

LESSON TEN

The Reaping of the Gospel— Leading Man to Believe and Be Baptized

- I. When a person becomes willing to receive the Lord through our contacting and preaching of the gospel, we need to lead him in a definite way to believe and be baptized (John 3:3, 5; Mark 16:16); we should neither force people nor delay their salvation—Acts 2:37-41; 8:36-39; 9:18; 16:30-34**
- II. We need to assure that the gospel friend believe that Jesus Christ is the unique God becoming a real yet sinless man, who dies for our sin and resurrected on the third day to become the life-giving Spirit, and that through our believing into Him, His blood has washed away all our sins, and He has come into us to be our eternal life and to be with us unto eternity—Rom. 1:3-4, 8:3; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Cor. 15:45; 1 John 1:7; Rom. 8:16; 1 Cor. 6:17; John 3:16; 14:15-20.**
- III. The best way is to lead people to pray to receive the Lord:**
 - A. Prayer touches man's spirit and allows the Spirit of Christ to be mingled with it—1 Cor. 12:3; Rom. 8:9, 16; 1 Cor. 6:17.
 - B. With a gentle, kind, but firm voice, ask people to pray with you—Acts 9:17.
 - C. Do not be disappointed when people refuse you, and you may ask them to pray for themselves or pray with the words in Roman numeral two above; it is better to pray loudly—Rom. 10:10, 13.
 - D. If they really cannot pray by themselves, you may ask them to follow your prayer sentence by sentence; pray with short sentences, and let them pray clearly.
 - E. Besides, you may pray with some verses and apply these words to them.
- IV. Explaining simply the meaning of salvation and baptism—union and separation:**
 - A. Explain clearly that baptism is not an outward ritual; though it has an outward, physical procedure, it also has a spiritual reality. Use the example of the baptism of the Lord Jesus—Matt. 3:13-17.
 - B. To be baptized is to be baptized into the Triune God, into the death and resurrection of Christ, into the Body of Christ, into the kingdom of the Son of God's love; it is also to be joined to the vine and to put on Christ—Matt. 28:19; Rom. 6:2-5; 1 Cor. 12:13; Col. 1:13; John 15:5; Rom. 11:17; Gal. 3:27.
 - C. Baptism is a public testimony of one being transferred out of the dark kingdom of Satan, released from the slavery of corruption, sanctified from the old manner of life, and delivered from the usurpation of the world—Col. 1:13; 2 Pet. 1:4; Eph. 4:22-24; 1 John 2:15-17; John 17:16; Gal. 6:14; Rom. 12:2.

D. Explain the practical procedure of baptism to remove the feeling of uncertainty; as much as possible, try to baptize people in a meeting hall or a spacious place, but also be flexible according to the circumstances.

V. Baptizing people—laying on of hands, being solemn, praying, blessing, and baptizing:

A. The baptizer who lays hands on people should pray solemnly and bless them earnestly and fervently.

B. The baptized one should pray openly.

C. The baptizer should declare that he is to baptize people into the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—Matt. 28:19.

D. We may tell the new one who just got baptized and came out of the water to declare loudly: “O Lord Jesus! I am saved!”