

“...THEN...”

Acts 2:41

August 20, 2006

“Then” [adv. & conj.] “Next in order of time; immediately afterwards.” (Webster’s Dict.) We can’t say “then” unless something has gone before. But also it points us forward to the near present as to what is taking place next.

“Then” refers back to what we saw in the last message in verses 36-40.

Out of the great multitude some were deeply convicted by the Holy Spirit and so called out, “What shall we do?” (Act.2:37; Joh.16:7-11)

“Then” Peter told these sinners of God’s command to “Repent.” (Act.2:38; 20:21; Mar.1:14,15; Luk.13:3,5)

“Then” Peter gave the command for everyone of them who would repent to “be baptized”. (vs.38)

“Then” the Apostle encouraged them with the consolations which are gifts to all the saints:

- a) forgiveness of all our sins (Act.2:38; 13:38-39)
- b) gift of the Holy Spirit (Act.2:38,39; Joh.14:16-26)
- c) Gift to save themselves from this present evil world (Act.2:40; Gal.1:4; Jam.4:4; 2Pe.1:3-4)

This whole multitude had just been given the call of the Savior in the Gospel, and so are you. But some were given an individual call. (Act.2:39; 2Co.5:18-20; 1Co.1:23-24; Act.13:48)

“Then” Luke gave a statement of fact. Everyone who gladly received His Word was baptized. (Act.2:41)

Because you are a candidate for baptism you must be one who gladly has received into your heart the message of the Gospel. (Act.2:41)

Baptism pictures what the Lord did for the believing sinner (1Co.15:3-4). Baptism pictures what the Lord has done in the believing sinner (Rom.6:3-4).

All of these who gladly received His Word were baptized because they wanted to be. They desired to identify now with Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. (Act.2:41,36-40; 8:36-37)

Then a number of these who had been baptized were “added unto them”. Baptism was being “added” to them. (Act.2:41; 1Co.1:2,13; Mat.28:19-20)

When we are saved it is not enough to be within a church, we need to be grafted to it. (Act.2:41-42; 5:12-14; 9:26)

*They were added because they wanted to be. Church membership is voluntary (Act.2:41).

*They were added by the reception of the church – this is a part of the church’s calling (Mat.28:18-20).

*They were added by the Lord. God is sovereign in adding to the church (Act.2:47)

Am I saved? Have I been Scripturally baptized? Have I been added (joined) to one of the Lord’s churches?