

Sermon Notes

“Belief, Baptism, and the Holy Spirit”

Acts 19:1-7

9/12/21

1. Our passage this morning brings a number of _____ to mind.
 - a. _____ would Paul ask them if they had received the Holy Spirit when they believed?
 - b. _____ does it mean that they had, “believed”?
 - c. Do we not receive the Holy Spirit _____ we are baptized into Jesus’ name?
 - d. Are we not truly (or fully) _____ then until we are baptized in this way?
 - e. Are there _____ of Christian faith, one without the Spirit and one with the Spirit?
 - f. If this is what it means to have received the Spirit, _____?
2. Beyond their number, these questions are so _____ - _____, that it’s hard to know where to _____.
 - a. Yet, to put our hearts at _____ and avoid falling into _____, we need to untie this knot.
3. In these situations, we need to begin by recalling what we _____ for certain about each of these things.
 - a. Then, we can seek to _____ these things together in a way that they _____.
 - b. This is the interpretive principle of the Analogy of _____, or the Analogy of _____, which states that scripture must interpret _____.
 - i. The _____ passages helping to inform the _____ clear. (WMC, 1.9)
4. What do we know for certain about true _____?
 - a. It is a _____ of the Holy Spirit. (John 6:60-65, Acts 18:27)
 - b. It is the single requirement for _____. (John 6:35-40, Ephesians 2:8-9)
 - i. We are then saved by _____, through _____.
5. What do we know for certain about the _____ of the Holy Spirit?
 - a. It is of different _____.
 - i. The Holy Spirit is present _____. (Psalm 139:7-12)
 - ii. He is present in a _____ way in those who _____. (Ephesians 1:11-14)
 - iii. He is present in a _____ way for special demonstrations of God. (Acts 2:1-4, 10:44-48)
6. What do we know for certain about _____?
 - a. It is a _____ sign of an invisible reality. (Acts 10:44-48)
 - i. It does not _____ what it represents, but _____ what is accomplished through faith.
 - b. For John, it represented a heart that was _____ for God through repentance. (Matt. 3:1-6)
 - c. For Jesus, it represented a heart that had been _____ through faith in him. (Matt. 28:18-20)
 - i. This is the connection between baptism and the _____. (Matt. 3:11-12)
 - d. While the “baptism of John,” (or what it represents) is necessary for our _____, only the baptism of Jesus (or what it represents) is sufficient for our _____ and new life.
7. Putting the _____ of our passage together.
 - a. If these disciples had truly _____ (and there is no indication that they did not), then Paul could not have been asking them if they had received the Holy Spirit in a _____ way.
 - i. The Spirit _____ them to faith.
 - ii. And made his _____ in them when they _____.

- iii. The example of _____ confirms that though he only knew the baptism of John, he was a true believer and was being used _____ by the Holy Spirit.
- b. It would seem as though Paul's question had more to do with whether they had received a _____ of the Spirit when they believed as had happened elsewhere.
 - i. For _____ seems to have been using special outpourings of the Holy Spirit wherever the gospel invaded to _____ the message and the _____ of the new life those who embraced it had received.
- c. But, the Holy Spirit was not going to come with power when the _____ of _____ was not clearly identified as the one through whom this _____ was coming.
 - i. As always, the Holy Spirit was _____ for the name of Jesus and its _____.

Central Takeaways

1. When we face a passage that brings up many _____, we need to begin by establishing the things that we know for certain about the topics at hand from the _____ of scripture.
2. In this case, based on what we know for certain about _____, the _____ of the Holy Spirit, and _____ we can untangle these events in a way that brings both understanding and rest.
 - a. When Paul asked if they had received the Holy Spirit when they believed, he was not referring to the _____ presence of the Spirit, which was necessary for them to believe to begin with, but rather a _____ outpouring of the Spirit that God had frequently been using in those days to _____ visibly what was happening among them.
 - b. Baptism is not a magical ceremony where we first _____ the Spirit, but a visible sign of an _____ work of the Spirit. In this case, the Spirit was not poured out among them in this special way until the visible part of their coming to faith (their baptism) was done in the _____ of _____.

Application

1. While the Lord's use of these special outpourings of the Holy Spirit are not nearly as _____ today as they were in the early days of the church, it is not as though his presence in us is entirely _____.
 - a. How do I know for certain that _____ the Holy Spirit?
 - i. _____. (I John 4:2-3)
 1. _____ of sin and _____ in Jesus.
 - ii. _____. (Galatians 5:16-21)
 1. Of _____ and the _____
 - iii. _____. (Galatians 5:22-26)
 1. Evidences of the _____.