

**Message# 218- 12-04-2022 - Christians Believe that Jesus Fulfilled the Prophets - H2O
Water Works of the Law Ended with the Old Covenant**
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Good morning everyone. Thank you again for tuning into the message this morning.

This past week, I added a page to the website called Prayer Requests. They are still the same this week. But please check there from time to time to see if it has changed. If you want to have a prayer request added, please let me know.

And now - beginning at about 2:00pm Central Time today - I need you to all start praying especially for me. Yes, please pray for Jerry and Chrissy as they begin their life as husband and wife today - but pray for me that I can make it through another one. Chrissy is the baby - so thankfully - this is the last one that I have to make it through.

All kidding aside, today is the day. Please pray that this will be a wonderful day for Jerry and Chrissy and the families and the guests as we all come together to celebrate another wedding between two young adults who are each committed to the Government of God. They both claim Citizenship only in the Commonwealth of Israel - card carrying - not that that is a requirement - but publicly declaring that their Citizenship is solely and completely in the Commonwealth of Israel - the Government of God on this earth. So exciting. So awesome to be a part of this and see how God is working in the lives of these people who are allowing the King of kings and Lord of lords - to be the Only King in which they will answer to while living around so many other people who refuse to allow His reign in their lives - but prefer - what a horrible choice - what an absolutely horrible choice to choose a "government" ran by the likes of the Bidens and Harris's and Pelosis and Trumps and all the other completely Godless people who have declared - defiantly - OUR LAWS and OUR STATUES and OUR TREATIES shall be the supreme law of the land.

That is so mind-boggling to me I don't guess I'll ever be able to wrap my head around the fact that nearly the whole world thinks they can do a better job at "government" than what Jesus the Christ - Jesus the Anointed King - can do. He offers the greatest amount of freedom, the greatest opportunity for prosperity, the greatest opportunity for peace that the world has ever known - but people just - for whatever crazy reasons there are - they prefer corruption, they prefer war, they prefer oppression, they prefer taxation, they prefer "leaders" that - if they aren't practicing sodomites, freaks and

perverts, then they publicly declare “equal rights” for the practicing sodomites, freaks, perverts and queers - it's just so odd to me. And what's even crazier - is that people who claim to be “Christians” - but of course - we know the truth to be “churchians” because true Christians do not follow the wicked multitude to do evil - that would be a violation of the Laws of Christ - but to me it's just crazy that someone would hold a Bible in their hand - then declare that it's okay to follow, support, vote for, go to war for, the little g “governments” of the world. Just crazy.

So, when we see young people that are starting out in life as husband and wife - and they are committed to the Only God Ordained Government on this earth that is so exciting.

Seems like yesterday when Teresa and I did this whole wedding thing with Taylor and Kristopher - who are both firmly committed to the Government of God - and now just a few years later - God has given us little Poppy - who is being raised to be a Citizen of the Commonwealth of Israel. How awesome is that. Just think - if we had more young people who are starting out in life rejecting the freaks, the perverts and queers that run men's little g “governments” and they have decided to follow exclusively the King of kings and Lord of lords - then they have children - and raise those children to be Citizens of the Commonwealth of Israel - just think of what could happen.

Before we get into today's message, turn to Exodus chapter 1 for just a minute. This is a great story - yes - a story - great bedtime story for the little kids - great bedtime story for the grownups. This is one of the ways that God works. It worked back then - it will work again today. That's why the story is written. It was written for our learning. Verse 1, Exodus 1.

[1] Now these are the names of the children of Israel, which came into Egypt; every man and his household came with Jacob.

[2] Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah,

[3] Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin,

[4] Dan, and Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

[5] And all the souls that came out of the loins of Jacob were seventy souls: for Joseph was in Egypt already.

[6] And Joseph died, and all his brethren, and all that generation.

[7] And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.

Friends, this the biggest problem we face today. Our problem is not the Egyptians. Our problem is there's way more of them than there are of us. Keep your finger here for just a minute, turn back to Genesis chapter 1. Look at verse 27, please. These are the very first recorded Words that God spoke to Adam after Adam was created. Verse 27:

[27] So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

[28] And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it:

To me, it is heart-breaking to see men and women who claim to be followers of Christ - under the age of 30 that are not married and are not bringing babies into the world - training them up to be Citizens of the Commonwealth of Israel. I don't understand this. The very first thing God said to Adam - was to be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth. Of course, this means more than just making babies. But it starts with making babies.

I believe that in the teenage years, priority number one for Government of God believing, Commonwealth of Israel Citizens should be finding Godly mates for their children. And friends, it may not be that easy, so we need to get about this early in finding someone. Do not expect someone to just drop into your life. I'll be the first to tell you - it very well might happen that way. But searching for a Godly husband or a Godly wife - should be priority number one.

While our sons are still at home - teaching them how to provide for their families must be a priority. But while they are learning to provide for a family, there needs to be a search for a husband or a wife. It should go without saying that if we were in communities like we are supposed to be, this would probably be a lot easier than it is - but since we aren't - we should still be moving heaven and earth to find Godly mates for our children.

I've said this before, if you are sitting around waiting for someone who believes just like you to come into your life - that just may not happen. You may just have to go, find someone that at least has interest in things concerning the Word and teach them the truth of what God's Word says is the Way we are supposed to live.

I'll be the first to tell - you probably won't find a better soul-mate than the one you

have led to Christ. Finding someone and then leading them to Christ, teaching them the truth from square one - that is a fantastic way to build Commonwealth of Israel families.

Some of you men that are approaching the age of 30 - you've lost your 20s. You know I don't need yourfertility.org to tell me what is so obviously seen as the truth. But I did a two second search just to give you something to read this morning. My two second search brought me to yourfertility.org. This is what it says:

Why age matters for men and women who want to have a family.

A woman's age is the most important factor affecting her fertility and her chance of having a baby.

The chance of having a child is much higher for women younger than 35 years and men younger than 40 years than for older women and men.

It's a biological fact that as women and men age, their potential to have children decreases, although the exact time when this starts to happen can vary among individuals.

We all know someone who had a healthy baby in their late 30s or early 40s. But of all people who try for a baby at a later age, many will not have the baby they hoped to have.

It should be a given that we teach our sons how to make a living and we teach our daughters how to keep a home. Then, priority number one should be on putting that into action. You men out there that are not married. Some of you seem to have settled into being single. Well I'm telling you - you need to settle out of that mindset and go find you a young woman that you can begin to build an Israelite family with. If your priority is not on building families for the Government of God - then your priorities are not right.

Teresa and I are definitely not in the matchmaking business, but we see what's going on around us. We see unmarried young men and there are available Godly young women out there. That is ridiculous. It is ridiculous to see men advancing into their 20s and they aren't married - don't even have prospects - and even worse than that - is seeing young Godly women advancing through their 20s and not married - and not even any

prospects. Shame on us. What are we thinking? Well, we aren't thinking. We have forgotten what the Bible says are the first recorded Words from God to man and we have forgotten the story - what was written for our learning from Exodus chapter 1. Verse 8, now.

[8] Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph.

[9] And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we:

Why is that? How did that happen? The text doesn't really tell us, but maybe, just maybe, while the Israelites were in Egyptian captivity, they at least remembered what the first recorded Words were from God to man. Or, maybe not, but maybe God just had Exodus 1 recorded so we would look at it and see one of the several ways there are to come out of oppression.

The world today - especially the idiots that have the most influence in society today - are obsessed - just totally consumed with - baptized in the insanity of how sacred their "right to abortion" is. It's crazy. Okay. This may sound horrible, it's okay, I'm pretty sure I've said it before - but please - by all means - do whatever you idiots need to do to keep from procreating yourselves thereby passing on the insanity of your beliefs to another generation. That would be great.

But, if that's what is going on, and then God's people are not replenishing the earth with true believers, true followers of God - then not only are we not helping the Government of God - we are actually hindering. Because when evil is not replaced with good - Jesus said what comes back is 7 times worse than what was there before.

Let the world - please let the world do all they can to depopulate themselves. But while they are wrapped up in that idiocy - God's people need to be busy doing what God said to do. Genesis 1:27. Back to Exodus 1:10. The Egyptians said:

[10] Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land.

[11] Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses.

[12] But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel.

[13] And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour:

[14] And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.

[15] And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, of which the name of the one was Shiprah, and the name of the other Puah:

[16] And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.

[17] But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive.

Thank God for the story of the Hebrew midwives. Yes, the Hebrew midwives are such a great example for the women - but - today - they are even a greater example for the men.

But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive.

[18] And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this thing, and have saved the men children alive?

[19] And the midwives said unto Pharaoh, Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women; for they are lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them.

[20] Therefore God dealt well with the midwives: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty.

What's the moral of the story? Do not as the little k “king” commands - and God will deal well with you. Friends, that principle, that Law, this is a Law of God for His Creation, obey Me and I will do well with you. That's one of the things we should be taking away from this story. This is either the same God for us as it was for them - or we should just quit. No. We have the same God as they did. The problem is, we see things written like this, but somehow allow a disconnect between us and them, which results in a disconnect between their God and what should be our God.

We have not lived in a generation where the Gospel was preached according to Exodus chapter 1. We've been raised in generations where not only is Exodus 1 NOT the Gospel - but telling the little “k” “king” to jump in a lake is never heard in our generations. In

fact, it's the exact opposite. In our generations, the "churchmen" would have been the first ones to tell the midwives to "obey the government." Do what they tell you. Whatever the "government" tells you to do, that's what God wants you to do.

[21] And it came to pass, because the midwives feared God, that He made them houses.

The midwives feared God and not the little "king" of their day. Same principle. Same exact thing for today. We have the same God today as the One they had in Egypt thousands of years ago. The same God then, is the same One today just waiting to act on our behalf. But we must first do things the way it was done in the Bible. That's why the things were written. For our learning. This is the owner's manual. This is the operator's manual. This is how you do it.

So, it is beyond exciting, to be able to be a part of a celebration where two Godly young people have crossed off the checkmarks - their parents - BOTH of them - bride's and groom's - husband is committed to providing for his new family - and wife is committed - not to a career outside the home - but the highest form of Godliness for a woman - that being - taking care of the home - and having babies and raising them up to be great men and women in the Government of God.

Alright. In today's message, it is my intention to cover the last one of the tiny, minute handful of Bible verses that those who demand the application of physical water to the flesh - as a means of purifying the inwards parts of a man, woman, boy or girl.

Oh my, who has bewitched you? Who has tricked you into believing that you can put water on your skin and believe that that water - that physical water - can cleanse your inward parts? And not only that, it doesn't even matter the source of the water, and it doesn't matter how that water is applied - so long of course - as it is immersion. Which again, immersion that itself, is not even defined.

We've asked a hundred times now - what does this immersion look like? And still today. No answer, other than, "the Bible is silent on the issue?"

So, then, the seeking sodomite, and don't even try to say that it is impossible for the sodomite to seek God. The sinner is the one in need. The sick is the one in need of the Physician. The sinner, someone who is sorry for their sin, believes they need to seek and find God. They see something called "The Metropolitan 'Church' of Los Angeles."

And they go inside thinking they might be able to find God there. After all, they heard someone tell them that God is in the “church.” So they go inside. According to the website of the “Metropolitan 'Church' of Los Angeles” one can be fully immersed, “baptized” in the name of the Risen King” - if the sorrowful person goes into this place and gets “baptized” “immersed in the name of the Risen King” - is that person now in Christ? I mean, they were

Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

And, they

[believed] and [were] baptized [so they must] be saved;

That's what Mark 16:16 says. Right?

The Metropolitan 'Church' of Los Angeles will immerse - totally dunk a person in water - in the name of the Risen King. Doesn't that fulfill Acts chapter 2 - according to those who advance the teachings of the “'Churches' of Christ?” If there is no “Church of Christ” available, and there is no “Baptist Church” available, well then how about The Metropolitan 'Church' of Los Angeles? They will fully immerse, fully dunk someone in physical water - and will do so - in the name of the Risen King. Does that fulfill Acts chapter 2?

Acts 22:16

And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

Isn't that what is commanded for today?

“Charlie, you are always saying the principles are what matters. Isn't that a principle that applies today?”

Yes. Absolutely. But what Paul was told to do was to fulfill the Law God gave Moses. And whenever we see what looks like physical water - not just in the first 39 books - but in all the books of our Bibles - we are seeing people fulfilling the Law God gave Moses. This is why you can't just take verses like Acts 22:16, or Galatians 3:16 or Colossians

2:12 and the few others they use and jerk them out of the Bible and lay them on the table and say, "Aha, there it is, there's the word 'baptized' right there in the text."

Turn very quickly to Acts chapter 22. We've seen it before. We'll look very quickly again. Look, beginning in verse 16.

And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

What were the circumstances here? Who said this? Who did he say it to?

This, of course, was spoken to Paul - after Paul was cured of his blindness, which was an infirmity of the flesh - which in the Law God gave Moses - and expounded by in the Prophets - blindness was called a sin. Sins were not just adultery, stealing, lying, etc., affirmities of the flesh were also called sins. Leprosy was called sin. Lameness was called sin. Remember Jesus healing the man who had palsy and could not walk? Do you remember that story from Matthew chapter 9?

When Jesus healed him, what did Jesus say to him?

Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.

And then when the religious leaders accused Jesus of blasphemy for saying this and healing this way, what did Jesus say?

[5] For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?

[6] But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.

So, in Acts 22, instead of taking one verse out of that chapter and building a false religion out of it, we need to look at what's before and what's after the statement

And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

Who was it that said this to was Paul? Why was it said to Paul? What were the

circumstances surrounding what was said? Go up to Acts 22, verse 1. This is who said this to Paul and what the events surrounding it were. This is Paul talking starting out in verse 1.

- [1] Men, brethren, and fathers, hear ye my defence which I make now unto you.
- [2] (And when they heard that he spake in the Hebrew tongue to them, they kept the more silence: and he saith,)
- [3] I am verily a man which am a Judahite (the text says Jew, but Paul is now a follower of Jesus Christ so we can correctly call him a Judahite instead of the derogatory term jew), born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day.
- [4] And I persecuted this way unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women.
- [5] As also the high priest doth bear me witness, and all the estate of the elders: from whom also I received letters unto the brethren, and went to Damascus, to bring them which were there bound unto Jerusalem, for to be punished.
- [6] And it came to pass, that, as I made my journey, and was come nigh unto Damascus about noon, suddenly there shone from heaven a great light round about me.
- [7] And I fell unto the ground, and heard a voice saying unto me, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?
- [8] And I answered, Who art thou, Lord? And he said unto me, I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest.
- [9] And they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they heard not the voice of him that spake to me.
- [10] And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said unto me, Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do.
- [11] And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, I came into Damascus.

Alright. Paul has been made blind. Now verse 12:

- [12] And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there,
- [13] Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him.

[14] And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth.

[15] For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard.

Ananias was a devout man according to the law. Friends, that phrase “a devout man according to the law” is not there just to take up space. It is there so we would absolutely understand the context - so we can absolutely understand what 16 means.

We find physical washing all over the Law God gave Moses. It's everywhere. It was never just about the blood - the physical blood of animals - it was about the Water and the Blood. Why? Because it all pointed to Jesus Christ. The Old Covenant blood pointed to the blood of Christ. The Old Covenant water - pointed to Christ - the Living Water - where if a man drink of that Living Water - he shall never thirst again. Keep your finger in Acts 22 and go to John chapter 9. Begin with verse 1:

[1] And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

[2] And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

[3] Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

[4] I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

[5] As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

[6] When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

Now watch. What did Jesus tell the blind man to do after He healed his blindness?

[7] And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

[8] The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?

[9] Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he.

[10] Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?

[11] He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.

Very briefly, again. Let's cover this Pool of Siloam. There is a link in the transcript of the message that I will be reading from this morning. Let me say this again. This is from something called "history." We have no idea whether any of this is true at all. But I do know this - the Bible records Hezekiah as having something to do with this - and we all know - or should know what God had to say about that. God called Hezekiah the greatest of the kings of Judah because Hezekiah built this pool. Take from this history whatever you want to. But to me, this, and not that the Bible needs outside verification - it does not - but this does agree with the Bible.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pool_of_Siloam

The term Pool of Siloam

(Arabic: بركة سلوان, Hebrew: בריכת השילוח, Breikhat HaShiloah) (Greek: Σιλωάμ) refers to a number of rock-cut pools on the southern slope of the Wadi Hilweh, considered by some archaeologists to be the original site of Jerusalem, located outside the walls of the Old City to the southeast. The pools were fed by the waters of the Gihon Spring, carried there by the Siloam Tunnel.

The Lower Pool or "Old Pool" was historically known as Birket el Hamra, literally "the red pool".

History

During the Second Temple period, the Pool of Siloam was centrally located in the Jerusalem suburb of Acra (Hebrew: חקרא), also known as the Lower City.[1] Today, the Pool of Siloam is the lowest place in altitude within the historical city of Jerusalem, with an elevation of about 625 metres (2,051 ft) above sea level.[2] The ascent from it unto the Temple Mount meant a gradient of 115 metres (377 ft) in altitude at a linear distance of about 634 metres (2,080 ft), with a mean elevation in the Temple Mount of 740 metres (2,430 ft) above sea level.[2] According to the Jerusalem Talmud (Hagigah), the Pool of Siloam was the starting point for pilgrims who made the annual pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and where they ascended by foot to the inner court of the Temple Mount to bring an offertory to the Temple Court.[3] The Pool of Siloam (perhaps referring to the Lower Pool) was used by pilgrims for ritual purification before visiting the Temple enclosure.[4]

The Pool of Siloam (perhaps referring to the Lower Pool) was used by pilgrims for ritual

purification before visiting the Temple enclosure.[4]

Why? Because there were no physical impurities allowed into the temple. That's what the Bible teaches us. Which again, if you want to talk about “baptism” and the story does not begin in the first 39 books of the Bible - you can't possibly know or understand - and you have absolutely no business trying to teach others about the application of physical water to the flesh - and be accurate with it according to the Bible. “Baptism” a horrible usage of a word in our Bibles - did not begin with John the Washer in the first century. This article continues:

Hezekiah

The Pool of Siloam was built during the reign of Hezekiah (715–687/6 BCE), to leave besieging armies without access to the spring's waters.

I disagree with that. But it doesn't matter. That may have been one reason, but it wasn't the only reason.

The pool was fed by the newly constructed Siloam tunnel. An older Canaanite tunnel had been very vulnerable to attackers, so, under threat from the Assyrian king Sennacherib, Hezekiah sealed up the old outlet of the Gihon Spring and built the new underground Siloam tunnel in place of the older tunnel (Books of Chronicles, 2 Chronicles 32:2–4).

During this period the Pool of Siloam was sometimes known as the Lower Pool (Book of Isaiah, Isaiah 22:9),[5] as opposed to a more ancient Upper Pool (Books of Kings, 2 Kings 18:17, Isaiah 7:3)[5] formerly fed by the older Canannite tunnel.

Second Temple Period

The pool was reconstructed no earlier than the reign of Alexander Jannaeus (103–76 BCE), although it is not clear whether this pool was in the same location as the earlier pool built by Hezekiah – if so, all traces of the earlier construction have been destroyed. The pool remained in use during the time of Jesus. According to the Gospel of John, Jesus sent "a man blind from birth" to the pool in order to complete his healing.[6] As a freshwater reservoir, the pool would have been a major gathering place for ancient Jews making religious pilgrimages to the city. Some scholars, influenced by Jesus commanding the blind man to wash in the pool, suggest that it was probably used as a

mikvah (ritual bath).[7] However, mikvahs are usually much smaller in size, and if the pool were a mikvah, it would be the largest ever found by a substantial margin.[8] Yoel Elitzur has proposed that the pool was used for swimming rather than ritual immersion.[9]

And, of course, I do not agree with Yoel Elitzur. But that's okay. The pool may not have been a mikveh - but it was definitely used as a ritual cleansing pool for Judahites - and cleansing was required prior to entering to the temple - and ritual water cleansing was required in order to keep the Law God gave Moses.

So, the Scriptures show us from John chapter 9, that Jesus healed a blind man, then told that blind man to go and wash himself in the pool of Siloam. Call this eisogesis if you want to, that's fine by me, but when Jesus healed the man of palsy in Matthew 9, He told the man his sins were forgiven. By telling the blind man to go and wash in the pool of Siloam - He very well was telling him also, to wash and have your sins forgiven.

Of course, this is how it was done in the Old Covenant Law God gave Moses.

With that foundation, go back again to Acts chapter 22. Paul is blind. God leads Paul to come to Ananias, a devout man according to the Law. And in verse 13, what does Ananias say to Paul?

[13] Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him.

Verse 14:

[14] And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth.

[15] For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard.

Now watch. Verse 16.

[16] And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

Do you think Ananias just pulled this rabbit out of his hat? Or, do you think, Ananias, being a devout man according to the Law, told Paul to go and do exactly the same thing that Jesus told the blind man to in John chapter 9?

Jesus told the blind man in John chapter 9 to go wash in the Pool of Siloam. Ananias told Paul to go wash. He did not tell Paul to go find some “church” somewhere, some “Church of Christ” and if you can't find a “Church of Christ” then go find a “Baptist church” and if you can't find a “Baptist church” - then to The Metropolitan 'Church' of Los Angeles and go find the “preacher” - who might be a sodomite - but since the Bible is “silent of the issue” it won't matter - but find some person who will dunk you in some physical water. Friends, that is not at all what Ananias told Paul to do.

He told Paul to go and baptizo himself - and wash away his “sins” - but do it in the Name of - in the Authority of the Name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.” Ananias told Paul to go and keep the Law God gave Moses - but do so in the Authority of Christ.

Those who demand physical water being applied to the flesh are so blinded by their false understanding of baptizo - because the only thing they can think of when they hear any variation of the Greek work baptizo - is a “church water ritual” - when the truth is - if you want to know exactly what it was that Ananias told Paul to do and you want to see it in action - as opposed to being told the “Bible is silent on the issue” - you go to John chapter 9 and see the story of Jesus healing the blind man then telling him to go wash in the pool of Siloam.

Jesus did not tell the man to go wash in any water he could find. He didn't tell him that any water will do. He didn't tell him the Bible is silent on the issue. He told him to go wash in the Pool of Siloam because that's where one of the places the Law God gave Moses on the application of water to the flesh was being fulfilled at that time.

We just looked again at the history - men's history of the Pool of Siloam. We read how they said that the Pool of Siloam was used for ritual purification washing prior to entering the temple. Now watch verse 17 of Acts 22. Paul speaking again.

And it came to pass, that, when I was come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I was in a trance;

These people we are seeing in the Book of Acts, when they were in Jerusalem, were keeping the Law God gave Moses. But they were doing so - in the Name of - in the Authority of Jesus Christ of Nazareth.

Using Acts 16:22, including other passages in the Book of Acts that might lead us to think that physical water is involved, is no more applicable to us today, than telling

people to go and sacrifice a lamb or a dove or a goat. Don't let someone take a single verse out of the Bible and jerk it out and lay it on the table and try to convince you that it means something - without first examining the who, what, when and where of the rest of the text.

Is there a principle to glean from Acts 22:16? Absolutely there is. A man woman, boy or girl must be baptizo in Christ, they must have their sins washed away in the Name of Christ, in the Authority of Christ, but it has absolutely nothing whatsoever to do with physical water. The washing, the cleansing that is required in the New Covenant World comes only by the Living Water that flows from the throne of the King.

Of the tiny little handful of Bible verses those who demand physical water to the flesh today use, we go from Acts 22:16 to Romans chapter 6 - where we find not even the slightest mention of physical water in the chapter. The only way physical water is found in the chapter is by men who - when they hear any variation of the Greek word bapto - can only think of a "church water ritual" - then - through either the greatest of naivety or by treacherous design - force their unsuspecting followers to also adopt an understanding of the Greek word bapto as meaning nothing other than a "church water ritual."

From Romans 6 they go to Galatians 3. Where once again, there is not even the faintest hint that water - physical water - could be derived from text. But, alas, there's that word "baptized" which has only one possible meaning - and that is a "church water ritual."

From Galatians 3 we are led to Colossians 2. Though they include the phrase "circumcision made without hands" they can't help themselves because they see the word "baptism" in verse 17 and can only think of a "church water ritual" - though physical water is no more found in the chapter - than is a physical circumcision or a physical blood sacrifice.

Finally, we arrive at their crown jewel. The capstone verse. The cherry on the hot fudge sundae. I Peter chapter 3, verse 21. Turn there, please. So let's take this verse, and jerk it out of our Bibles, lay it on the table and see what it says.

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Well, there it is. Case closed. Almost an entire year of Bible study trying to explain that physical water being applied to the flesh in the New Covenant world has been wrong. I mean, there it is,

whereunto even “baptism” doth also now save us

This is Peter. This is well after the Book of Acts has ended, and Peter is saying - now - as we inch ever so closer to the end of the Old Covenant, “baptism” doth also now save us.

As we have done with the rest of these tiny, handful of cherry-picked verses, I think we would be better off, putting this one back in the text, and examining what is before and what is after the verse. And, when we take an honest, complete look at the the verse, we will come away with the same understanding we have had for many years and months now. Physical water being applied to the flesh was done in order to keep the Law God gave Moses in the Old World, and having the Living Water of Jesus Christ applied to us by God Himself - is what is meant by baptizo in the days that were ending the Old Covenant and then into the New Covenant World in which we now live.

I believe I have conclusively presented the argument that during the Book of Acts, when we see what could look like the application of physical water to the flesh, we are seeing men fulfill the Law God gave Moses - but doing so in the Name of - in the Authority of Jesus Christ. And, even more specific than that, to those who were in Jerusalem, as opposed to those believers that were not inhabitants of Jerusalem. While the temple was still standing, in the Book of Acts, those people entering the temple of God, were still bound to the Law God gave Moses, but, they were required to do so in the Authority of Jesus Christ.

As we progress through the years, getting closer to the official end, particularly with the writings of Paul, we see Paul telling believers that the temple was no longer a necessity. He tells them physical, fleshly circumcision no longer has value. He tells them the divers washings - “baptisms” of the Law - no longer had value. He tells them the blood sacrifices are over. He tells them the ceremonial Law God gave Moses for sins - was finished.

Why? Why did Paul write those things? Friends, this is easy. It is not hard. The reason God had Paul write those things - was because there were still believers in Jesus Christ - who were keeping the Law. God had Paul inform them that was no longer the case. It is

not the works of the Law. The works of the Law profit nothing. Stop doing them. Anyone who tries to tell you that you are bound to the works of the Law is a false teacher. Paul wrote those things not to teach us 2,000 years later - he wrote them to teach THEM - 2,000 years ago - because they WERE keeping the Law God gave Moses.

I'm just not sure what the hangup is there. I'm not sure why people just can't understand that those people - including James and John and Peter and Phillip - they didn't have it all figured out in the Book of Acts. Or, maybe they did have it figured out. Maybe I need to change the way I have been saying it. Maybe they did understand that the Law was still applicable for those who were in Jerusalem - at that time.

But when we get into the writings of Paul, now Peter, where we'll look at again today, the writings of Paul and Peter - now clearly tell the people living in the first century - they were not to continue keeping the Law God gave Moses. Not even in the Name of - in the Authority of Jesus Christ. The days of the Old Covenant and all the works of that Law - were coming to an end.

Whether or not it is correct to say that Peter did not fully understand - well - I think we could have a really good discussion about that - but by the time we get to the epistles of Peter - my opinion is that he has finally figured it out. And when we get to I Peter 3:21 - I think even by taking that verse and laying on the table all by itself - we should clearly see Peter saying that when he used the word baptizo - he's absolutely NOT referring to physical water. But Peter can ONLY be talking about the New Covenant baptizo and baptisma that Jesus was describing in Mark 10.

So, before we put this verse back into the chapter where it belongs, let's look at it again.

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

I believe the key to understanding this verse is a matter of understanding how the English language works. Grammar, sentence structure, that's what I'm talking about. I went online and typed in what is parenthesis for? The modern definition is this:

a word, clause, or sentence inserted as an explanation or afterthought into a passage that is grammatically complete without it, in writing usually marked off by curved

brackets, dashes, or commas.

The modern Merriam-Webster dictionary says this:

an amplifying (see AMPLIFY sense 1) or explanatory word, phrase, or sentence inserted in a passage from which it is usually set off by punctuation explained further in a parenthesis

Then, I went to the 1828 Webster's which is closer to the 1611 KJV that I quoted this text from.

PAREN'THESIS, noun [Gr. to insert.] A sentence, or certain words inserted in a sentence, which interrupt the sense or natural connection of words, but serve to explain or qualify the sense of the principal sentence. The parenthesis is usually included in hooks or curved lines, thus.

Okay. So let's first read the verse, without the statement in the parentheses.

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Now, I ask you again. Which one of the 5 or 6 times the “baptism” is mentioned in our Bibles is this one referring? Is this talking about John's “All I'm doing is washing you in water?” Is it John's “‘baptism' of repentance?” Is it Christ's “baptism with the Holy Ghost? It it Christ's “baptism” by fire? That's four. Or is it Christ's Mark 10 “baptism” which was His betrayal, His trial, His beatings and mockings, His execution and His resurrection from the dead?

Funny thing about that “baptism.” I have conspicuously pointed out several times now that in Mark 10:38-39 - the words baptizo and baptisma appear more times in just those verses alone - than in any other verses in the entire Bible. In fact, I've been pointing out the seven - seven - passages of Scripture where those who demand physical water to the flesh go to to build their case for physical water - seven verses - but we look at two verses - where the words “baptizo and baptisma” are found SIX TIMES - SIX TIMES in just two verses - and yet - when look at passages such as Romans 6, Galatians 3, Colossians 2, and now I Peter 3 - according to these other teaches - there is not the slightest possibility - not even the slightest, remotest possibility that THIS - this Mark 10 baptizo and baptisma could be what Peter is talking about in I Peter 3:21.

Well friends, look at the text. I don't see how this could any other baptisma than the one Jesus Himself was telling His disciples THEY would be baptizo with. Look at the verse without the parentheses.

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

John's all I'm doing is washing in water doesn't reference the resurrection of Christ. John's washing of repentance doesn't reference the resurrection of Christ. Christ's Holy Ghost and fire “baptism” can be tied to His resurrection. But without a doubt, not even with the slightest of reservation - with every confidence of the Word of God available to us - the Mark 10 description of “baptism” the baptisma of Jesus Christ is unquestionably referring to His resurrection. And friends, anyone that would find physical water in the baptizo and baptisma Christ described in Mark 10 is a blasphemer. The only physical water found in the baptisma of Jesus Christ in Mark 10 is the water that flowed from His side when those wicked soldiers thrust the spear in His side. There is no “church water ritual” found in Mark 10 and anyone who inserts one there is evil.

It would be a despicable thing to argue for a “church water ritual” and use Mark 10 as a text for it. And you know what. Not even among the “churches” have I found someone trying to use the Mark 10 passage to advocate for a “church water ritual.”

What I do find, though, is when people write books demanding a “church water ritual” in what they call “baptism” - Mark chapter 10 is conspicuously not mentioned. To which I say, Hallelujah. Praise God. For men who write books and preach and teach and demand the application of physical water to the flesh - and they do not even mention Mark 10 - well - that's great. Unless they have stopped short of a full-on blasphemy in their argument.

So again, without the parentheses:

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We should easily be able to understand that this “baptism” that doth now save us - is the baptisma that Jesus Christ defined in Mark 10. Peter is not talking about John's water. He is talking about Mark chapter 10.

In conclusion, I'm not going to get it finished today. But in conclusion, let's put the parentheses back into the verse and read it the way Peter wrote it.

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Let's look at just the parentheses for a minute.

(not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,)

Remember now what Webster's 1828 says about a sentence with a parentheses in it.

PAREN'THESIS, noun [Gr. to insert.] A sentence, or certain words inserted in a sentence, which interrupt the sense or natural connection of words, but serve to explain or qualify the sense of the principal sentence. The parenthesis is usually included in hooks or curved lines, thus.

So the sentence, or certain words inserted into the sentence, explains or qualifies the sense of the principle sentence.

Peter is saying - as plain as day - I'm talking about the baptisma that Jesus was talking about in Mark 10. His betrayal, His trial and His death burial and resurrection - I'm not talking about a baptisma that is for the putting away of the filth of the flesh. I'm not talking about physical water. I'm not talking about wash the clothes, bathe the skin. I'm not talking about washing after touching dead things. I'm not talking about "This is the Law concerning leprosy." I'm not talking about "This is the Law concerning marital relations." I'm not talking about the Law concerning Nazarites. I'm not talking about the Law concerning no impurities in the temple. I'm not talking about washing the priests before they offer sacrifice. I'm not talking about the many divers "baptisms" according to the Law God gave Moses.

I'm talking about being washed in the living a life - having a good conscience toward God - being overtaken by - being consumed by - being overcome by - the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Friends, there is no physical water here in this verse. This baptisma is the baptisma that

Jesus Christ Himself defined in Mark 10 and the one that Jesus Christ Himself told His disciples they would be baptizo with.

Next week, we'll need to come back again and go ahead and put the verse back in the Bible and read what else is before and behind the verse so we'll know beyond any shadow of a doubt - this is not a baptisma that has anything to do with physical water.