## "Perverted - BIBLE BAPTISM"

(Gal. 1:6-8)

"6 I marvel that ye are so quickly removing from him that called you in the grace of Christ unto a different gospel; 7 which is nor another gospel: only there are some that trouble you and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach unto you any gospel other than that which we preached unto you, let him be anathema," Gal. 1:6-8. Paul is making quite clear, we preached the gospel to you and it is not to be changed! Should there be those who **desire to change** what Paul preached to them, the gospel, let them be anathema, (cursed). Very strong language isn't it? This is the language **used by the Holy Spirit**, used through the apostle Paul, to show one should not **change**, **alter**; or **pervert**, what has been revealed. To change something God has revealed, is to become cursed!

There are those who have **perverted** the gospel, by defining "**baptism**" as sprinkling or pouring – this is "**perverting**" the gospel. The New Testament teaches baptism is a "**BURIAL**." Col. 2:12 says, "12 Having been buried with him in baptism, wherein ye were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead." Also, it is stated: "4 We were buried therefore with him through baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life," Rom. 6:4. These two passages affirm baptism to be a "burial." There is a difference in one sprinkling and pouring water on a person. Baptism is a "burial!" When one changes "burial" to sprinkling and pouring, he has changed the meaning of baptism and has "**perverted**" the gospel of Christ. One does not read, in the New Testament, of men or women being sprinkled or poured! One does not read of death-bed people being sprinkled, nor poured; nor, does it speak of sprinkling or pouring water on infants – it cannot be found in the New Testament. When a person was baptized, he/she was "buried" in water.

The Baptist Church has been very aggressive in stating "BAPTISM HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH SALVATION!" Baptism, according to them, is for the purpose of putting them into the Baptist Church. Their definition is: "An outward sign of an inward conversion!" What this means to them is, one is saved before baptism and baptism is just a sign of their salvation, before baptism. Another statement made by the Baptist is: "Baptism is the door into the Baptist Church." According to these people all one needs to do to be saved is to believe. According to them one is saved before he becomes a Baptist. This being so, the Baptist Church is not essential to being saved — one is saved, by faith only, before he becomes a Baptist. If one is saved before he becomes a Baptist, why would he want to be a Baptist? This has caused the charge to be made against the Baptist — "It is harder to be a member of the Baptist Church than it is to be saved!" The point I want to make is, they have changed the design of baptism! This being true, they have "PERVERTED" the Gospel; and thus, are teaching a "perverted gospel;" and by doing such, they have become "anathema," (cursed). It is a serious matter when one begins to change and alter the word of God. The consequences are terrible!

All of this just to be different? I am sure there are those in the Baptist Church who have never considered what it means to **deny** the purpose of baptism; but, because they may be honest does not make the thought of baptism, not having a part in a man's salvation, true. You cannot take that which is false and make it true! When others are taught what the Baptist teach about baptism, it does not make it right. The end is that there are those who believe Baptist doctrine, who think they are right; but, are in reality far removed from the teaching of the Lord. When one lives and dies by the doctrine of the Baptist Church, he dies having believed and **obeyed** false teaching. Falsehood does not make one free from sin, only the truth will do that. The truth needs to be believed and obeyed before the Lord will say "**Well done!**" on the day of judgement. It is the truth that will make one free, Jno. 8:32.

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