

Pastor Rod Pamer  
Sunday Morning Adult Lesson  
8-8-10

TITLE: *Great Doctrines: The Great Doctrine of Full Salvation*

1234567890①②③④⑤⑥⑦⑧⑨⑩\_

① *The First Step: repentance*

*Psalm 51:1-19*

*1 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.*

*2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.*

*10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.*

#### NOTE

*Repentance is the fundamental duty and the foundation upon which salvation rests. Through faith it is the first step heavenward.*

#### INTRODUCTION

*Deep inside every human soul is a hunger to be at peace with his Creator and to make heaven his eternal home... the Bible is the testimony of God's willingness to provide a way for mankind to be saved and escape the penalty of sin.*

*The Scriptures clearly reveal the necessity of salvation for a*

person to make it to heaven and God's Word plainly explains the steps of redemption.

Acts 2

37 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?

38 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.

## ② Definition of REPENTANCE

### WHAT REPENTANCE IS NOT

#### ① Repentance Is Not Reformation

The dictionary defines reformation as "being changed for the better."

Every honest person realizes there are things in his life that he could change for the better. However, when one attempts in himself to enact these changes, it is reformation, not repentance.

True repentance is more than simple reformation.

Dr. Ravi Zacharias: not to make sick men better; but to make dead men live. Jesus Christ did not come to reform men; but to call them to repent.

### ② Repentance Is Not Works

Works are to accompany the life of a believer but a person cannot gain salvation by his works. Paul wrote that believers are created to "walk" or live with good works but it is not good works that save us.

### ③ Repentance Is Not Baptism

Baptism in water in the name of Jesus Christ is essential for salvation; however, a person cannot substitute baptism for true repentance. Both repentance and baptism are necessary for redemption.

ALSO.....

### ④ Repentance Is Not Church Membership

Repentance Is Not Education

Repentance Is Not Faithfully Attending Church

repentance is a change of mind about one's sin; about oneself; about the Savior; and it affects the intellect, the emotions,

and the will.

## WHAT REPENTANCE IS

### ① Repentance Is a Change of Mind about Your Sin

Repentance is "a turning away from sin, disobedience, or rebellion and a turning back to God. . . .a feeling of remorse or regret for past conduct.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new (2 Corinthians 5:17).

The things we once loved we come to hate if God hates them. We learn to love some things we once had no time for because God loves them.

### ② Repentance Is a Change of Mind about Yourself

Once a person comprehends that his former lifestyle was repulsive to God, he then experiences a spiritual battle that begins in his mind.

A new believer must believe he is a sinner and needs to change, and that the change can only come through the life-changing power of Jesus Christ.

### ③ Repentance Is a Change of Mind about the Savior

To really know the Savior intimately causes change in an individual. Where once a person was quick to follow his fleshly desires into sin, knowledge of Jesus Christ causes him to love and respect the Lord so highly that the very thought of sin is repulsive.

#### ④ Repentance Is a Change of Mind about Yourself

The sinner is consumed only with himself. When a person repents, he feels his life and possessions belong to Jesus Christ, and he desires to live in a way that brings honor and glory to Him.

#### ⑤ Repentance Touches us: the way we think, our Emotions, and the Will

God created mankind with an intellect, emotions, and a human will. These three areas of humanity comprise who we are as individuals. Consequently, genuine repentance will positively effect change in all three of these.

Paul wrote, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Romans 12:2).

### ③ TRUE REPENTANCE

### ① Recognition of Wrong

God is a God of absolutes; He distinctly makes known what He considers to be right and wrong—revealing what is sin. True repentance reveals to the heart and soul of an individual what is sin and prompts the person to change direction.

### ② Genuine Sorrow for Sin

Repentance reflects genuine sorrow in the heart for sins that have been committed. It is important for believers to experience real sorrow for their past sins. This kind of Godly sorrow and repentance is possible only through the Spirit of God.

For Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death (2 Corinthians 7:10).

### ③ Determination to Leave Sin and walk in a New Direction

How wonderful to see the truly repentant man or woman spend time in Godly sorrow at an altar and then rise up to go in a new direction! When one determines to begin living a godly and righteous life, there is a desire to walk in newness of life with Jesus Christ.



#### ④ THE LIMITS OF REPENTANCE

##### ① Repentance Is Good for Emptying the Soul of Sin

Every human is conceived in sin and shapen in iniquity (Psalm 51:5), and because we live in an ungodly world corrupted by sin, we become contaminated, filthy vessels in desperate need of cleansing. In other words, every person needs salvation from sin.

##### ② The Empty Soul Must Be Filled

While that tremendous feeling of being clean through repentance is wonderful, there is danger in leaving the clean soul empty for too long. Jesus told a parable of a man who was cleansed from an unclean spirit. For a season, that spirit walked through "dry places" seeking rest, but found none. Finally, it decided it would return to the place where it had lived previously. Jesus said when the evil spirit returned, it found the place "empty, swept, and garnished" (Matthew 12:44). "Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first" (Matthew 12:45). It is a beautiful thing to enjoy the clean feeling that comes from experiencing true repentance, but the empty and clean soul should be filled with the Holy Spirit quickly to avoid any further damage by the power of

darkness.

True repentance empties the soul of sin and clears the way for the Spirit.

③ Repentance Removes Sin and Clears the Way for the Spirit  
God refuses to live in an unclean and unholy place.

Repentance coupled with water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins is the method God uses to spiritually cleanse the temples of our bodies to make them the kind of place in which He would abide. Repentance clears the way for the Holy Spirit to enter. Repentance empties the heart, mind, and soul of things repulsive to God and prepares a person to receive the Spirit.

After repentance: baptism

Romans 6:1-7

1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father...even so we also should walk in newness of

Life.

### Focus Verse

Acts 2:38

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.

## 5 THE NECESSITY OF WATER BAPTISM

### ① Commanded by Jesus

#### NOTE

The Lord commanded water baptism in the name of Jesus and it is essential. As the Lord was buried in a tomb, so we are buried with Him in water baptism.

Jesus reinforced the essentiality of water baptism in Mark 16:16, saying, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." There is no salvation without water baptism. Obviously, water is not the only element of our salvation, but it is a vital part.

### ② Practiced by the Church

To know Jesus Christ commanded baptism should be evidence enough for any believer to willingly and obediently submit to baptism, but the Scriptures provide more evidence than only the words of Jesus.

At the conclusion of Peter's message on the Day of Pentecost, he instructed the people to be baptized in Jesus' name for the remission of sins. The hearers who "gladly received his word were baptized" and three thousand souls responded "the same day" (Acts 2:41).

### ③ example: saved by water

When God instituted the new birth, He included the command of water baptism for the remission of sins.

Interestingly, it was not the first time He included the use of water in a plan to save mankind. When the earth was flooded in the days of Noah, God used water to save the righteous.

Peter stated, "Eight souls were saved by water" (1 Peter 3:20).

Water also served as the main ingredient used in the redemption of God's people from the slavery in Egypt. Chased by Pharaoh to the waters of the Red Sea, the Israelites' only escape path was through the water.

### ⑥ The mode of water baptism

It is not enough to know water baptism is necessary for salvation; we must understand its meaning.

### ① The Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ

In Boston, a tunnel passes from one part of the city, under the cold waters of Boston Harbor, and comes out at the airport. It

is the only way for travelers to get from one part of the city to the airport.

The gospel is our only way of escape from the curse of sin and death to a place of salvation.

### ② Baptize from Baptizo

Many people have confused the original plan and mode of baptism by trying to substitute their own human ideas.

The Greek word baptizo means "to immerse, submerge; to make overwhelmed."

### ③ Mode—Total Immersion

In addition to the very definition of the word baptizo, every foreshadowing of baptism in the Scriptures further confirms the concept of immersion.

### ④ The Name in water baptism

Throughout the Old Testament, God gave dozens of names by which humanity could describe and address Him. Yet in all of this, He reserved a special name that He would only reveal centuries later.

When the fullness of time had come for God to manifest Himself upon the earth as the Redeemer, He revealed His complete name: In the English language, this name is "Jesus."

### ① The Only Name Given

The prophet Isaiah must have looked forward with hopeful

expectancy to the day when he would learn God's name.

... his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:6).

But Isaiah 9:6 only reveals characteristics of the Lord, not His actual name. So Isaiah, like others, continued to wait for the revelation.

## ② One Singular Name

After His resurrection, Jesus commanded His followers to "go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matthew 28:19).

We must understand that these are titles... Father, Son, and Holy Ghost... they are not names, but descriptions of the one true God.

Jesus stated that baptism is to be in "the name," not in "the names" or multiple titles or descriptions of God.

## ③ Fulfillment of the Great Commission

1. Acts 8 is the beginning of the church in Samaria, here they were baptized, in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 8:16).

2. Acts 10— Peter "commanded the Gentiles in the house of Cornelius to be baptized in the name of the Lord" (Acts

10:48).

3. Acts 19— In Acts 19, Paul discovered some believers in Ephesus who had been baptized only in John's baptism. Once he instructed them regarding the whole message of the gospel—he preached to them the finished work of Christ—they immediately saw their need for baptism. "When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 19:5).

#### ④ The Only Name to Be Used in Baptism

Acts 4

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

#### The Holy Ghost

Luke 24:47, 49

47 ... repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

#### NOTE

Acts 2:38-39

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.

Acts 10:44-45

44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

#### NOTE

The promise to every hungry believer is, "You shall receive the Holy Ghost." The evidence of receiving the Holy Ghost is speaking in tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance.

Receiving the Holy Ghost is possibly the most important spiritual event that one will experience in God, and it is also the most thrilling.

Much emphasis in Scripture is placed upon receiving the Holy Ghost as the completion of the new birth.

Jesus said, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God" (John 3:5).

The Holy Ghost is for all believers, as Peter stated at

Pentecost: "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" (Acts 2:39).

The infilling of the Spirit provides the power to live an overcoming, victorious, Christian life with the joy of God. The Spirit gives us power to overcome the devil, sin, and the world and to become effective witnesses in this wicked generation.

Our lives are transformed by a supernatural experience of Holy Spirit baptism with the evidence of speaking with other tongues.

### ⑧ WHAT MUST WE DO?

"What must we do?" has been asked by many people, including those who asked Peter on the Day of Pentecost.

There is no salvation outside of the Cross of Jesus Christ and His shed blood. Jesus asked the disciples, "Whom say ye that I am?" Peter answered, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God"

*the Promise*

Jesus said in Luke 24:49....

And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you.

*It is God's plan for every believer to receive the Holy Ghost. To receive the Holy Ghost is as normal as repenting and being baptized. It is a supernatural experience that cannot be explained to the carnal man. However, it is God's promise to all believers.*

*"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you" (Acts 1:8).*

*"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" (Acts 2:39).*

*We are those who were afar off, and we are included in the promise Peter preached at Pentecost. We are to believe God and receive the Holy Ghost.*

*"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh" (Joel 2:28).*

*Joel prophesied of the outpouring of the Spirit, for Peter quoted this verse of Scripture in his sermon at Pentecost. These are the last days, and God is pouring out His Spirit upon all flesh. Those who have faith in God's promise shall be filled with the Holy Ghost. The Holy Ghost is for all who will believe God and receive it.*

## 9 HOW THEY RECEIVED THE HOLY GHOST

### ① They Tarry

These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication" (Acts 1:14).

Tarrying in prayer is certainly one of the sure ways of receiving the Holy Ghost. Many have found it necessary to tarry in prayer for proper preparation of themselves before receiving the Holy Ghost. God will fill the hungry seeker when he meets the conditions that God requires. We sometimes allow obstacles to stand in our way of receiving the blessing.

### ② They Worshiped

Luke 24:52-53.....And they worshipped him . . . and were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God.

The Holy Ghost fell at Pentecost in an atmosphere charged with people worshiping and praising God. We must worship in order to receive the Spirit. We should magnify the Lord with praise, song, prayer—lifting ourselves into the spirit of true worship. Then God can move into our hearts and fill us with His Spirit.

### ③ By the Laying on of Hands

Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost (Acts 8:17).

The revival at Samaria was climaxed by Peter and John laying hands on the believers for them to receive the Holy Ghost.

After John's disciples at Ephesus were baptized in Jesus' name, Paul laid his hands on them and they received the Holy Ghost "and they spake with tongues" (Acts 19:6).

There are times when the seeker needs a special touch that only the laying on of the hands of the elders will give. He may need to break through doubt and unbelief before being filled with the Holy Ghost. Many people have received the infilling of the Spirit when a minister laid hands on them in prayer. God honors faith, and faith is often released by the laying on of the hands of God-ordained ministers.

#### ④ When They Heard the Word

While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word (Acts 10:44).

Recorded in Acts 10 is the account of the household of Cornelius, the first Gentiles to receive the Holy Ghost. They were hungry for God, in a repented condition, and ready to receive the Spirit. While Peter was preaching, they were filled

with the Holy Ghost and spoke with tongues.

From the examples given in the Book of Acts, we learn that there is no set pattern or plan on how to receive the Holy Ghost. It is promised to those who repent, are baptized in Jesus' name, and believe God.

## ⑩ THE EVIDENCE OF THE HOLY GHOST

### ① Initial Evidence

The initial evidence of receiving the Holy Ghost on the Day of Pentecost was speaking in other tongues. It was the one common sign displayed in all accounts of the infilling of the Spirit throughout the Book of Acts.

Acts 2

4 They were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues.

It was not just the twelve apostles who spoke with tongues, but the 120 believers spoke in a new tongue as the Spirit gave the utterance.

A. T. Robertson, comments on Acts 2:4: "Each one began to speak in a language that he had not acquired and yet it was a real language and understood by those from various lands familiar with them.

This same experience is for everyone today. We are included in the promise of "all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call" (Acts 2:39).

It was the sign to which Peter called their attention. "For they heard them speak with tongues" (Acts 10:46).

A. T. Robertson, in *Word Pictures in the New Testament*, states: "The fuller statement makes it clear that here it was a new and strange tongue also as in Acts 19:6.

## ② Universal Evidence

Multitudes are receiving the Holy Ghost in this last-day outpouring. It has fallen over the whole world. God is holding true to His promise to pour out His Spirit on all flesh everywhere. This gift of the Spirit is not confined to just a handful of believers. Believers everywhere are experiencing the Holy Ghost infilling with the evidence of speaking with tongues as the Spirit gives the utterance. This is God's time and the church's opportunity to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and the message of Pentecost.

Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth (Acts 1:8).

## CONCLUSION

The sign at Pentecost of the Holy Ghost infilling was speaking with tongues. Both the Jews on the Day of Pentecost and the Gentiles in Caesarea ten years later experienced tongues. In each case the Holy Ghost was given in a different manner.

\_ On the Day of Pentecost it fell during prayer and worships  
\_ in Caesarea, the people of the household of Cornelius were filled while the preacher was yet speaking.

\_ The Samaritans and the brethren of Ephesus received the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands.

\_ However, in each instance the one common sign was that they all spoke with tongues. This is the universal sign that God has chosen to identify the Spirit infilling.