

The Words of Acts

Is Re-Baptism Biblical?

*“When they heard this, they were baptized
in the name of the Lord Jesus”
(Acts 19:5).*

Paul Meets Twelve Disciples

- He enters Ephesus on the third missionary journey.
- He meets twelve men who knew only the baptism of John, “*a baptism of repentance,*” preparing for Jesus.
- He asked, “*Did you receive the Holy Spirit?*”
- They answered, “*No, we have not heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.*”
- They had been baptized, but not *into Jesus*.

The Baptism of the Twelve

- Paul explains the difference in John's baptism, *before the cross*, and the baptism into Jesus, *after the cross*.
- This is the baptism of the *Great Commission* Jesus gave before His ascension (Matt. 28:19), which they obeyed.
- Paul then laid his hands on the twelve men, giving them the *miraculous measure of the Holy Spirit*.

Is Re-Baptism Ever Necessary?

- There are four *essential elements* of Bible baptism:
 - Method: *immersion (burial) in water* (Rom. 6:3)
 - Authority: *in the name of Jesus* (Matt. 28:19; Acts 19:5)
 - Purpose: *for the remission of sins* (Acts 2:38; 22:16)
 - Subject: *a penitent believer in Jesus* (Mark 16:16; Acts 16:33)
- Re-baptism is therefore appropriate if:
 - Our baptism was by *sprinkling or pouring* (the unbiblical method).
 - Our baptism was by the *authority* of anyone other than Jesus.
 - Our baptism was not *for the remission of sins* (purpose).
 - Our *motive* was to please anyone other than God (without repentance).

A young man named Aaron