

Fellowship and Water Baptism

- The Bible teaches that *baptism is an immersion.* (Rom 6:4; Col 2:12)

Fellowship and Water Baptism

- **Romans 6:4** - Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Fellowship and Water Baptism

- These truths, if accepted, would create great political and social upheaval. Many lost their lives in proclaiming this truth. They *had to be quite or be cast out.*
- Could both views be equally taught and believed in a common fellowship? Only if *both views* were regarded *as unimportant and discardable.*

Fellowship and Water Baptism

- A compromised fellowship lets convenience be the determining factor. (1 Kgs 12:28)

Fellowship and Water Baptism

- 1 Kings 12:28 - Therefore the king asked advice, made two calves of gold, and said to the people, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, O Israel, which brought you up from the land of Egypt!"

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- We will seek to have every person find and receive this one baptism.
- Baptism is the final step to find forgiveness of sins. (**Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16**)

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- **Acts 2:38** - Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- **Acts 22:16** - 'And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- We will teach every man these delivered words that one would then *naturally seek this baptism!* (Acts 8:35-36)

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- **Acts 8:35-36** - Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. 36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?"

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- If there is not *clear, repeated, consistent teaching over* time then many may give in to compromise. (Ex. Preacher refused to talk about baptism in Jn 3.. “too divisive.”)

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- Consider some questions *each of us should ask* about our baptism.
- 1. When were you saved *by the blood of Christ?*
- 2. How *old* were you?
- 3. How long *after your salvation* were you baptized?

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- 4. For *what purpose* were you baptized?
- 5. How *long after your request to be baptized* were you actually baptized?
- 6. *What did you confess* before you were baptized?
- 7. How were you baptized? That is was it *sprinkling, pouring or immersion* in water?

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- These questions address *critical teachings that comprise* the one baptism. **(Eph 4:4-5)**

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- **Ephesians 4:4-5** - There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism;

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- Paul *did this very thing!* (Acts 19:1-5)

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- Acts 19:1-5 - And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples 2 he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- 3 And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism."
4 Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus." 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- The promise given on Pentecost *could be understood by all!* **(Acts 2:39)**

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- Acts 2:38-39 - Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- The men Paul met were sincerely baptized but they *lacked important teaching and purpose*. This lack of teaching and purpose *still left them in need of baptism!*
- Look over the above questions raised and consider how *it reveals what was taught*.

How should we apply God's teaching on Baptism?

- Should I press another about their beliefs on this subject? (My example in college)

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- God's way will provide for each succeeding generation. (Acts 2:38-39; 1 Tim 6:20-21)

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- Acts 2:38-39 - Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 "For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- 1 Timothy 6:20-21 - O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge -- 21 by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith. Grace be with you. Amen.

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- It requires that men will give themselves “entirely” to teaching these entrusted words. This dedication does not come from a lukewarm faith. (1 Tim 4:15-16; 2 Tim 2:2)

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- 1 Timothy 4:15-16 - Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. 16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- **2 Timothy 2:2** - And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, **commit these to faithful men** who will be able to teach others also.

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- *Laziness and the fear of conflict* will destroy a local church. (Rev 3:15-16)

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- **Revelation 3:15-16** - "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. 16 "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth."

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- Do we not realize that our children will see the difference between conviction and convenience? Can we accept into fellowship someone that does not teach this?
- A commitment to faithfully teach without compromise will result in a proper fellowship!

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- What will be the future of the churches in this area? Consider *the churches of Judea*.
- How can the next generation *find faith and a good conscience*? (Ex. Evangelism)
(1 Tim 1:3-5, 18-19; 4:13; 2 Tim 2:2)

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- 1 Timothy 1:3-5 - As I urged you when I went into Macedonia -- remain in Ephesus that you may charge some that they teach no other doctrine.... 5 Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith,

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- 1 Timothy 1:18-19 - This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, 19 having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck,

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- **1 Timothy 4:13** - Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- 2 Timothy 2:2 - And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- A failed fellowship will result in *assimilation with the world.*
- What will happen if you joined a local denomination and tried to teach the gospel?

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- You may be tolerated if you only give financial support to those who differ with you, if you allow all who want to receive Christ be taught contrary to what you say you believe, and that only preachers and literature that teaches contrary to what you say you believe be used. Also, you must be silent!

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- Could you accept those conditions and be taken seriously by anyone? A separation of fellowship is demanded! **(Rev 12:11)**

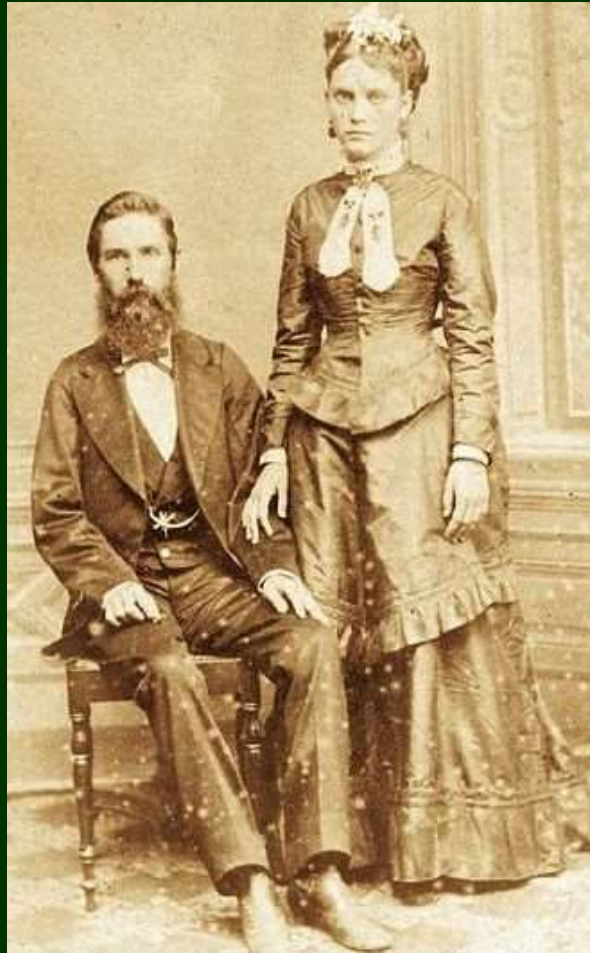
How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- Revelation 12:11 - "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death."

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- Consider *the danger of assimilation*. Consider the “Confederados.”

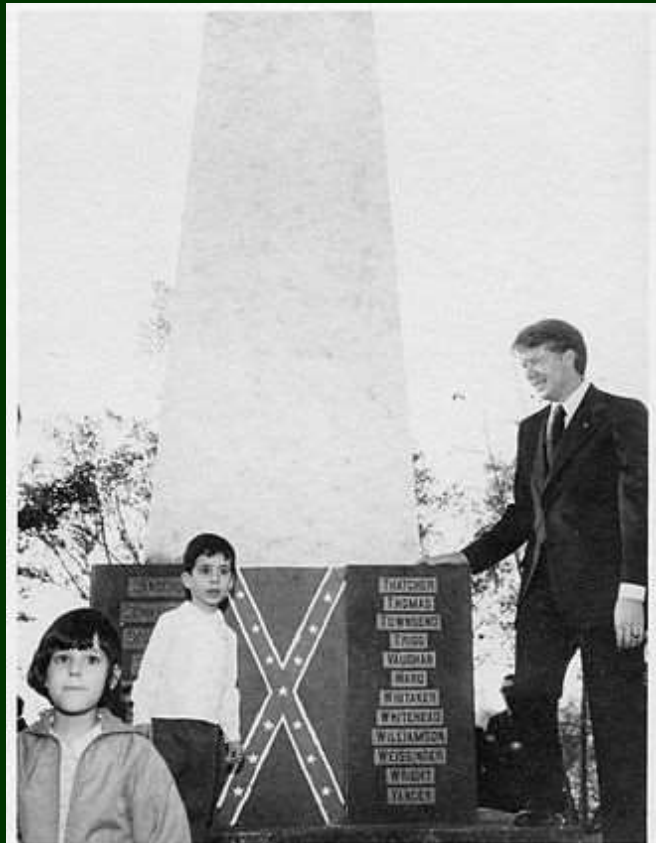
How can the next generation be given this precious promise?



How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- The Confederados also have an annual festival, called the Festa Confederada...
- The festival is marked by Confederate flags, Confederate uniforms.....

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?



Jimmy Carter, on a visit to Brazil in 1972, stands with fifth-generation Confederado children at the base of the Confederate monument in Americana.

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- Do you know: Ammiel? Nahbi? Geuel? ...
Caleb? Joshua? (**Josh 24:15**)

How can the next generation be given this precious promise?

- Joshua 24:15 - "And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."