

Welcome  
to Lesson 4

Training for Baptized (Immersed) Disciples of Jesus:

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Immersion Baptism is the first step to Heaven

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Objective: Help disciples accomplish the tasks  
assigned by Jesus  
in a religiously confused and secular world

## *Disciples Task Summary*

- 1. Make Disciples by immersing (baptizing) them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit **for the forgiveness of sins***
- 2. Teach Disciples to **do their best to obey everything Jesus commanded the Apostles***

Matthew 28:18-20

To make Disciples via immersion (baptism) is the greatest gift any soul can give another.

## Jesus changed the way sins are addressed by Almighty God

### Before Jesus' crucifixion

- Jesus fulfilled the old covenant with Israel and God
- The sins of the people of Israel as a **group** were not forgiven, but pushed a year forward by a ceremony in the Temple
- The High Priest sprinkled a bull's blood on the altar for a year

### After Jesus' Resurrection

- A covenant was established between an **individual** and God
- Forgiveness of sins was accomplished by a decision of each soul to be baptized (immersed) in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

## Baptized Disciples of Jesus (BDOJs) - Job Training - 4

The meaning and application of immersion (baptism) was established in the culture of Jesus' time on this earth.

In the Jewish society of the Temple and the Synagogue, immersion in water was associated with:

- Ritual Cleansing - symbolizing purification or regeneration
  - John's baptism was for repentance of sins
- Consecration – official recognition as Holy or Special
  - Jesus' consecration as a priest at 30 years of age
- Covenant Agreement - certified by blood
  - A sacred agreement between God and a person or group

The **immense** purpose of Immersion (Baptism) is for the forgiveness of a disciple's sin – there is no other way

<sup>38</sup> Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” ---- Acts 2:38-39

## Baptized Disciples of Jesus (BDOJs) - Job Training - 4

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Immersion Baptism is the Most Important Decision for every soul - even those that today may reject the opportunity.

<sup>6</sup> “About noon as I came near Damascus, suddenly a bright light from heaven flashed around me. <sup>7</sup> I fell to the ground and heard a voice say to me, ‘Saul! Saul! Why do you persecute me?’

<sup>8</sup> “‘Who are you, Lord?’ I asked.

“ ‘I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting,’ he replied. <sup>9</sup> My companions saw the light, but they did not understand the voice of him who was speaking to me.

## Baptized Disciples of Jesus (BDOJs) - Job Training - 4

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<sup>10</sup> “‘What shall I do, Lord?’ I asked. “ ‘Get up,’ the Lord said, ‘and go into Damascus. There you will be told all that you have been assigned to do.’ <sup>11</sup> My companions led me by the hand into Damascus, because the brilliance of the light had blinded me.

<sup>12</sup> “A man named Ananias came to see me. He was a devout observer of the law and highly respected by all the Jews living there. <sup>13</sup> He stood beside me and said, ‘Brother Saul, receive your sight!’ And at that very moment I was able to see him.

Immersion Baptism is the Most Important Decision for every soul - even those that today may reject the opportunity

<sup>14</sup> “Then he said: ‘The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and to **hear words from his mouth.** <sup>15</sup> You will be his witness to all people of what you have seen and heard.

<sup>16</sup> And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.’

# Baptism in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit establishes a sacred covenant between a Disciple of Jesus and Almighty God

The words of Jesus sets the Covenant Agreement conditions

Baptized Disciples pledge to obey everything Jesus commanded the apostles: The greatest and most important commands

- Love God the Father with all heart, soul, mind and strength
- Do their best to faithfully obey everything Jesus commanded the apostles
- Remember the Body and Blood Sacrifice of Jesus every first day of the week

## Baptism is a sacred covenant between a Disciple of Jesus and Almighty God - Covenant Conditions Continued

Almighty God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit Promises:

- Complete and total forgiveness of all disciple's sins as disciples walk in the light of Jesus words
- Provide the gift of the Holy Spirit as a counselor
- Provide blessings and to hear prayers in this life
- Provide an eternal residence in God's presence at the end of this life

The immense importance of Immersion (Baptism) in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is measured by:

- The tremendous price that was paid by Jesus sacrifice on the cross to free obedient Disciples from the Wrath of Almighty God
- The most terrible result of sin for every soul that does not try their best to obey everything Jesus commanded the apostles.
  - ❖ The wages of sin is eternal separation from the Creator of the Universe or eternal death

## Baptized Disciples of Jesus (BDOJs) - Job Training - 4

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Disciples must help those we encounter to understand that the destination of their soul is in their hands.

Matthew 7:13-14 ---- <sup>13</sup> “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and **only a few find** it.

Matthew 10:28 ---<sup>28</sup> Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, **be afraid** of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Baptism is the only way to get off the Long Black Train to Hell and on the narrow road to life.

The disciple baptizing another to be a disciple is not as important as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit;

1 Corinthians 1: 11-16

<sup>11</sup> My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas<sup>[b]</sup>"; still another, "I follow Christ." <sup>13</sup> Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so no one can say that you were baptized in my name.

The fundamental command of Jesus to the apostles and baptized disciples is to GO and Make disciples via immersion baptism.

What are the benefits of immersion baptism?

- Baptism is for forgiveness of disciple's sins
- Baptism enables disciples to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit
- Baptism is a promise for disciples, their children, and for those Almighty God will call
- Cleanses the soul to be in the presence of Almighty God

Baptized Disciples of Jesus should Represent Heaven in ways that do not minimize the extreme price that was paid for our opportunity to enter the presence of our Father, Almighty God.

- The entrance to heaven is not overseen by St. Peter and the image of pearly gates is only an encouraging vision from John.
- Jesus answered, “**I am the way** and **the** truth and **the** life. No one comes to **the** Father except through me. John 14:6

## Representing Heaven - Continued

- Religious group names, associations and family religious histories of are of no value in Heaven -
- The Only way to Heaven and the presence of Almighty God is through Jesus by obeying everything Jesus commanded the apostles.
- The vast majority of those Jesus adds to Heaven are faithful, obedient, Baptized (immersed) Disciples of Jesus

Accurately representing Heaven in conversations is a way to create questions that Disciples can answer.

“We may see Peter and some pearly gates in Heaven, but the only way to get into heaven is by Jesus adding those being saved to the church of the saved. “ Reference Acts 2:47.

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

## Up coming Lesson Topics

Lesson 5. Promoting Respect of Almighty God

Lesson 6. Trolling for Spiritual Questions

Lesson 7. Answers for Questions related to Science and the Bible