

January 7, 2024
Acts 19:1-10
“Set Your Compass For The Narrow Road”

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

John’s baptism and genuine believer’s baptism are two entirely different things.

These disciples of John did not get genuinely saved until they heard about Jesus as is stated in **v 4**. Remember though, John did a good job of clearing the way for them!

There is no such thing as being re-baptized. A genuine believer can only be baptized once legitimately. A person may “get wet” by being dunked in the water while not truly being saved. Lots of people do this sort of thing when they are young only to realize that when they went through the motions of being “baptized” they were not really followers/disciples of Jesus. This keeps it simple, always think in terms of “BELIEVER’S BAPTISM.” When did you first believe? Been baptized since you first believed?

After these 12 or so disciples were genuinely saved by accepting the gospel when Paul presented it to them, they received the Holy Spirit as Paul laid his hands on them. They also spoke in tongues and prophesied, why? These type of things sometimes occurred when the church was in its infancy for the benefit of onlookers who were still lost in their sins.

It didn’t always go this way, but sometimes it did. The way certain people received the Holy Spirit varied, think about: the day of Pentecost, the time of the Samaritans salvation in **Acts 8:17**, the Ethiopian eunuch, Cornelius’ household, the Apostle Paul, Lydia, and the Philippian jailor for example.

In many of the new church startups that developed during the missionary journeys there was no record of the Holy Spirit coming by the laying on of hands. Keep in mind that this was a transitory time in the account of God’s salvation plan. Followers of God were moving from the old way of worship at the temple to faith in Jesus as Savior. Any one who has Jesus as their Savior also has the Holy Spirit living within them at the moment they trust in Jesus as Savior.

Application:

Peter wrote in **II Peter 1:10**, “Therefore, brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election, because if you do these things you will never stumble.” Is your spiritual compass set on Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? Since you have been truly born again, have you been obedient to believer’s baptism? So, if you are saved, are other people hearing the Word of the Lord from you? Evangelize!