

## False Doctrines Refuted By Acts 2

### Part 3

#### Introduction

1. This is the third lesson on False Doctrines Refuted By Acts 2.
2. We have found so far that Acts 2 refutes these doctrines.

Lesson 1	Lesson 2
Predestination Of The Individual	The Direct Operation Of The Holy Spirit On The Heart For Conviction and Conversion To Christ.
Sinner Saved When He Prays For Pardon	Salvation By Faith Only
	Water Baptism Has Nothing To Do With Salvation

3. This lesson will examine some additional false doctrines refuted by Acts 2.

### One Should Join The Church Of One's Choice

1. This doctrine stated.
  - a. That one "church" is as good as another.
  - b. That a person joins whichever church he wishes.
  - c. That the conflicting teachings of the various churches are acceptable to the Lord.
2. Acts 2 does not support this doctrine. (Acts 2:41, 47).

Acts 2:41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. The meaning is "there were added [to the group of believers] about three thousand souls."

Acts 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved. "The Lord was adding to their number [the family of believers] day by day those who were being saved" is the meaning.

- a. Some translations have "added *unto them*" in verse 41 and "added to them" in verse 47.
  - 1) The three thousand were added to the saved - the group, the family of those being saved.
  - 2) The saved would be believers who had accepted John's baptism that was for remission of sins. (Mk. 1:4; Lk. 3:3).

Mark 1:4 John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Luke 3:3 And he came into all the district around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins; See Jn. 4:1-2 - Jesus' disciples baptizing

3) The saved referred to those who had received John's baptism and were identifying with Christ as Savior like the 120. (Acts 1:14-15).

Acts 1:14 These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with {the} women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

Acts 1:15 At this time Peter stood up in the midst of the brethren (a gathering of about one hundred and twenty persons was there together), and said,

4) The 120 were not the only ones who believed in Jesus. There were more than 500 believers in Galilee. (1 Cor. 15:5-6; Matt. 26:31-32). See Matt. 28:7, 16-20

1 Cor 15:5 and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

1 Cor 15:6 After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;

Matt 26:31 Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of Me this night, for it is written, 'I WILL STRIKE DOWN THE SHEPHERD, AND THE SHEEP OF THE FLOCK SHALL BE SCATTERED.'"

Matt 26:32 "But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." See Matt. 28:7, 16-20

5) There is no evidence that the apostles, the seventy or any others who accepted John's baptism were required to be re-baptized. "Seventy" (Lk. 10:1).

6) Those who received John's baptism after it ceased to be valid were required to be re-baptized. (Acts 19:1-7).

Acts 19:1 It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples.

Acts 19:2 He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they {said} to him, "No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

Acts 19:3 And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" And they said, "Into John's baptism."

Acts 19:4 Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus."

Acts 19:5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Acts 19:6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they {began} speaking with tongues and prophesying.

Acts 19:7 There were in all about twelve men.

7) John's baptism ceased to be valid at Pentecost. (Acts 2).

b. The word "church" in Acts 2:47 is not found in the best Greek manuscripts.

1) The Greek literally reads "those who were being saved." Literally "the [ones] being saved."

2) Though the word "church" does not appear in verse 47, the words "those who were being saved" refer to the church.

3) All through the book of Acts the word "church" is used to refer to the saved. (Acts 5:11; 8:1,3; 9:31; 11:22, 26; 12:1,5; 13:1; 14:23, 27; 15:3, 4, 22, 41; 16:5; 18:22; 20:17; 20:28).

4) It is clear from Acts 20:28 that it is the church that is saved.

Acts 20:28 "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

5) That Jesus died for the church is set forth in Ephesians 5:25-27.

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and **gave Himself up for her**,

Eph 5:26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

Eph 5:27 **that He might present to Himself the church** in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless

6) The Bible teaches Jesus is the Head of the body [the church] and He is the Savior of the body.  
(Eph. 5:23).

Eph 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself {being} the Savior of the body.

3. The Bible clearly teaches that there is only one church - the Lord's church.

a. Jesus built one church - His church. (Matt. 16:18).

b. The Bible teaches there is "one body" and that one body is the church. (Eph. 4:4; 1:22-23; Col. 1:18).

Eph 4:4 {There is} one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling;

Eph 1:22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,  
Eph 1:23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Col 1:18 He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

4. When one in faith repents and is baptized the Lord adds that person to one church - His church.

5. No one joins Christ's church, but one is added by the Lord to His church [the saved].

### **That Religious Division Is Acceptable To God**

1. This doctrine is often stated or presented like this.

a. That since people believe differently there needs to be many different churches to choose from.

b. It is argued that religious division is needed and helpful to accommodate the needs and preferences of people.

2. Acts 2:42 does not support this doctrine.

Acts 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

a. Luke praises those who were baptized because they were "devoting themselves to the apostle's teachings."

- b. The apostles were teaching what the Holy Spirit taught them. (Jn. 14:26; 15:26; 16:13).
- c. On Pentecost the apostles were speaking as the Holy Spirit “was giving them utterance.” (Acts 2:4).

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

3. Acts 2:46 does not support this doctrine of division.

Acts 2:46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,

- a. They continued daily “with one mind” means they were united and there were no divisions.
- b. This certainly does not sound like they believed division is acceptable to God.
- c. Jesus did not endorse we can believe the teachings of men. (Matt. 15:9).

Matt 15:9 'BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.'

- d. John certainly does not teach that division is something that God endorses. (2 Jn.1:9-11).

2 John 1:9 Anyone who goes too far and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son.

2 John 1:10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not receive him into {your} house, and do not give him a greeting;

2 John 1:11 for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.

4. The Bible teaches we are to have unity. (Eph. 4:4-6; 1:22-23; Jn.17:20-21;1 Cor.1:10-13).

Eph 4:4 {There is} one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling;

Eph 4:5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

Eph 4:6 one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

Eph 1:22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,

Eph 1:23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all

John 17:20 "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word;

John 17:21 that they may all be one; even as You, Father, {are} in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

1 Cor 1:10 Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.

1 Cor 1:11 For I have been informed concerning you, my brethren, by Chloe's {people,} that there are quarrels among you.

1 Cor 1:12 Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, "I am of Paul," and "I of Apollos," and "I of Cephas," and "I of Christ."

1 Cor 1:13 Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? See 1 Cor. 4:6.

5. The Bible also teaches we are to teach sound doctrine.

1 Tim 1:8 But we know that the Law is good, if one uses it lawfully,

1 Tim 1:9 realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers

1 Tim 1:10 and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching,

1 Tim 4:6 In pointing out these things to the brethren, you will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, {constantly} nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine which you have been following.

1 Tim 6:3 If anyone advocates a different doctrine and does not agree with sound words, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, and with the doctrine conforming to godliness,

2 Tim 1:13 Retain the standard [pattern] of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

2 Tim 4:3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but {wanting} to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,

Titus 1:9 holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

Titus 1:13 This testimony is true. For this reason reprove them severely so that they may be sound in the faith,

Titus 2:1 But as for you, speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine.

Titus 2:2 Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance.

Titus 2:8 sound {in} speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us.

## **Conclusion.**

1. Acts 2 and many other scriptures reveal that the doctrine that “one should join the church of one’s choice” and the doctrine “religious division is acceptable to God” are not based on the word of God.
2. In Part 4 of this series we will examine the modernistic doctrine that Jesus was a mere man and the doctrine that Jesus is not now reigning as King.
3. In preparation for this lesson one may want to examine these scriptures in Acts 2.
  - a. That Jesus was a mere man. (Acts 2:22, 24, 27, 30-32).
  - b. That Jesus is not now reigning as King. (Acts 2:30, 33-36).
4. In addition to these scriptures many other scriptures will be presented showing Jesus was more than a mere man and He is now reigning as King.