Chapter Six - Doctrine Workbook

Crossing the Bridge:
The Four Prevailing Doctrinal Issues of Conversion
Parts I & II

Introduction - Once the message, as both preached and received, is studied, the disciple must by necessity deal with the four prevailing doctrinal issues of conversion--Water Baptism, Lordship, the Point of Salvation, and Election.

I. Water Baptism and conversion are the first issues we shall deal with.

A. Many people are misled when they confuse verses dealing with water baptism with those that deal with spiritual baptism. To help with this problem, fill in the chart below.

Passage	Symbol - How it is used (point sought to be made)
Matthew 3:11	
Luke 12:50	
Acts 1:5	
Acts 11:16	
Romans 6:3,4	
I Corinthians 12:13	
Ephesians 4:4-8	
Colossians 2:11,12	
I Peter 3:21,22	

B. Since none of these verses deal with actual water baptism, what conclusions can be made concerning the study so far?

C. This next chart helps to emphasizethe salvation power of spiritual baptism over symbolic water baptism. Fill it in answering the appropriate questions.

Passage	Actual Work of Spiritual Regeneration as spoken of in this verse
Titus 3:5	
Ephesians 5:25-27	
I Peter 3:21,22	

D. Summarize the work of spiritual baptism.
How this is visualized through symbolism of water baptism as spoken of in verse

E. Fill in the chart below and answer the appropriate questions.

Passage	Sittuation	Salvation Occured?	Water Baptism Occured, Commanded ect.?
Matthew 9:1-B		YN	YN
Matthew 9:18-22		*Y N*	*Y*
Luke5:23-26		*YN*	*YN*
Luke 7:44-50		*Y N*	*Y N*
Luke 17:11-21		*YN*	*Y N*
Luke 18:35-43		*YN*	*YN*
John 9:35-41		*YN*	*Y N*
Acts 4:1-4		*YN*	*YN*
Acts 11:19-24		*Y N*	*Y N*
Acts 17:1-4		*Y N*	*YN*

1. *What problem do these passages pose for those who connect water baptism with salvation?*

2. How does I Corinthians 1:17 reflect on this?

F. Fill in the chart below by giving the chronological order of events which are recorded in each passage.

Passage	Chronology of Events
Acts 10:44-48	
Acts 16:14,15	

1. What implications do these passages hold for those who believe water baptism is necessary for salvation?

2. If water baptism were necessary for salvation, how would these narratives have to be written?

3. How would conversion through water baptism strike at the root meaning of these central doctrines of salvation?

0. In considering this doctrinal issue, complete the following chart.

Doctrine	Passage	How Doctrine Nulifies Salvation via

Water Baptism

Grace	Ephesians 2:8,9
Mercy	Titus 3:5
Propitiation	I John 2:1,2
Imputation	II Corinthians 5:21
Regeneration	Titus 3:5
Faith	Luke 7:50

H. What, then, is the proper role of baptism?

1. What was Jesus' rationale for being baptized? Matthew 3:13-17

2. The chart below reveals it as the norm for the ministers of the gospel.

Minister Passage	Person(s) Converted	Believer's Baptized
Acts 2:38,41		Y N
Acts 8:12		Y N
Acts 9:11-18		Y N
Acts 16:14,15		Y N
Acts 18:7,8		Y N

3. What light does Matthew 28:19,20 throw on the disciplemaking ministry and water baptism?

I. From this study:

I. Who should be baptized?

2. What is baptism?

3. Why are we to be baptized?

4. Have you been baptized as a believer?

5. If not, what are you going to do about it?