

## Acts Chapters 19-21 **Question and Answers**

**1. In Acts 19:1-6, Paul comes to Ephesus and finds “certain disciples”. Why does Paul encourage these disciples to be rebaptized and what should precede baptism in our church today?**

Acts 19:4 “Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.”

**In other words, Paul is saying that John’s baptism was not Christian Baptism.**



**Jesus instructed his disciples to teach new believers all the things he had commanded.**

**Matthew 28:19-20 “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (ESV)**

**So first of all, the new “believers” need to acquire an accurate knowledge of the truth, which in turn would enable them to develop greater faith in Jesus and in his Word.**

**Romans 10:17 “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.” (ESV)**

**1 Timothy 2:4 “who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” (ESV)**



**Hebrews 11:6 “And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.” (ESV)**

**Then, when the Scriptural truth truly touches a person’s heart, it moves him to repent and turn around from his previous way of life.**

**Acts 3:19 “Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out,” (ESV)**

**Finally, the person reaches the point where he desires to dedicate himself to Jesus and follow the Lord in baptism, as Jesus commanded.**

**\*Observation – would you think that prebaptism counselling would be any less warranted than premarital counselling?**

**Remember that prebaptism counselling has eternal consequences.**



**2. Explain how Acts 20:22 and Acts 21:4 are to be interpreted since the latter could imply that Paul in going to Jerusalem was disobeying the Holy Spirit?**

**Acts 20:22** “And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there,” **(ESV)**

**Acts 21:4** “And having sought out the disciples, we stayed there for seven days. And through the Spirit they were telling Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.” **(ESV)**

**2 Timothy 3:12** “Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,” **(ESV)**

**Acts 20:24** “But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.” **(ESV)**

**Philippians 1:21** “For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” **(ESV)**



**The sense is, that these disciples, by the spirit of prophecy, knew that if the apostle went to Jerusalem, many evil things would befall him; wherefore of their own spirit, and out of love to him, they advise him not to go. John Gill**

**It is to be understood, ...a prophetic warning joined with their individual personal wishes, that he would not expose himself to this danger.**



**The meaning evidently is, that they said by inspiration of the Spirit, that he should not go unless he was willing to encounter danger, and the hazard of life as a consequence, for they foresaw that the journey would be attended with this hazard. Albert Barnes**

**3. In Acts 21:23-26, the church leaders in Jerusalem suggested to Paul that he join four men in a Nazarite vow to prove to the Jews that he kept the law; what if anything did this actually accomplish?**

**It is my opinion, that in reality it did not accomplish anything, primarily because it was not necessarily instigated or prompted by God but by men.**

**The crowd still did just as they would have had he not gone to the trouble and expense of the Nazarite vow.**



# Prayer Time