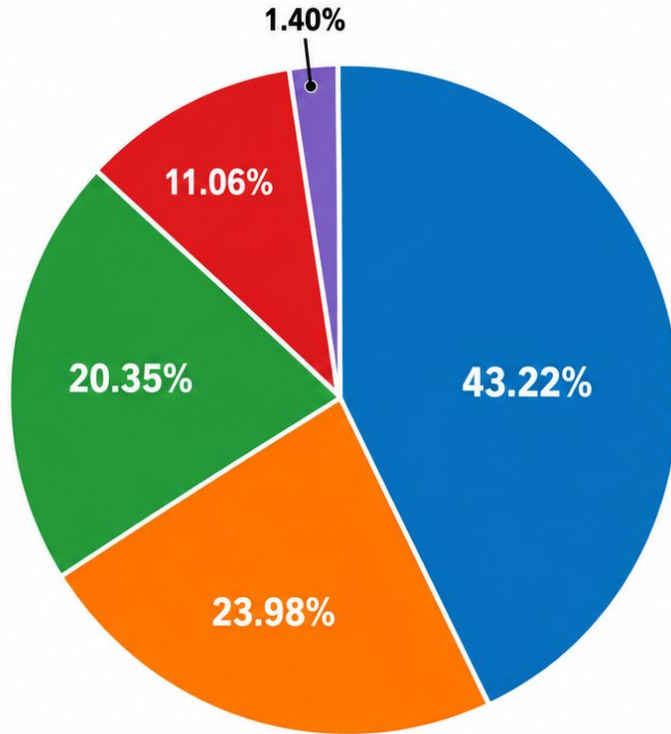


Baptism Series II:
Answering Baptist Arguments

Covenantal / Symbolic Believers-Only Baptism Breakdown by Broad Group

This entire pie chart represents 8.73% of
classified Massachusetts Christians

265,497 adherents; 3.78% of the total
Massachusetts population.



1. Non-denominational Christian churches — 43.22%

Included denomination(s):

- Non-denominational Christian Churches

2. Baptist — 23.98%

Included denominations:

- American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A.
- Southern Baptist Convention
- National Missionary Baptist Convention of America
- National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

3. Pentecostal / Charismatic — 20.35%

Included denominations:

- Assemblies of God
- Church of God (Cleveland, Tennessee)
- Church of God in Christ
- International Church of the Foursquare Gospel
- Full Gospel Christian Assemblies International
- Association of Vineyard Churches

4. Adventist — 11.06%

Included denominations:

- Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Advent Christian Church

5. Other evangelical believer-baptist — 1.40%

Included denominations:

- Christian and Missionary Alliance
- Church of God (Anderson, Indiana)
- Missionary Church
- Nationwide Fellowship Mennonite Churches
- Mennonite Church USA

Baptistic groups practice believer's baptism, viewing baptism as an outward symbol of a person's personal saving faith in Jesus—performing it *after* salvation as an act of obedience.

& while Baptistics emphasize **faith**- an important aspect of God's word

“The sum of your word is truth.”

Psalm 119:160

What does baptism do?

“Water baptism is the *outward symbol* of Christ in His death and resurrection. Your physical baptism *signifies* the spiritual baptism *that’s already taken place*. It’s the public, ceremonial *depiction* of your death to sin and your new life in Christ.”

John MacArthur

The North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention recommends this *Template Explanation* before somebody is baptized:

“Baptism is a *picture* of Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection, and a believer’s new life in Christ. We are baptized as an act of obedience to Jesus Christ and *as a public proclamation of our faith*. Baptism *does not wash away sin, nor does baptism save us. It is an outward sign or symbol of the inward work that Christ has completed in us* as new believers in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Every baptism *is a celebration of salvation*. Today, we celebrate His saving work in the lives of those who are being baptized.”

Baptism according to these:

- *It is “a public proclamation”*
- *It is “an outward sign or symbol of the inward work that Christ has [already] completed in us”*
- *It is “the public, ceremonial depiction of your death to sin and your new life in Christ.”*
- *It is “a celebration of salvation”*
- *It “neither washes away sin, nor save us.”*

A Cause for Confidence:

1. Every passage that overtly says what baptism does says that baptism saves.
2. Every passage that overtly says that baptism saves ties this salvation to the participant's faith, active amidst baptism.

Faith → Baptism → Salvation

	<i>Mark 16:16</i>	<i>Acts 2:38</i>
FAITH	"The one who has believed	"Repent
BAPTISM	and has been baptized	and be baptized
SALVATION	will be saved."	for the forgiveness of your sins."

The Godward Faith through Which God Works in Baptism

	<i>Acts 22:16</i>	<i>1 Peter 3:21</i>	<i>Colossians 2:12</i>	<i>Romans 6:3-17</i>
THE LOCATION	"Be baptized	"Baptism	"You were buried with him in baptism,	"We have been buried with Him through baptism into death,
THE RESULT	and wash away your sins,	now saves you	in which you were also raised with him	so we too may walk in newness of life...
THE HEART'S ORIENTATION	calling on his name."	as an appeal to God for a good conscience."	through faith in the working of God."	Thanks be to God that you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were entrusted."

Challenge for Baptistics:

Find a Bible passage that overtly says what baptism *does* that does *not* say that baptism saves.


“Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.”

1 Peter 3:15

Answering Baptist Arguments


Objection 1:
Baptism cannot save
because we are saved by grace- not works

Ephesians 2:8-9

THE LOCATION	[unspecified]
THE RESULT	"You are saved by grace
THE HEART'S ORIENTATION	through faith,
WHOSE WORK?	and this is not from  yourselves ; it is God's gift— not from works."

Saved By God's Working- Not Man's Works-
through Faith, in Baptism



Ephesians 2:8-9

THE LOCATION	[unspecified]
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Saved By God's Working- Not Man's Works- through Faith, in Baptism

Ephesians 2:8-9

Colossians 2:12

THE LOCATION	[unspecified]	"You were buried with him in baptism, in which
THE RESULT	"You are saved by grace	were also raised with him
THE HEART'S ORIENTATION	through faith,	through faith
WHOSE WORK?	and this is not from  yourselves ; it is God's gift— not from works."	in the working of God. 

Objection 2:
The Thief
on the Cross:



Objection 2: The Thief on the Cross:

The interpretation that because the thief on the Cross was saved *without baptism*, all believers today are saved at the first moment of faith, *before and without* baptism.



Luke 23:39-43

“Then one of the criminals hanging there began to yell insults at him:
“Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

But the other answered, rebuking him:

“Don’t you even fear God, since you are undergoing the same punishment?
We are punished justly, because we’re getting back what we deserve for the things we did,
but this man has done nothing wrong.”

Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

And he said to him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

Why The Thief Was Saved Without Baptism

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Before Jesus' Death, Jesus Saved With a Word:

"The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"
[Matthew 9:6]

Why The Thief Was Saved Without Baptism

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"Your sins are forgiven."
[Matthew 9:2]

"Your sins have been forgiven."
[Luke 7:48]

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"The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"
[Matthew 9:6]

"Your sins are forgiven."
[Matthew 9:2]

"Your sins have been forgiven."
[Luke 7:48]

& It is while Jesus is on earth that the thief is assured of salvation

Why The Thief Was Saved Without Baptism

Before Jesus' Death, Jesus Saved With a Word:

"The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"
[Matthew 9:6]

"Your sins are forgiven."
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[Luke 7:48]

With Jesus' Death, The New Covenant Has Come Into Effect:

"For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the violations that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. For where there is a covenant, there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it. For a covenant is valid only when people are dead, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives."
[Hebrews 9:15-17]

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[Hebrews 9:15-17]

& The New Covenant is *overtly* tied to Jesus' death:

"For this is my blood of the covenant,
which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."
[Matthew 26:28]

Why The Thief Was Saved Without Baptism

Before Jesus' Death, Jesus Saved With a Word:

"The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"
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In The New Covenant- Those Who Believe and Are Baptized Are Saved:

"And He said to them,
"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. The one who has believed and has been baptized will be saved; but the one who has not believed will be condemned."
[Mark 16:15-16]

THE LOCATION

THE RESULT

THE HEART'S ORIENTATION

GOD'S RESURRECTION POWER

1 Peter 3:21

"Baptism	now saves you— not as a removal of dirt from the body,	but as an appeal to God for a good conscience	through the resurrection of Jesus Christ."
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Colossians 2:12

"You were buried with him in baptism,	<i>in which</i> you were also raised with him	through faith in the working of God,	who raised him from the dead."
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Romans 6:4

"We have been buried with Him through baptism into death,	so we too may walk in newness of life.	----->	
"Knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him,	so that we would no longer <i>be slaves to sin</i> ; for the one who has died is freed from sin." [Romans 6:6-7]	But thanks be to God that though you were <i>slaves of sin</i> , you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were entrusted, [Romans 6:17]	just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father."

The thief on the cross died before the death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ

Objection 3:
Paul said he was
“sent to preach,
not to baptize”



10 Now I urge you, brothers *and sisters*, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment. **11** For I have been informed concerning you, my brothers *and sisters*, by Chloe's *people*, that there are quarrels among you. **12** Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, "I am with Paul," or "I *am* with Apollos," or "I *am* with Cephas," or "I *am* with Christ." **13** Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? **14** I am thankful that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, **15** so that no one would say you were baptized in my name! **16** But I did baptize the household of Stephanas also; beyond that, I do not know if I baptized anyone else. **17** For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with cleverness of speech, so that the cross of Christ would not be made of no effect.

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Paul is not talking about *Baptism*;
He is talking about *Baptizing*.



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The Apostles' own time was best spent Preaching.


Acts 6:2 ∨ New American Standard Bible ∨

So the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables.

Paul was appointed to preach and teach


Acts 9:15  New American Standard Bible 

But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel;



2 Timothy 1:10-11  New American Standard Bible 

10 but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, **11** for which I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher.

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Paul as a teacher taught that baptism

saves
Romans 6:3-4

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life.

Colossians 2:12

Having been buried with Him in baptism, *in which* you were also raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Galatians 3:26-27

Through faith you are all sons of God in Christ Jesus. For those of you who were baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ.

Acts 22:16

And now, why are you delaying? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on his name.'

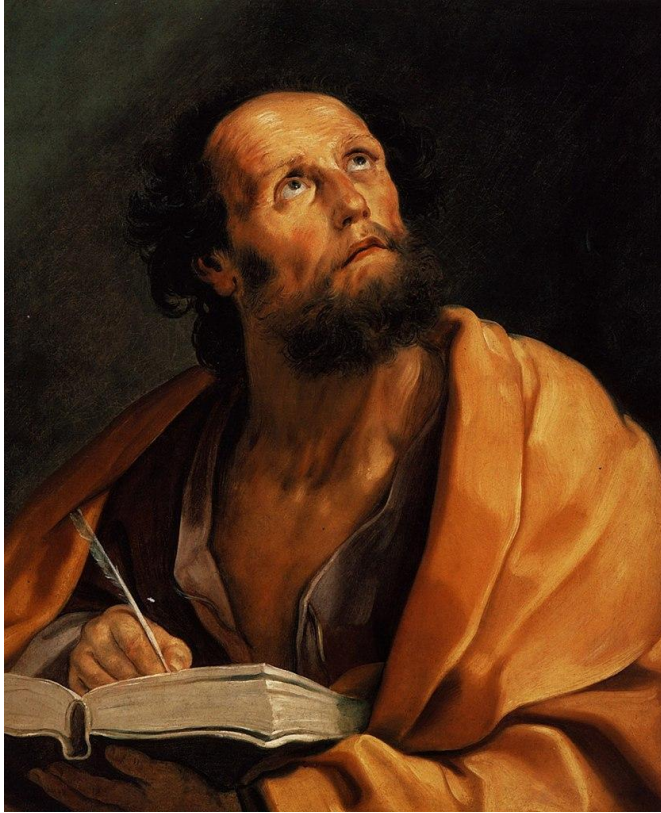
Objection 4:
Paul's own
conversion:



Objection 4: Paul's own conversion:

The interpretation that Ananias laid his hands on Paul to give him the Holy Spirit prior to baptism.





A conversion so
anomalous &
misinterpreted that
Luke writes about it
three times:

Acts 9
Acts 22
Acts 26

Acts 9 & Acts 22 Harmonized

"The Lord said to [Ananias], "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him, so that he might regain his sight."

Ananias went and entered the house. He placed his hands on [Saul] and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road you were traveling, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

[Ananias] came and stood by [Paul] and said, 'Brother Saul, regain your sight.'
At once something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight.
and in that very hour [Paul] looked up and saw him.

And [Ananias] said, 'The God of our ancestors has appointed you to know his will, to see the Righteous One, and to hear the words from his mouth, since you will be a witness for him to all people of what you have seen and heard. And now, why are you delaying?
Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on his name.'
Then [Paul] got up and was baptized."

[Acts 9:11–12; 9:17; 22:13a; 9:18a; 22:13b; 22:14-16; 9:18b]

When Did Paul Receive the Spirit?

Why was Ananias Sent?

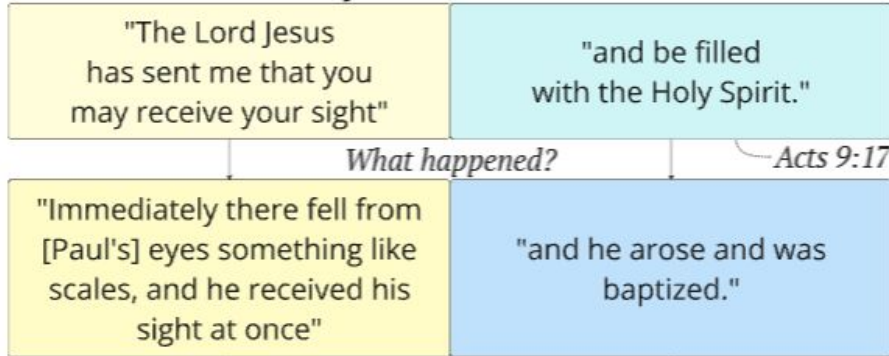
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has sent me that you
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Acts 9:17

When Did Paul Receive the Spirit?

Why was Ananias Sent?



Acts 9:18

When Did Paul Receive the Spirit?

Why was Ananias Sent?

"The Lord Jesus
has sent me that you
may receive your sight"

"and be filled
with the Holy Spirit."

What happened?

Acts 9:17

"Immediately there fell from
[Paul's] eyes something like
scales, and he received his
sight at once"

"and he arose and was
baptized."

Acts 9:18

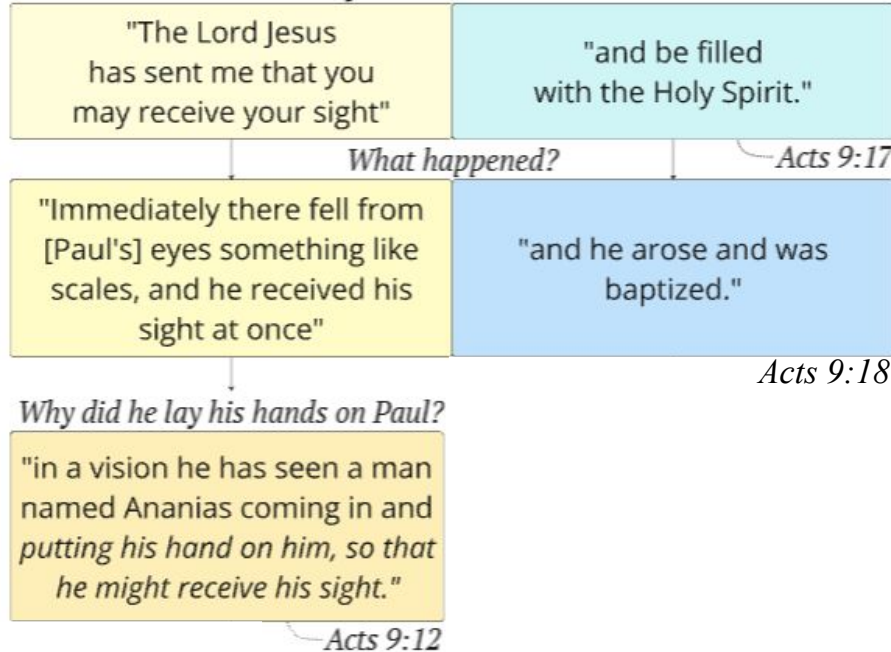
Why did he lay his hands on Paul?

"in a vision he has seen a man
named Ananias coming in and
*putting his hand on him, so that
he might receive his sight.*"

Acts 9:12

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Why was Ananias Sent?



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Why did he lay his hands on Paul?

"in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight."

Acts 9:12

A Like Example

"The father of Publius lay sick of a fever and dysentery. Paul went in to him and prayed, and he laid his hands on him and healed him."

Acts 28:8

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A Like Example

"The father of Publius lay sick of a fever and dysentery. Paul went in to him and prayed, and he laid his hands on him and healed him."

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Why would Ananias do this?

Jesus authenticated the apostles & disciples by way of such signs and wonders:

Mark 16:20 –

“[The apostles] went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and **confirmed the word by the signs that followed.**”

Acts 14:3 –

“Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly **for the Lord, who confirmed the message of his grace by enabling them to perform signs and wonders**.”

When Did Paul Receive the Spirit?

Why was Ananias Sent?

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Why did he lay his hands on Paul?

Why did he baptize Paul?

"in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight."

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

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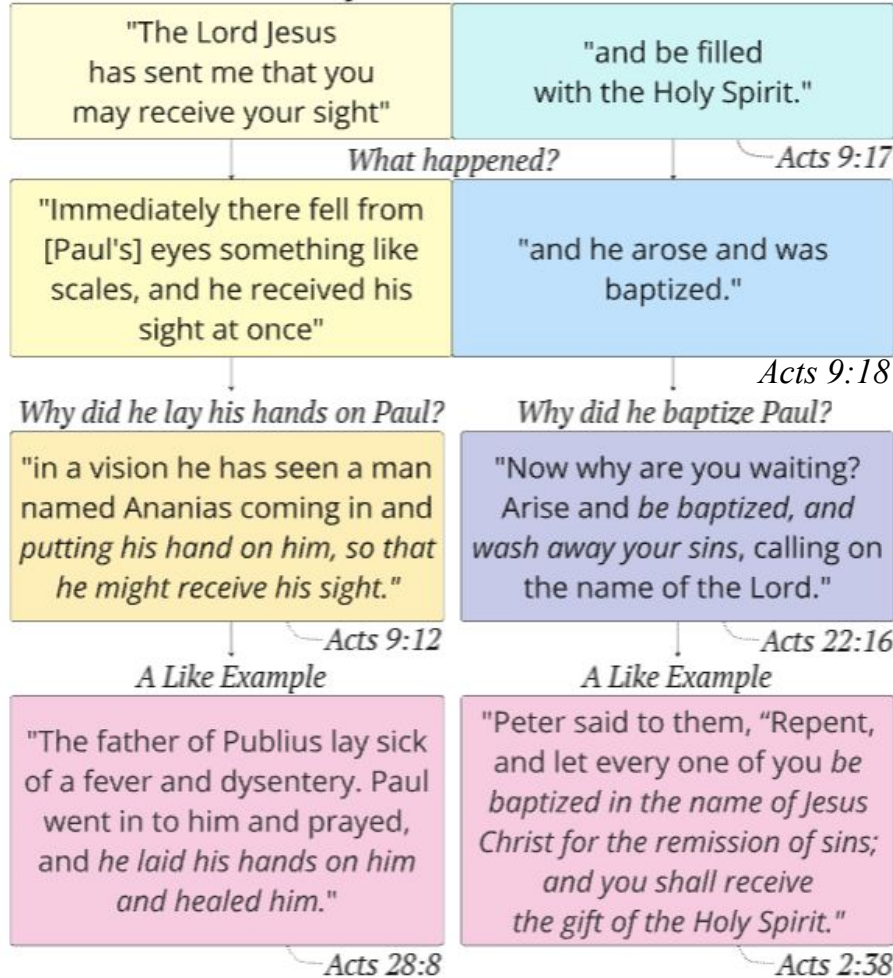
"Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Acts 28:8

Acts 2:38

When Did Paul Receive the Spirit?

Why was Ananias Sent?



Paul's Eyes
get Healed
↓
God's Word
gets Confirmed
↓
Paul
gets baptized
↓
Paul's sins
get washed away

Objection 5: the conversion of Cornelius' Household



Objection 5: the conversion of Cornelius' Household:

The interpretation that Cornelius & his household receiving the Holy Spirit *prior* to “water baptism” is the normative way that people are saved.



Before Cornelius:

Acts 10:9-16 – Peter’s Vision



The next day, as they were traveling and nearing the city, Peter went up to pray on the roof about noon. He became hungry and wanted to eat, but while they were preparing something, he fell into a trance. He saw heaven opened and an object that resembled a large sheet coming down, being lowered by its four corners to the earth. In it were all the four-footed animals and reptiles of the earth, and the birds of the sky. A voice said to him, “Get up, Peter; kill and eat.”

“No, Lord!” Peter said. “For I have never eaten anything impure and ritually unclean.”

Again, a second time, the voice said to him, “What God has made clean, do not call impure.” This happened three times, and suddenly the object was taken up into heaven.



The Meaning of the Vision:

“You know it’s forbidden for a Jewish man to associate with or visit a
foreigner,
but God has shown me that I must not call any person impure or unclean.
That’s why I came without any objection when I was sent for.”

Acts 10:28-29

That is, God showed Peter that the uncircumcised could be accepted.



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Acts 10:28-29

That is, God showed Peter that the uncircumcised could be accepted.

“Peter began to speak:

“Now *I truly understand* that God doesn’t show favoritism, but in every nation the person who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.”

Acts 10:34-35



Strict Jewish traditions forbade Jews associating with the uncircumcised.

*The question on everybody's mind was:
Was circumcision necessary in the New Covenant?*

*Could gentiles (the uncircumcised)
be baptized into Christ?*

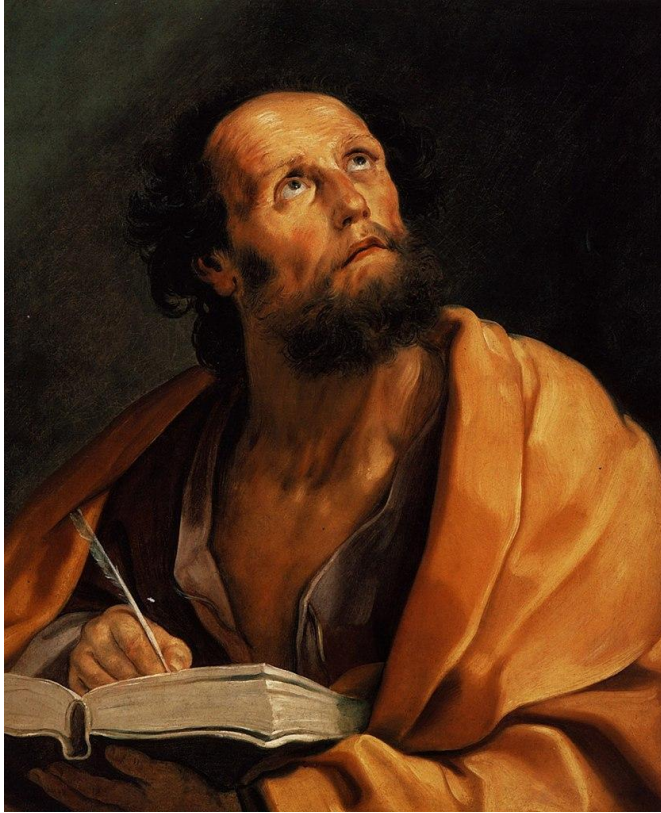


After Cornelius:

Dispute in Antioch/The Jerusalem Council

Acts 15:1-2:

Some men came down from Judea and began to teach the brothers, “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom prescribed by Moses, you cannot be saved.” After Paul and Barnabas had engaged them in serious argument and debate, Paul and Barnabas and some others were appointed to go up to the apostles and elders in Jerusalem about this issue.



A conversion so
anomalous &
misinterpreted that
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three times:

Acts 10

Acts 11

Acts 15

Acts 10, Acts 11, & Acts 15 Harmonized

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message, “just as He did upon us at the beginning” [Peter later said].

All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God.

[Peter later said:] “Brothers, you are aware that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles would hear the gospel message and believe. And God, who knows the heart, testified to them, giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He also did to us; and He made no distinction between us and them, cleansing their hearts by faith.”

[Peter also later said:] I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ Therefore if God gave to them the same gift as He gave to us also after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?”

Then Peter responded [to the sign], “Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?” And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

[Acts 10:44, 11:15, 10:45–46, 15:7–9, 11:16-17, 10:47–48]

The Anomalous "Spirit Baptism" of Cornelius' Household*

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Acts 10:45

The gift was tongues

They were hearing them speaking with tongues

Acts 10:46

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Acts 10:45

The same gift that was given to the apostles at the beginning

just as He did upon us
at the beginning

Acts 11:15

Giving them the
Holy Spirit, just as
He also did to us

Acts 15:8

God gave to them the
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Acts 11:17

received the Holy Spirit
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Acts 10:47

The gift was tongues

They were hearing them speaking with tongues

Acts 10:46

The Anomalous "Spirit Baptism" of Cornelius' Household*

*That their receiving the Spirit without baptism was purposeful, unique, and set no precedent.

The Gentiles recieved a gift

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The apostles had received the gift of tongues at Pentecost

When the day of Pentecost had arrived, they were all together in one place...
They saw tongues like flames of fire that separated and rested on each one of them. *Then they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them.*

Acts 2:1-4

Notably,

These are the only two instances of what might be called “Spirit Baptism”.

Acts 11:16 includes the only reference to Acts 1:5

Acts 1:4-5

While he [Jesus] was with them [the apostles], he commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for the Father’s promise. “Which,” he said, “you have heard me speak about; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit in a few days.”

Acts 11:15-16

“As I began to speak,
the Holy Spirit came down on them [the Gentiles],
just as on us at the beginning. I remembered the word of the Lord,
how he said, ‘John baptized with water,
but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’

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God's acceptance of the gentiles was the purpose of the sign

When they heard these things they became silent;
and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also
granted to the Gentiles repentance to life."

Acts 11:18

And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them*, (the gentiles) *by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith.*

*Testified to them (nasb)

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Acts 2:1-4

Because of this sign Peter had confidence to baptize them

Therefore if God gave to them the same gift as He gave to us also after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, *who was I that I could stand in God's way?"*

Acts 11:17

"Surely no one can refuse the water or these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?" And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

Acts 10:47-48

A Summary of the Conclusion of the Jerusalem Council

Since this is the case, why are you putting God to the test by placing upon the neck of the disciples a yoke which neither our forefathers nor we have been able to bear? [Acts 15:10]

After they stopped speaking, James responded, saying, “Brothers, listen to me. **Simeon has described how God first concerned Himself about taking a people for His name from among the Gentiles...** Therefore, it is my judgment that we do not cause trouble for those from the Gentiles who are turning to God...
[Acts 15:13-14, 19]

and they sent this letter with them:

“The apostles and the brothers who are elders, to the brothers and sisters in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia who are from the Gentiles: Greetings...

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[Acts 15:23, 28]

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[Acts 15:23, 28]

The Holy Spirit said very clearly that the uncircumcised are a part of the New Covenant

Cornelius' Household receiving the gift of the spirit (speaking in tongues) **before** baptism does **not** mean:

- That they were saved before baptism.
- That receiving the Holy Spirit before baptism is normative.
- That baptism is unnecessary.

It **does** mean:

A. That God demonstrated in a spectacular way that He **does** accept uncircumcised gentiles under the New Covenant.

B. That baptism could not be refused. It was all the more necessary.

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A. That God demonstrated in a spectacular way that He **does** accept uncircumcised gentiles under the New Covenant.

B. That baptism could not be refused. It was all the more necessary.

Peter taught that the normative way to salvation is through baptism

Acts 2:38

“Repent and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

1 Peter 3:20-21

Eight people were saved through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you (not as the removal of dirt from the body, but the pledge of a good conscience toward God) through the resurrection of Jesus Christ

Objection 6:
To say baptism saves
is to commit “the Galatian heresy”

GALATIANS: FAITH, NOT WORKS OF LAW

AGAINST THE GALATIAN “WORKS HERESY”

1 Galatians 2:16

“A man is not justified by works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus.”

2 Galatians 3:1–3

“O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified.

This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?

Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?”

3 Galatians 3:26

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Galatians 1:8 ✓

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But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!

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Being the first to quote this doesn't make any person correct.

Paul saying this should only encourage us to very seriously consider with precision exactly what gospel Paul preached.

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What was the issue with the Galatians church?

What was the “Galatian Heresy”?

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**The Galatian Heresy was that of
the Judaizing Circumcision Party**

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Galatians 2:3-4 - "Not even Titus, who was with me, was compelled to be circumcised, even though he was a Greek. This matter arose because some false brothers had infiltrated our ranks to spy on the freedom we have in Christ Jesus in order to enslave us.

Galatians 2:14 - "But when I saw that they were deviating from the truth of the gospel, I told Cephas in front of everyone, "If you, who are a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you compel Gentiles to live like Jews?"

Galatians 5:1-4 - For freedom, Christ set us free. Stand firm, then, and don't submit again to a yoke of slavery. Take note! I, Paul, am telling you that if you get yourselves circumcised, Christ will not benefit you at all. Again I testify to every man who gets himself circumcised that he is obligated to do the entire law. You who are trying to be justified by the law are alienated from Christ; you have fallen from grace.

Galatians 5:12 - I wish that those who are troubling you would even emasculate themselves.

Galatians 6:15 - For both circumcision and uncircumcision mean nothing; what matters instead is a new creation.

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**& with the Galatian Heresy out of the way,
what were the Galatian Christians told about
salvation beyond faith in Christ Jesus?**

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Galatians 3:27- "For those of you who were baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ."

Galatians 5:6- "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision accomplishes anything; what matters is faith working through love."

Galatians 5:16- "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh."

Galatians 5:19-21 - "Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: sexual immorality, impurity, indecent behavior, idolatry, witchcraft, hostilities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

Galatians 6:2 -
"Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ."

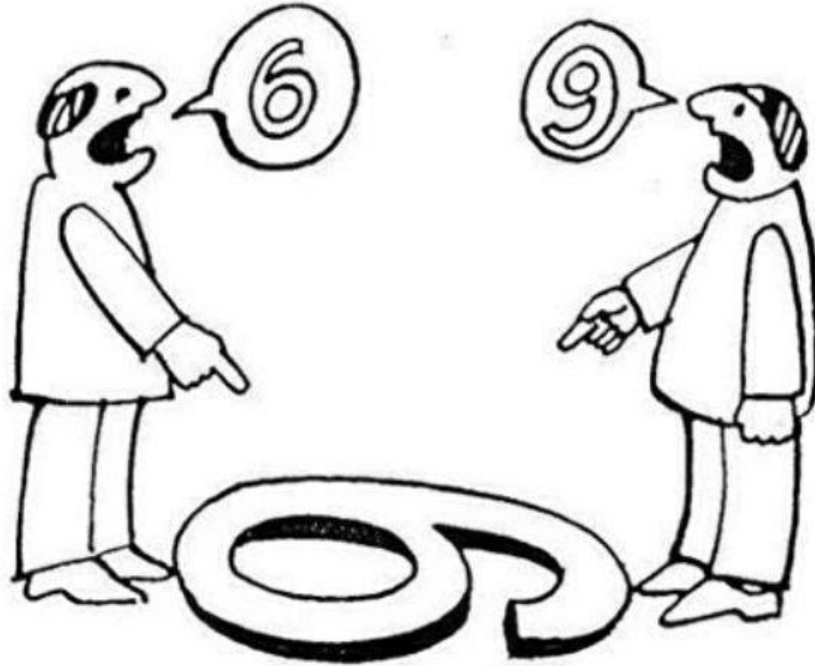
Galatians 6:7-9 - "Don't be deceived: God is not mocked. For whatever a person sows he will also reap, because the one who sows to his flesh will reap destruction from the flesh, but the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life from the Spirit. Let us not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don't give up."

Part 7: The Root of the disagreement

From Brother Frank's *Intro to Apologetics*:

Worldview (n.) –
“the filter we use to understand the world around us.”

“Two people with different backgrounds see the same thing entirely differently”
-Brother Frank



THE ROMAN ROAD

ROMANS 3:23 - "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

ROMANS 6:23 - "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

ROMANS 5:8 - "But God demonstrates His own love towards us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

ROMANS 10:9 - "That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

ROMANS 10:13 - "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

ROMANS 8:1 - "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."

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This is true scripture.

However, if it's made into "the essential text" that must supersede or explain the passages around it, then other passages don't become the explanation of *anything*, but rather something that must be explained.

It is irresponsible to create a systematic theology about salvation without first considering *everything* that's said about salvation.

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Romans 6:4- "We have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life."

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Romans 1:5- "Through him we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith"

Romans 2:6-8- "God will repay each person according to his deeds: to those who by perseverance in doing good seek glory, honor, and immortality, He will give eternal life; but to those who are self-serving and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, He will give wrath and indignation."

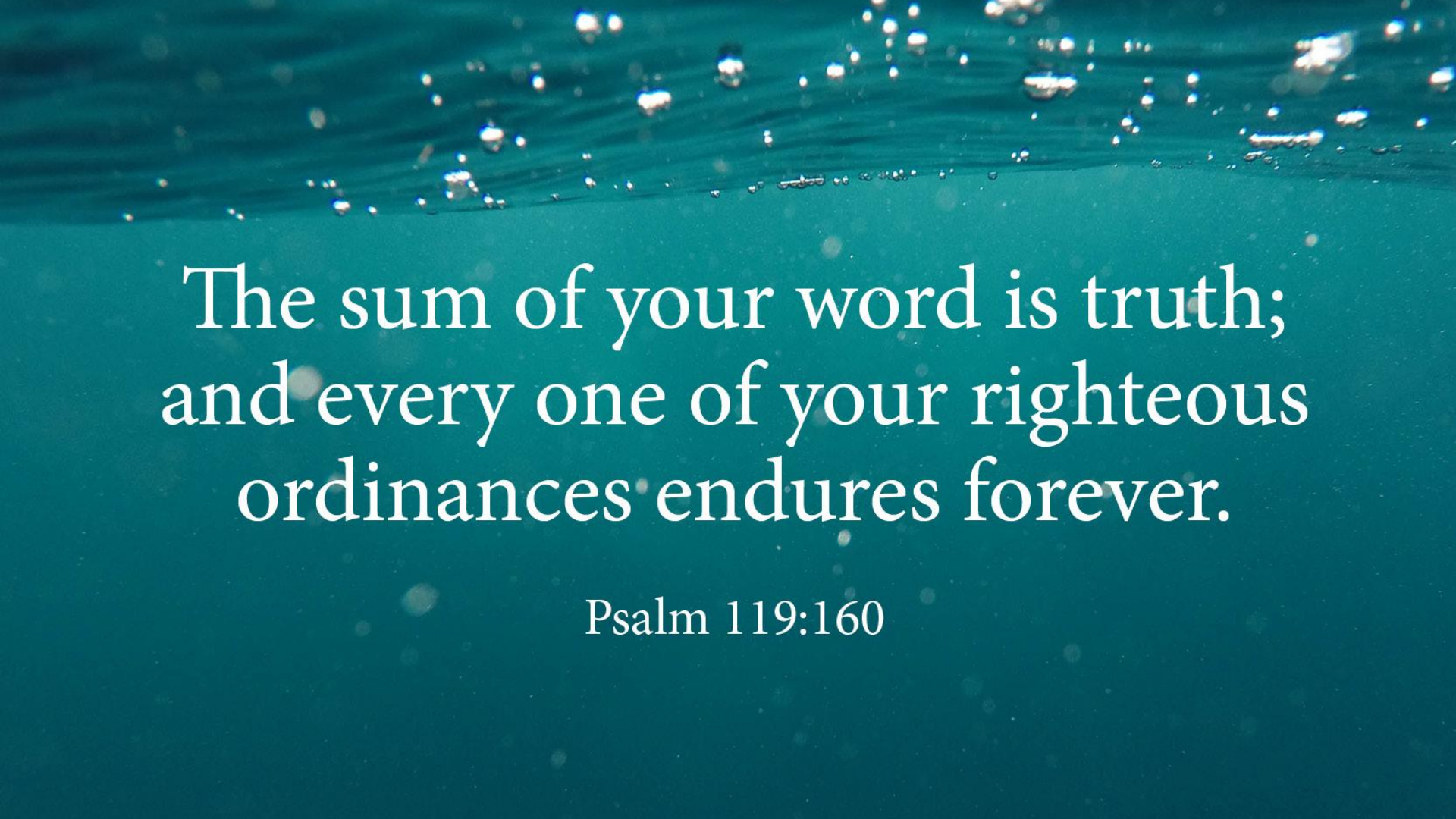
Romans 6:4- "We have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life."

Romans 6:22- "Now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life."

Romans 8:3-4- "He condemned sin in the flesh, so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit."

Romans 11:20-22- "Do not be conceited, but fear; for if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you, either. See then the kindness and severity of God: to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness, if you continue in His kindness; for otherwise you too will be cut off"

Romans 16:26- "...the mystery ... has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith."



The sum of your word is truth;
and every one of your righteous
ordinances endures forever.

Psalm 119:160

In sum,

- The thief on the cross died under the Old Covenant.
- Paul was a teacher- not a baptizer.
- Paul taught that baptism saves.
- Paul's eyes were healed through Ananias' hands.
- Paul's sins were washed away in baptism.
- Cornelius receiving the Spirit prior to baptism was a sign to the apostles & the gentiles that circumcision is not necessary in the New Covenant.
- Peter taught that baptism saves.
- "The Galatian Heresy" rightly understood, is circumcision.
- Galatians teaches that Baptism saves.
- "The Romans Road" is wrong to exclude baptism.
- Romans teaches that baptism saves.
- [Ephesians 2:8] does not contradict [Colossians 2:12], which says that baptism saves.

June 21:

Baptism Series III:
Answering Paedobaptist Arguments:

The promise "for your children"
The baptism of households
Original Sin/Inherited Guilt

June 28:

**Baptism Series IV:
History & Other Addendums:**

*The two sides of every baptism passage
The baptismal theology of the 2nd Century church
The Gnostic rejection of a baptism that saves
Infant Innocence in the 2nd Century church
& more*