

## Acts 19:1-7 - "Re"-Baptism

*Intro* – Special day...Lord's Day & Baptism Day. Baptism is one of the two Ordinances that Jesus has commanded His church to observe. At CBBC we schedule *The Supper* every other month; but we don't have a set schedule for baptisms. Baptisms are only observed when a disciple is ready to make their public profession of faith and join the church. Baptism is the doorway to membership in the local church...member = baptized believer. Baptism is normally administered only one time per believer <sup>(not repeated like The Supper)</sup>. But there are exceptions to that rule and circumstances when someone is actually re-baptized. Our text today in Acts 19 sets the biblical precedence for this, and the baptism today will follow that example. We get the privilege to talk about baptism and then get to observe a baptism. Both Ordinances are dramas of the gospel...they're symbols of the gospel in tangible form. Baptism is a sermon you can see like the Supper is a sermon you can taste. Before we see that sermon, you will hear a short one.

- Baptism plays a big role in the heritage of the Baptist church. <sup>(it is in our name)</sup>
  - One of our distinctives is that we hold to a "*believer's baptism*."
    - Baptism should only be administered to those who personally believe.
    - Matt. 3:6      Acts 2:38, 41      Acts 8:12, 36-37      Acts 18:8
  - ***Without faith it is impossible [for baptism] to please God.***
- Baptist heritage mingles with the Ana-Baptist (re-baptizers)
  - Huge controversy <sup>(and contention)</sup> to call into question the validity of infant baptism
  - Not one example of infant baptism in scripture
  - There is an example of a re-baptism
- Acts 19:1      Paul ran into some disciple in Ephesus and struck up a conversation.
  - 19:2a -      "*did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?*" <sup>(Acts 2:38)</sup>
  - 19:2b -      "*we did not even know there was a Holy Spirit*"
  - This was a "red flag" for Paul so he asked, "*what kind of baptism...?*" 19:3
  - 19:4
    - They had an inadequate understanding of the gospel
    - They had a perfectly good OT baptism with some good elements
      - Biblical elements - repentance
    - But missing some essential elements
      - no personal faith in Jesus & no work of the Holy Spirit <sup>Mark 1:7-8</sup>
      - "*Ignorance of the Holy Ghost is as inconsistent with a sincere profession of Christianity as ignorance of Christ is.*" <sup>M. Henry</sup>
  - they heard the gospel and were re-baptized in Jesus' name and received the Holy Spirit.      19:5-6
- If a baptism was not accompanied by a personal faith in the Triune God – ~~NT Baptism~~
  - we are to baptize disciples in the Name of the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit <sup>Matt. 28:19</sup>
  - baptism symbolized the death, burial, & resurrection of the Son – <sup>Rom. 6:3-4      Col. 2:12</sup>
  - Without the Spirit there is not faith or conversion <sup>Rom. 8:9      John 3:5</sup>
    - Baptism administered after the Spirit's operation - <sup>Acts 10:47-48</sup>

- Mariano Badillo
  - New to our assembly
  - Came months ago and expressed a desire to be a member of CBBC
    - Gave a good testimony (his enthusiasm is encouraging)
  - Always had religion in his life...missing a relationship with Jesus Christ
  - Mariano has already been baptized.....very significant baptism to him
    - .... after a traumatic event in his life .....OKC bombing
    - God uses traumatic events in our lives to get our attention.
  - Death, destruction, and contemplation of mortality led Mario to church.
  - He was baptized...but something important was missing....
    - ....Christ & His forgiveness
  - Mario wants to declare that he is not just coming to church as a security blanket but coming to Christ as The Savior for the forgiveness of sins.
  - We've discussed: Trinity, Jesus as the Substitute for sinners, Passover Lamb that pays the price for our sin, Love of the Father and the Fruit of the Spirit, personal faith and a living faith
    - A faith that believes that what God did in redemption He did for Mario.
- The symbolism of Baptism
  - IDENTIFICATION – with Christ's Death, Burial & Resurrection
    - Rom. 6:3-4
    - *I want Jesus' death to be my death....burial to be my...resurrection to be...*
    - Baptism is the public embracing of Christ substitutionary work
      - I believe that what He did He did for me
      - Col. 2:12                      Gal. 3:27- clothed with Christ
  - RENUNCIATION - death to old self/life
    - Putting off the old man and putting on the new man
    - Baptism (by immersion) looks like a drowning.      Baptism is a funeral
    - *"Here lies Mariano Badillo"*
      - Die to self and take up cross to follow Jesus. Mark 8:34
    - Death/Burial/Resurrection is the lifestyle patter for the believer
    - The gospel invitation is: **"Come and die so you can live."**