For The Remission of Sins

By: David A. Sargent

Water baptism gets you wet... It is NOT a means of grace or a sacrament. There is NO such thing as baptismal regeneration. That comes from Augustinianism and that is where Rome gets all their doctrines from, including baptism regeneration which is called a sacrament (meaning that water baptism is sacred and the water is holy when "blessed" by their priest)

What many miss is that the message in Acts 2 that Peter preached was aimed at Israel. NOT any Gentiles: Acts 2:22, "Ye men of Israel, hear these words..." and ends the message with: Acts 2:36, "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly..."

Now, where is the question "what must we do to be saved?" It is NOT there. They do ask a question; and it must be taken in LIGHT as to what they just heard: Acts 2:36, "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ."

This is the reaction they had from the message about the fact that Israel as a nation just MURDERED their Messiah!

Acts 2:37, "Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?"

Acts 2:38, "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Pointing them BACK to John the Baptist's baptism of repentance: Matthew 3:1-6, "In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey. Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins."

Then John the Baptist ended this by saying: Matthew 3:11-12, "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

So at the ending where is water baptism? Either you get baptized by the Holy Ghost (not the holiegoes)... OR you get baptized by UNQUENCHABLE FIRE.

The issue of making water baptism FOR the remission of sins is repugnant to the truth. IF this were the case that water baptism GIVES the remission of sins then there would be no need of the BLOOD

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sacrifice. The fact is the word FOR can be understood in another way as well. It is "because of" and NOT "GIVES"...

In the case of first mention the issue is solved: Matthew 26:28, "For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." SO, it is NOT by water baptism; but by the Blood of Christ. The action of it being SHED for many for the remission of sins is in front of any water baptism. IF water baptism gives remission of sins; and the Lord Jesus Christ was water baptized; then what you MUST teach is that the Lord Jesus Christ had to have HIS SINS REMITTED! Um, NO!

John's water baptism continued into the book of Acts in Acts 2:38 and that is obvious: Luke 3:3, "And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins;" So, is it baptism or repentance for the remission of sins? That is the trouble you get into when you ignore the BLOOD. The ATONEMENT was not made with WATER or anyone REPENTING. GOD is not satisfied (propitiation) with WATER or anyone REPENTING. God is satisfied with Christ's BLOOD SACRIFICE. Once for ALL!

Repentance and water baptism has to be repeated; but NOT the Sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ. He said IT IS FINISHED. And who can add to that?

When you run to Romans 6:3-5 and ignore what comes before it you are getting ahead of yourself.

Romans 3:24-28, "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus. Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law."

That is giving all the doctrinal words for every doctrine associated with everything about being saved.

- 1. Grace (FREE)
- 2. Redemption (that is IN Christ Jesus)
- 3. Propitiation (through faith in his blood)
- 4. His Righteousness (for the remission of sins)
- 5. Forbearance (remission of sins that are past, through God's)
- 6. Justification (of him which believeth in Jesus)
- 7. Faith WITHOUT the deeds of the law

No water baptism and no repenting of sins and no works of the law...

Someone wrote: "...reading into the book of Romans, we see that Paul is teaching us that this is for the Jews and the gentiles, that the gentiles are going to be saved through the process of adoption, and correct me if I'm wrong, but Paul is born and was part of the Roman empire, that's why he is writing these letters to the Romans, he knows their language, and he knows how to talk the same way they talk."

OK; you're wrong and to correct you: Paul was Saul and was a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee (Acts 23:6) and said "...after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee." (Acts 26:5) and said this about it: "Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the

righteousness which is in the law, blameless." (Philippians 3:5-6) Paul was taught by Gamaliel who was a Doctor of Law: Acts 5:34, "Then stood there up one in the council, a Pharisee, named Gamaliel, a doctor of the law, had in reputation among all the people, and commanded to put the apostles forth a little space;" and Acts 22:3, "I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day."

Paul was a Roman citizen because all of them were if they were born free men. Israel was under Roman rule at that time. Paul was well educated by Gamaliel; and this shows in the book of Romans and the book of Hebrews. Paul is NOT isolated to being a Roman more than a Hebrew. Paul was JEWISH first and only Roman because that was the governing power over the Hebrews at that time. Sure he knew how to talk to them. But remember what he said in Romans 3 before Romans 6. The fact is in Acts 2; Paul was being prepared to slaughter Christians. It was Peter that preached in Acts 2 directly to the Hebrews for MURDERING their Messiah. That was his message! It was NOT about receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal saviour to miss hell fire and damnation. There was NOTHING mentioned about the salvation of any soul from hell. They were added to the church because they acted on what God told them to do at that time.

Now what you MUST deal with in reference to "the remission of sins" is two things:

1. Remission of sins is ALWAYS through the shedding of BLOOD:

Hebrews 9:22, "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission." Notice that WITHOUT shedding of BLOOD is NO REMISSION... Water just doesn't cut it!

2. Remission of sins in the New Testament was accomplished ONCE for ALL and there is NO MORE OFFERING FOR SIN.

Hebrews 10:18, "Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin." If you get the remission of sins through water baptism then you are attempting to offer something else for that remission of sin; what else can you offer? Read it again: "...there is no more offering for sin."

One last thought. The offering was ONCE FOR ALL... Offering water baptism is like the Old Testament "...priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins..."

Hebrews 10:9-12, "Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;"

Read it again. The Lord Jesus Christ "...after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;"