What Jesus Did for Us at the Cross and what Jesus Does In Us

The Story of Jesus and what He did for us is more than ancient history. The story embodies the Gospel, and the Gospel can change your life. The apostle Paul defined the Gospel with these words, “I declare unto you the Gospel... For I delivered unto you first of all... how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures: And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the (holy) scriptures.” 1 Cor. 15:1-5. These three things: the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, constitute the Gospel. They are what Jesus Christ did for us in order to save us from sin, and eternal death in Hell.

The real Resurrection story is not only what Jesus did for us two thousand years ago, but also what He is doing in us now! That redemptive drama is a mirrored reflection of our own experience at conversion. **“Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death?” “Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” “For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection.” “Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead unto sin, but Alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 6:2-5,11** We die with Jesus in repentance, are buried with Him in water baptism, and are resurrected with Him to a new life when we are filled with the Holy Spirit.” His experience was physical and ours is spiritual. Easter is a time to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus. We cannot fully participate in this celebration until we have shared that resurrection power in our own lives.

How do we do it? “Peter answered that question on the day of Pentecost: “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.” Acts 2:38 Paul was told upon conversion: “And now why tarryest thou? Arise! and be baptized and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.” Acts 22:16 Jesus preached, Repent ye, and Believe the Gospel.” Mk. 1:15 “Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.” Matt. 18:3

**Repentance is the first step in conversion:**
“Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out...” Acts 3:19

**Repentance is a Commandment:**
“And the times of this ignorance, God winked at (to overlook, and not punish): but now commandeth all men to repent.” Acts 17:30

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Repentance is death with Jesus: “It is faithful saying: For if we be dead with Christ, we shall also live with Him.” 2 Tim. 2:11
Repentance crucifies the flesh: “And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.” Gal. 5:24
Repentance is Essential! “I tell you, Nay, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.” Luke 13:3, 5
Baptism is a type of Burial: “Buried with Him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with Him through the Faith of the operation of God, who hath raised Him from the dead.” Col. 2:12
Baptism puts on Christ: “For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” Gal. 3:27
Baptism for Salvation: “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.” Mark 16:16
Baptism is being born of water: “Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.” John 3:5

Baptism is a part of Salvation: “He that believeth on Me, even as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.” (John 7:37-38) Acts 2:4 “But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel: And it came to pass that in the Last days, (after Jesus ascended into Heaven) saith God, I will pour out of My Spirit upon all flesh!” Acts 2:16-17

John said, “‘I indeed have baptized you with water: but He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost!’” Mark 1:8
John said, “‘I indeed have baptized you with the Holy Ghost!’” Matt. 3:11
Jesus is still pouring out His Spirit even today…friends. It is a Gift that He will never take away, and He will be baptizing people with the Holy Spirit until He comes again and takes His Church which is His Bride home!

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