

**3“Then what baptism did you experience?” he asked.**

**And they replied, “The baptism of John.”**

**4Paul said, “John’s baptism called for repentance from sin. But John himself told the people to believe in the one who would come later, meaning Jesus.”**

**5As soon as they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. They already believed in Jesus so they had already been baptized into the body of Christ and because of this they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus (in water). 6Then when Paul laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied. At this point, I believe they were baptized in the Holy Spirit, Jesus took their spirits and immersed them into the Holy Spirit like on the day of Pentecost and on Acts 8 and Acts 10. 7There were about twelve men in all.**

**There were three baptisms mentioned in the Bible. 1.) The baptism into the body of Christ 2.) The baptism in water and 3.) The baptism in the Holy Spirit. Some still believe the baptism in the Holy Spirit is for today, some don’t. Regardless, we see that it WAS during Paul’s time.**

**The Doctrines of Baptisms is One of the Principle Doctrines of Christ**

***Hebrews 6:1-3 NLT***So let us stop going over the basic teachings about Christ again and again. Let us go on instead and become mature in our understanding. Surely we don’t need to start again with the fundamental importance of repenting from evil deeds and placing our faith in God. 2You don’t need further instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. 3And so, God willing, we will move forward to further understanding.

**How many sermons or teachings have your heard about baptisms? And yet this is one of the BASIC teachings of Christianity!**

1. **Baptism into the Body of Christ**
	1. ***Ephes. 4:4-6
	There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; [5] One Lord, one faith, one baptism, [6] One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.***
	2. **What does Paul mean by ONE baptism? Water baptism?**

***1 Cor. 12:13
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.***

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

**Water baptism does not save us. It is baptism into the BODY OF CHRIST that saves us. The HOLY SPIRIT IS THE AGENT.**

***1 Peter 3:19-21*** 19After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— 20to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, 21and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

1. **Baptism in Water**

**Acts 8:25-40**

**25After they had further proclaimed the word of the Lord and testified about Jesus, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel in many Samaritan villages.**

### Philip and the Ethiopian

### 26Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” 27So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, 28and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. 29The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.” 30Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. 31“How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,    and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,    so he did not open his mouth.33In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.    Who can speak of his descendants?    For his life was taken from the earth.”

### 34The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” 35Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. 36As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” [37] 38And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. 39When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. 40Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea. Azotus was about 14 miles away!

**In Water Baptism, Man is the Agent that Baptizes us into WATER.**

1. **Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

**Even if you believe that the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is NOT for today, we have to agree it WAS for Paul’s day. We can see from the scriptures that when this happened that JESUS WAS THE AGENT AND HE TAKES OUR SPIRIT AND IMMERSES OUR SPIRIT INTO THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

**ILLUSTRATION: Pitcher full of water poured into glass then glass put back into full pitcher of water.**

***Matthew 3:11
I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:***

**We must establish when the disciples were saved. They could not have been saved before Jesus was resurrected from the dead.**

**Some Pentecostals WRONGLY SAY you MUST be baptized in the Holy Spirit to be saved. This is WRONG! Scripture establishes this.**

***John 20:22
And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:***

**They RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT. They WERE saved!!!**

**FAITH PLUS ZERO = SALVATION!!!**

**Acts 1:3-8**

**3During the forty days after his crucifixion, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about the Kingdom of God.**

**4Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. 5John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”**

**6So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?”**

**7He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. 8But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you Remember they had ALREADY RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT WHEN JESUS BREATHED ON THEM. . And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”**

**Acts 2:1-6**

**2 On the day of Pentecost[**[**a**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts%202&version=NLT#fen-NLT-26916a)**] all the believers were meeting together in one place. 2Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. 3Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. 4And everyone present was filled Remember they had already RECEIVED the HOLY SPIRIT WHEN JESUS BREATHED ON THEM with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages,(TONGUES) as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.**

**5At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. 6When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.**

**Another example is Peter preaching Jesus to Cornelius’ household**

**Acts 10:****44Even as Peter was saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the message. 45The Jewish believers[**[**e**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts%2010&version=NLT#fen-NLT-27269e)**] who came with Peter were amazed that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles, too. 46For they heard them speaking in other tongues[**[**f**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts%2010&version=NLT#fen-NLT-27270f)**] and praising God.**

**Then Peter asked, 47“Can anyone object to their being baptized, now that they have received the Holy Spirit just as we did?” 48So he gave orders for them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterward Cornelius asked him to stay with them for several days.**

**According to the BIBLE, the INITIAL EVIDENCE of being baptized in the Holy Spirit is ALWAYS speaking in other tongues.**

**Only ONCE was speaking in other tongues KNOWN languages.**

**The ONLY PLACE it does NOT SPECIFICLY say they SPOKE IN TONGUES, IT IS IMPLIED THAT THEY SPOKE IN TONGUES!**

**Acts 8:1-23**

**~~8 Saul was one of the witnesses, and he agreed completely with the killing of Stephen.~~**

**~~A great wave of persecution began that day, sweeping over the church in Jerusalem; and all the believers except the apostles were scattered through the regions of Judea and Samaria.~~ ~~2~~~~(Some devout men came and buried Stephen with great mourning.)~~ ~~3~~~~But Saul was going everywhere to destroy the church. He went from house to house, dragging out both men and women to throw them into prison.~~**

### Philip Preaches in Samaria

**4But the believers who were scattered preached the Good News about Jesus wherever they went. 5Philip, for example, went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah. 6Crowds listened intently to Philip because they were eager to hear his message and see the miraculous signs he did. 7Many evil spirits were cast out, screaming as they left their victims. And many who had been paralyzed or lame were healed. 8So there was great joy in that city.**

**9A man named Simon had been a sorcerer there for many years, amazing the people of Samaria and claiming to be someone great. 10Everyone, from the least to the greatest, often spoke of him as “the Great One—the Power of God.” 11They listened closely to him because for a long time he had astounded them with his magic.**

**12But now the people believed Philip’s message of Good News concerning the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ. As a result, many men and women were baptized. 13Then Simon himself believed and was baptized. He began following Philip wherever he went, and he was amazed by the signs and great miracles Philip performed.**

**14When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria had accepted God’s message, they sent Peter and John there. 15As soon as they arrived, they prayed for these new believers THEY BELIEVED IN JESUS CHRIST. THEY HAD ACCEPTED JESUS CHRIST AS LORD AND SAVIOR SO THEY PRAYED FOR THEM TO BE BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, NOT TO BE SAVED AGAIN! to receive the Holy Spirit. 16The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them, for they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17Then Peter and John laid their hands upon these believers, and they received the Holy Spirit.**

**HOW DID THEY KNOW THEY HAD RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT? SIMON SAW THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS GIVEN. HE MUST HAVE HEARD THEM SPEAK IN TONGUES.**

**FLAMING TONGUES WERE ONLY SEEN ONCE – ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST.**

**18When Simon saw that the Spirit was given when the apostles laid their hands on people, he offered them money to buy this power. 19“Let me have this power, too,” he exclaimed, “so that when I lay my hands on people, they will receive the Holy Spirit!”**

**20But Peter replied, “May your money be destroyed with you for thinking God’s gift can be bought! 21You can have no part in this, for your heart is not right with God. 22Repent of your wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive your evil thoughts, 23for I can see that you are full of bitter jealousy and are held captive by sin.”**

**The last example of BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS THE FIRST ONE WE READ IN ACTS 19**

***Acts 19:1-6
And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, [2] He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. [3] And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. [4] Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. [5] When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. [6] And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.***

**Some believe that BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT with the INITIAL EVIDENCE of SPEAKING in TONGUES is no longer relevant for today.**

**1 Corinthians 13:8-10
8 Love never fails. But whether *there are* prophecies, they will fail; whether *there are* tongues, they will cease; whether *there is* knowledge, it will vanish away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part. 10 But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.**

**In 1 Cor. 14:5 Paul said, “I wish you all spoke in tongues!”**

**Paul then goes on to explain to the Corinthians, who didn’t lack anything in the use of the spiritual gifts, that when tongues were used in an assembly, they must always be followed by an interpretation. He said, if you give the tongue, pray that you may interpret. If you are not ready to interpret, DO NOT give the tongue because if there is not an interpretation, the people will not understand what God is saying.**

**Paul also explains that a prophesy is actually better than a tongue because a prophesy equals a tongue and interpretation without having to do both.**

**Paul then tells about tongues in a personal prayer life. He tells us to “pray in the Spirit” when we don’t always know how to pray as we ought to.**

**Romans 8:26, 27** 26Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us[[b](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans%208&version=NKJV#fen-NKJV-28143b)] with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is,* because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of* God.