

Acts 2:38

Sunday 3/12/2006

We have been coming through the systematic study that God has laid out in His Word that really helps us begin to put the Bible together. If you've been with us from the very beginning, or you've gotten into this along the way someplace, you know now how we're doing this and how we're putting all this material together. We have come through every book of the Bible, which we're going to use now in our Bible study, in our groups. Now we are moving into the systematic study that God has built into His own Bible based around the number of seven, seven being God's number of perfection and completion.

What we have been doing in this particular study is focusing on the seven baptisms. By doing that, we have been showing you how your Bible lays out. We're showing you how doctrinally you begin to take and lay the Word of God out in such a way that you really begin to see how it comes together. You're going to see, as I told you last night, once you get the baseline of your Bible down, and let's say that you have gotten far enough in our study that we have done the book of Acts. In that book of Acts, when we studied it in our little accountability groups, our little Bible study groups now, we have laid out all of the baseline of the book of Acts.

Today would be a day that you would get a lot of material that you would build upon that baseline. My goal is this: once I give you the baseline and you get, say, this next month we get Genesis down, what we're going to do then, the rest of our lives, is every time from Sunday morning to Thursday night or our one-on-one time, we are going to take the material that lines up with material in Genesis and we're going to build on that baseline. In other words, once we get the Bible done in its completeness, as I said this morning, last night was the first day of your new life of really grasping this Bible if you stay with it.

We have built into this thing all the different aspects that drag us down. We now have accountability. You're going to find that your little groups are going to be more than just Bible study groups, more than just accountability groups. You're going to find within that group that there are going to be people that will help you be able to do things and learn things, and you'll help them. It'll be a time where it'll become your own little prayer group. It's going to be everything that you need. The rest of your life, we're going to be building on the foundation. If you have the book of Acts done already, today would be a day and you would get a humongous part of the book of Acts. You're going to get it anyhow, but because you don't have the baseline down yet, most of you, you don't necessarily know what to do with it.

I'm going to give you an example today in one chapter of the Bible. I'm going to give you an example today of one chapter in the Bible, what I'm going to do for you throughout the whole Bible. I want you to take today's lesson based on what I told you last night. I'm going to give you an example of it. I'm going to take one chapter of the Bible today, which just happened to fit into where we're at. It's perfect. When I'm done with that chapter, you're going to know that chapter broken down, detailed out, every aspect of it. When you're done with this lesson this morning, you're going to know Acts chapter 2, inside out, upside down, backwards and forwards.

Take that same detailing of that chapter, and that's what I'm going to do for you in every book of the Bible, and then I'm going to do it in every verse of the Bible. If you stay in these groups and these groups continue and you use everything that's in it, you will know the Bible as well as you're going to know this chapter when I'm done today. There'll be nothing undone that you won't have at your fingertips. Up to this point, it's been a lot of where I've laid a lot of this material out, but as we said last night, there's been no accountability to it. You're up to your own whether you do it or not, and as we know, nine times out of ten, we don't get it done. Well, now that's all taken away and changed. Now we have the ability for the first time in our church for everything to go the right way.

I know I put you in teams last night, and we know all about that, but let me just throw it out one step further. Even though you're in those teams, if you're a younger Christian and you have struggles with grasping all of this, you come and see me. I'll work with you adjacent to your team to help you and put it all together. I will do whatever it takes. If I don't ever take another astrophotography picture the rest of my life, that's okay. If my dogs never get a walk again, well, I don't know about that, but anyway.

I. The Fourth Baptism: Israel's Repentance

Alright, now here we go, Acts chapter 2. Today we've come to the fourth baptism. We've come through three of them so far. There are seven of them, and I told you when we started this that when you come through the Bible, the Bible talks about in the book of Ephesians that there's one true baptism, and yet the Bible lays out that there are seven distinct baptisms. What we begin to see when we study this is that six of these baptisms picture the one true baptism in one way or the other, and we started to come through that.

This baptism here that we're going to talk about today, in this chapter, is probably the most important verse that you need to know as far as dealing with people and understanding how this thing goes together. The verse that I'm going to give you today, without a doubt, this verse today has sent more people to hell than all of the drugs and the sin and the booze and all the ungodliness of this world combined. I am not kidding you. The Bible is not only the greatest book for you and I to go to heaven with, the Bible is the greatest book in the world to go to hell with. That Bible is a two-edged sword. It'll either save your soul or it'll damn your soul. Every heresy in the world today that sends people to hell like a bullet will be based on something in the Bible that is wrongly misapplied. This verse, and the verse is Acts chapter 2, verse 38, where we're going. This verse, misapplied, has sent more people to hell than everything else I know in the world. I'm telling you, and if you don't know that, you've not had much time dealing with people or in religious circles. This thing misapplied will absolutely have destroyed more people, and more people are in hell because of this one verse misapplied than every other sin collectively that you can think of.

Now I want to begin reading, and I want to read Acts chapter 2, the whole chapter, because we've got to set a context here. But the main focus of this is going to be baptism number four, which is the baptism of Israel's repentance under Simon Peter. That's the name of this baptism. Now I

want to read it for you. It says this. We're going to start, this is a long thing here, it's 47 verses, so just bear with me. If you want to check out and get a nap, now is the time.

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?

And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,

Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,

Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?

Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:

And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:

Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope:

Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.

Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;

He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.

This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand,

Until I make thy foes thy footstool.

Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

And they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking of bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

II. Misinterpretations of Acts 2:38

Now, I said all that to say this: you can make Acts 2:38 say anything you want to make it say. But what you've got to have when it comes to the Bible, and you're going to see this today, is you've got to take those things in context. You thought that I was just fooling you when I said, "The Lord maketh me to lie, lie down by the still." But I'm going to show you how somebody does the same thing with Acts 2:38 and sends millions and millions and millions of men and women to hell by something just that stupid, except nobody ever laughs at it. They only laugh at me. Somebody else says it, and they believe it. Oh, you're going to get a lesson today. This is a perfect lesson. When I'm done with this chapter, everybody in here who has an IQ slightly above sub-plant life will know Acts 2:38 indelibly on your mind. What I'm going to do through our program with the whole Bible for you, you're going to do the work, but I'm going to do it for you. I'm going to do for you Bible-wise what I'm doing with this verse of this chapter.

Our verse here is in verse 38 of chapter 2, and it says this:

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Now let me say this. First of all, this baptism is water, and this is a literal baptism. There's nothing spiritual about this. The first thing you want to know is this baptism is water, and it is literal. Now, the second thing I want to deal out to you is there are two heresies that are taught on

this. There are two bad teachings that lend themselves around this verse. The first one will send you to hell. The second one will get you naked at the judgment seat of Christ.

Every church that teaches the damnable heresy that you've got to be baptized to go to heaven will get it from Acts 2:38. I'm not saying they won't run to Mark 16:16 or over to 1 Peter someplace or someplace else, but their main text where they will go is Acts 2:38. You know why? Because if you just read Acts 2:38 by itself, it looks like you've got to be baptized to get the forgiveness of sin. I'll give you that.

The second heresy is taught by the Charismatic Movement. They take this text that when you get saved, you don't get all of the Holy Spirit of God that you should get. So they go around baptizing people after they're saved in the name of Jesus Christ. That's when they put them down in the water and bring them up. They're supposed to come up in that water speaking in tongues. That's how they do it. They take that verse, and one applies it to that you didn't get everything that God got for you when you got saved, and you need something else. So you have to pray for the baptism of the Holy Ghost. That's their big stick word. You'll find Charismatics, they've asked me this, they find out I'm a Christian and they'll say, "Have you received the baptism of the Holy Ghost yet?" I said, "I sure did. I got saved." But they think that's not how it works. They think that once you get saved, you've got to kind of wander around in life for a while, do you do something, and then suddenly when you get baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, just as it says here in Acts 2, that Holy Ghost fell on them and they all spoke with tongues. They say that that is the evidence of it.

Both groups are definitely wrong. I told you last night, and I've said this all through everything, the thing that is wrong with those teachings and the why they get it is because they don't put it in context. I told you last night, you guys have done the last three years that I've worked with you. Some of you have done just a great job of coming through the Bible on your own. But one of the problems that everybody is fighting with is when you read something, you don't understand the context. I'm going to do with you in the whole Bible what I'm going to do with you in this chapter today. I'm going to give you the context. In the course of the next few years, if Jesus doesn't come, I'm going to do for you completely in the Bible exactly what I'm going to do for you with this chapter, that there will be no doubt in your mind what it means. You'll be able to go anywhere in the Bible and talk with anybody about the Bible under any circumstances. If you want to put that in kind of like two airplanes in a dogfight in the old adage of the old World War II pilots and old Chuck Yeager, you're going to wax their tail. Why? Because you're going to have something that 99.999999% of the Christians don't have when it comes to their Bible. It's just one little word: context. A text without a context is a pretext. You've got to have the context.

III. Kingdom of God vs. Kingdom of Heaven

A couple of weeks ago, we took the time and we detailed out the kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven, so we know that now. If you were here that Sunday, you now know that. You have that in your tool belt. Your tool belt is your Bible with all the tools, all the books of the Bible and everything that's in there. You go to work for God, you've got to put on your tool belt.

You've got to use those tools as you do what you've got to do. So the kingdom of God and the kingdom of heaven now is a key tool in your tool belt.

Now that we know that, let me say this: you should know this now, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, and I'm going to add just a little bit more to it. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, and Acts chapter 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 are all dealing with the kingdom of heaven to Israel. You've got to know that. We're going to get a context. When Christ comes the first time, when Christ comes at the first coming of Christ, and He shows up from Matthew to Acts chapter 7, the nation of Israel gets three chances to get that kingdom. Israel from Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, Acts chapter 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 get three chances to get that kingdom of heaven to Israel.

- John the Baptist
- Christ's Ministry
- Peter's Ministry

IV. The Context of Pentecost and Tongues

Now here's what the charismatic does. "How many times I've been asked this, 'Brother, have you experienced the experience of Pentecost?'" "No." "Well, brother, Pentecost is the greatest experience." "Well, thank you for your private interpretation. Now let's get back to the Bible." Pentecost was an Old Testament feast. The experience of Pentecost, let me ask you a question, anybody know when the day of Pentecost was? It was 50 days after the Feast of Weeks. Feast of Weeks ran 49 days, and on the 50th day was Pentecost. You know what happened the exact same time next year when he went through 49 weeks and got to the 50th? Nothing. You know what happened the next year after the 49 days of the Feast of Weeks on the day of Pentecost? Nothing. Pentecost was never an experience. Pentecost is an Old Testament Jewish feast. It has never had anything to do with the church. There isn't anybody down through the history of the church in any way, shape, or form for 1900 years that never holds anything to Pentecost until Amy McPherson in 1900 at the Azusa Street Mission out in Los Angeles and later on in Topeka, Kansas, Bethel Bible College, comes up with the experience of Pentecost, which formulates later on into the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International and then comes down to us today as the Pentecostal movement. Nothing to do with the Bible. Not a thing. Not a thing. Not a thing. So that's where they tie in it that Pentecost comes with that when you get the baptism, you get the tongues. So we'll call ourselves Pentecostals. You couldn't find a Pentecostal in church history from Acts chapter 9 to 1900 if you stayed up all night.

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

This is where they think they're drunk. They see him talking in other languages, and by the way, that's another thing. You never find any Bible, anybody ever talked any heavenly language gibberish. Acts chapter 1 and 2 tell you that they are languages, and they give you the nations of those languages, and they say, "How do we hear every man in our own tongue?" You've got three words, two words, languages and tongues, and then the nations are listed from those languages and tongues. Nobody walking around going, "Hash by hash by fee fi fo fom." Nobody's doing that. Nobody's doing that. They're speaking in other languages, and they think now that they're drunk. And here's what he says. He says, "Hey, these are not drunken, at verse 15, as you suppose, seeing it's the third hour of the day. And this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel."

Is there anybody want to even stop and consider what Joel said about this and the context of Joel? Is there a charismatic anywhere in the world that knows where Joel is in the Old Testament, let alone where this is at in Joel? It's Joel 2, and the context of Joel 2 is not Robert, Jimmy Swaggart, Sheffield Assembly, or anybody else. The context is the second coming of Christ to the nation of Israel. You want to say what is that? That's called context.

Look at the end of this passage:

And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:

Here it comes, context: "before the great and notable day of the Lord come," second coming of Christ. Now what you've got from that time, from Acts 3, Acts 4, Acts 5, 6, is the Jewish ministry under the apostles to the nation of Israel trying to get them that third chance. Peter preaches five messages from Acts chapter 2 to Acts chapter 6, five of them. There isn't a charismatic that knows that in this world. Peter preaches five messages to the nation of Israel in those passages.

V. Israel's Final Rejection and the Shift to the Church Age

The final message is preached by a man named Stephen in Acts chapter 7. Acts chapter 7 has 60 verses in it, and it's all Stephen's messages and the points of his outline. I'm going to say this to you: Acts chapter 7 is one of the pivotal points in your Bible. It's where it changes from the kingdom of heaven to the kingdom of God. It's where Israel makes its final rejection. Acts chapter 7 is where God has now come in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. He's given the nation of Israel the opportunity to get the kingdom of heaven. They have blown two chances. On the cross, His Son says, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." They get a third chance, and here is where they lose the last final chance until the tribulation period, and the church age comes in. The kingdom of heaven goes out, the kingdom of God comes in. God's

done with Israel till the tribulation period. There isn't a charismatic in the world that knows that. Not one. Not one, because they have no context. They have no context. They have no context.

Now I'm going to show you something that just, here I go, this is the tricks of the trade. You want it, you got it. After last night, I'll give you anything, but I'm going to show it to you how this thing works. You want the book of Acts in your pocket? You want to walk around jingling the book of Acts in your pocket like you've got some shekels to go down to the little, go through life? You want some, you want it? You want a little truth that you can just finger around in your finger like you've got marbles down there and you're so happy because you've got some nice marbles and you've got some shekels, you know, and you've got all kinds of money to do it? You want some truth you can do that with? Here it comes. Put this in your pocket this afternoon. Book of Acts, easy, easy, absolutely easy. You know what I'm going to do? Every book in the Bible, just like I'm doing this chapter for you. That's the deal we made last night.

Now here it comes. We know Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John now have two chances that Israel gets it: John the Baptist and Christ. On the cross, He says, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." God honors that prayer. So from Acts chapter 1 to Acts chapter 7, for Israel to get the kingdom, they reject the last time. What happened? You never noticed how it's a pivotal verse? You see the next chapter, something happened that was against everything that Jesus said. In the next chapter, Samaritans get saved. Why? When He sent them out in Matthew chapter 10, He specifically told them not to go to the Samaritans. That's not all. At the end of Acts chapter 8, you know what happens? An old black Ethiopian eunuch gets saved. Whoa, where's this going? You know what happened in Acts chapter 9? Paul gets saved. Who's he? Apostle to the Gentiles. You know what happened in chapter 10? Cornelius gets saved, full-blown Italian, and Peter gets the vision of the three visions of the unclean becoming clean, Gentiles. You know what happened in chapter 11? First called Christians at Antioch. You know what happens from 12 to 28? Kingdom of God in missionary trips go into the world. From Acts chapter 7, when they make their final rejection, there's not one more mention of Jerusalem in a positive state, and there's no more miracles ever done in Jerusalem. God is done with the kingdom of heaven for now, and the kingdom of God comes in. You know what that's called? That's called context. That's called understanding Acts 2:38 in its context. That's what it's called. That's what it's called.

You ever notice that he says there, he saw the Son of man? You ever ask yourself why Paul never uses the term Son of man in his writings? Not one time. You'll never show me one time when the Apostle Paul writes and then he writes, he called Jesus Christ the Son of man. You know why? The Son of man is a millennial term, not a church age term.

VI. Breaking Down Acts 2:38 in Context

Let's go back to our verse. Let's break it down. Let's get the context.

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Let's take that now and let's do with it in the context. Here we go.

- To the Nation of Israel
- Peter's Authority
- Repentance and Remission of Sins

VII. Three Questions in Acts

Let's put it all together in closing. In Matthew chapter 3, the baptism we studied a while back, we saw we were dealing with the baptism of John, John manifesting Christ to the nation of Israel based on the Old Testament promises of Israel getting into that land in Joshua chapter 4. In Acts chapter 2, verse 38, we now see the baptism to Israel under Peter's ministry, and Israel is told what they must do because they have lost the first two chances, and if they're going to get the second chance as a nation, they have to take these steps because they have killed and crucified the Jewish King and the Jewish Messiah, and they have killed Him.

Now, let's play a game. I'm not playing this with you, but I play this with charismatics. The name of the game is, "How dumb are you?" It's a Bible game out of 1 Kings 18. Charismatic is down there and tells you that all this is to you. "Oh yeah, this is all to us, and we speak in tongues and all that." Let's go down through this thing. Let's just take Acts chapter 1 and see what it says. Let's play the game.

When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

First time. The question they're asking is, "Are you going to restore again the kingdom to Israel?" Nothing about the church, nothing about Christianity, to the nation of Israel and their kingdom.

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

It begins to preach. He says this down coming through here in chapter 2. "And Peter standing up with the eleven lifted up his voice and said to them, 'Ye men of Judea and all that dwell at Jerusalem.'" Hey, giving you the context of this message. No church, no Samaritans, no Gentiles, Jerusalem and Judea.

Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

"Ye men of Israel." No church, no Gentiles, Israel.

Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

"Men and brethren, men and brethren of Israel."

Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

"Therefore let all the house of Israel." Hey, no Jews, no Gentiles.

Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

Now, when they heard this, who's the "they"? You tell me now. Israel. When they heard this, heard what? What did they hear? What they heard was that the Jesus that they crucified, God hath made Lord and Christ. Follow that. "When they heard this, they were pricked in their heart. And they said unto Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Men and brethren, what shall we do?'"

Now, here's where your Honda Accord comes in. Everybody who wants to prove that this is water baptism to save your soul will add to it, "What must we do to be saved?" If you hear them on the radio and they quote that, they will add those words at the end to. Does anybody read in there "to be saved"? Anybody see that? See, you can make it anything you want. You want to make it a Honda Accord? You can't. You want to make it a motorcycle? You can't. You want to get higher on a mountain? You can't. If you want to take that and you want to say, "Men and brethren, what must we do to be saved?" when it doesn't say that, you're destroying the content.

You want to see the difference? I'll show you the difference. Come over to Acts chapter 16. You know this story? It's the story of the Philippian jailer.

And when he had laid many stripes upon them, he cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:

Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

See that thing? That's in the church. We're at Acts 16. You know what they're asking back there in Acts 2? "What must they do?" not to be saved. "What must we do because we crucified the Messiah, Jesus, that Jesus that you sent us that God made the Lord and Christ?" That's what

they're saying. "What do we do because we killed the Messiah?" Not to be saved. Not talking about that.

Now I don't know if you know it or not, but in the book of Acts, there are three questions asked. Remember how I told you that there are three groups of people addressed in the Bible? You've got the Jews, the Gentiles, and the church. Three groups of people the Bible's written to. You're going to find that when Christ comes and God does all that He does, He does it to those three people groups. He does. That's why when He put Him on the cross and said, "King of the Jews," they put it one in each language, and each one of those languages match up to one of those people groups. Simple as that. Three, three, three.

- Acts 2:37 - Israel's Question
- Acts 16:30 - Unsaved Man's Question
- Acts 9:6 - Saved Man's Question

See that thing? Just as clean as that. One guy says, "What shall we do, Israel?" The other one says, unsaved, "What must I do to be saved?" The third guy's a saved man after he got saved, and he says, "Okay, Lord, now what will You have me to do?" It's just that simple.

I'll tell you something else. When you come down to Acts chapter 16, and this boy got saved down through there, anybody see him getting baptized in Jesus' name to get the Holy Ghost? Anybody see him speaking in tongues? Anybody see him doing all the crazy stuff they're doing in Acts 2? You're right. You know why? Different context. Different context. Now it's as simple as that.

This baptism is the fourth one that we have studied. This one deals with the nation of Israel under Peter's ministry, with Israel getting the last and final time. They're told to repent. You notice that when you got baptized, you got baptized in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost. You notice that they got baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, not the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost. That never bothered a charismatic. Did that bother you? I'll tell you why. You got baptized in the name of Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost, and they got baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. They got baptized in the name of Jesus Christ because that's the man they crucified. You get baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit of God because that's not your baptism. You got another one coming in the church. See how easy it is? It's just that easy.

So, so far coming through our study, we saw the baptism of Moses. We talked about that. Then we saw the baptism of John before the crucifixion. Now we, to Israel, now we've seen the baptism of Peter after the crucifixion. So Israel will get that third and final time chance after they have crucified the Messiah. In Acts chapter 1, verse 6, they now, they asked the question, "Are you going to restore the kingdom of Israel this time?" In Acts chapter 7, that answer comes back, and the answer is no. "I'm going to ride the ass's colt, not riding the ass anymore. She's unridable. Israel, I'm going to the Gentiles." It's as simple as that.

I told you this, and then I'm done. Show you the consistency of the Bible. Few more shekels. Show it exists in the Bible. I told you that Peter was the apostle to the nation of Israel. Is that what I told you? I told you Paul was the apostle of the church. That's what I told you. I told you that Peter gets the keys of the kingdom in Matthew chapter 17, and all through the Acts chapter 1 through 7 and up through the Gospels, he opens those kingdoms. So he's doing the predominant of the preaching. How many times did Israel get a chance? How many times did they reject? How many times did Peter deny Christ? Some book you've got. Some book you've got.

Now, everybody should understand Acts 2. Better understand the whole book of Acts after that. My point is this: what I just did for you today on Acts 2, you're going out of here understanding that in its context. In a short time that we had this morning, I'm going to do that for you in every book of the Bible, every chapter of the Bible in time, and every verse of the Bible. You do the work on your end. You bring it in with your little group. You bring it to me, and I will fill you up. I'll send you home with everything you ever dreamed about learning about that Bible and spend the time with you to grasp it. That's the only way I know how to teach it.

I don't know much in life. I found out last night you could even play our CDs on a computer. My God, I'm going to figure out that they've got round wheels here before long. I don't know much about life. But I do know one thing. I know how to teach people the Bible. I know how to do it in a way that it'll stick. But we've got to have all the ingredients, and up to this point, I told you last night is going to change your work. If you do what we talked about last night, your life will never be the same again. If you still want in it, you see me at that table back there. The team leaders, don't leave tonight because I'm going to probably put some people with you. I want you to explain what I explained last night, and we'll get this thing on. My group, 6:30 Friday night, we'll have something to eat. We'll put it together, bring your Bibles and all your stuff. We'll have a time where we get together. I'll talk to you about some things. We'll lay out a plan and a strategy. Every group ought to be doing that at some point to get this thing up and running. I promise you when you bring it to me, if you have done your work, and if you need help in the meantime, don't you think just because you're on a team, you can't call me. I will help you any way through this to get you up and running. But once we get there, you, my friend, are going to learn your scriptures. You're going to go through the rest of your life knowing the context of your Bible. You're never going to get caught in those situations again, where you don't know what you're reading and why you're reading it. Let's pray.