

Old Landmarkism – What is it?

Chapter 6 – 30 Minutes

Introduction

[Act 19:3] And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

[Rom 6:3] Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death?

[Heb 10:22-23] Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the profession of [our] faith without wavering; (for He [is] faithful that promised;)

The Sixth Mark of the Church of Christ: Its baptism is the profession, on the part of the subject, of the faith of the Gospel by which he is saved.

The twelve disciples Paul encountered when he came to Ephesus, Acts 19:1-5

- John the Baptist only baptized those who had “fruit meat for repentance”
- Yet, they knew Nothing of the Church receiving the Comforter sent of the Lord
- John 14:15-18 contains this promise of the Lord and Acts 2 shows it fulfilled
- They were baptized in line with, or back unto, John's baptism which had ended
- To conform to that practice required them to have a profession of salvation
- With Lord receiving all authority (Matt 28:18) He authorized His Church to administer baptism in His name. These disciples lacked this baptism.

Problems with the Jeter Position

Bro Graves stated, “This case should convince anyone that Brother Jeter's position is wrong,” pg 49.

- Jeremiah Jeter lived from 1802 to 1880. Baptist pastor mainly in Virginia.
- Editor of the *Religious Herald* newspaper, (yielded to protestant influence)
- Jeter's idea of baptism is it required: immersion in water; in the name of the Trinity; and the candidate be satisfied with the act --- Valid Baptism
- Fails to consider the intent of baptism or the qualifications of the administrator.
- It is apparent the Error of the Jeter Position is widespread today
- Common for those who hold this position to deny the Ephesians were rebaptized
- Anabaptists of all ages, including the current age, still follow this practice.

Practice of Ordinances being Corrected in Scripture

- 1) The baptism of these Ephesian disciples teaches the correction of baptism.
- 2) The Corinthian Church was taught to correct the Lord's Supper, 1 Cor 11:20.

Profession before Baptism – Not of Individual Faith but System of Belief

- 1) History shows that candidates were required to read and commit to creed
- 2) The apostate churches called on sponsors to answer this for unconscious infants
- 3) The daughters of Rome retain this custom; Episcopalians, Lutherans, etc...

The Greek Catholic Church (A.D. 313-337)

- Creed plainly states by baptism, “...regenerated, cleansed, and sanctified”
- Practice infant and adult baptisms for this purpose

The Roman Catholic Church (A.D. 610)

- “If any man say that baptism is not essential to salvation, let him be accursed.”
- Requires all who join to profess this either personally or sponsors for infants
- VITAL QUESTION: Should the most esteemed and influential Baptist Church baptize into this faith and for this purpose, would you vote to receive the baptisms of that church as scriptural and valid?

Campbellite Church – church of Christ - Baptism (A.D. 1832)

- “Remission of sins cannot be enjoyed by any person before immersion.”
- Decide whether Campbellites practice the same baptism as Catholics.

Protestant Episcopal Church (A.D. 1789, in the U.S; 1534 in England)

- “All who are baptized in this church, come to the water as sinners, unpardoned and unregenerate, in order to receive pardon, and regeneration...”

Methodist Episcopal Church (A.D. 1784)

- Belief of baptism is copied nearly verbatim from the *Book of Common Prayer*
- “The practice of requiring a public profession of regeneration before baptism, has resulted in evil, and that the design of the sacrament is perverted, and the people encouraged to expect the divine blessing without the use of means (baptism) ...” Described as “evils” they wanted to remove. Methodist Conf.

Presbyterian Church (Switzerland 1530s-Calvin, Scotland 1560-Knox)

- Unless sacrament is received, the benefits of Christ's death cannot be enjoyed
- It cannot be supposed the subject of baptism possesses them before baptized

All of these were organized of men after Christ authorized His Church

- Therefore, they have only the authority of men to baptize
- They teach unbiblical purposes for baptism – remission of sin/receive blessing

Historical Baptists – (A.D. 30 – The Lord Jesus Christ)

- Statement from A.D. 1120 “Article 7-...by this ordinance we are received into the holy congregation of God's people, previously professing and declaring our faith and change of life.”

Blood Before Water, Christ before the Church

- Vast number of human societies put water before blood and church before Christ
- No scriptural baptism=No scriptural: Church, ordination, ministers, ordinances.

QUESTIONS

1. What was the key factor missing in the baptism of the Ephesian disciples?
2. What makes all immersions but Baptists described in this chapter invalid?
3. Why are baptisms of societies today holding Protestant belief/practice invalid?
4. Name examples of Protestant beliefs/practices held by so called Baptists.
5. How does the practice of Campbellites compare to that of Catholics?
6. What does the statement “Blood before the Water” mean to you?
7. In three pages or less, compare Article 7 of the Historic Baptists to the previous belief statements of the before named religious societies.