

Mt. 28: 19-20 **BAPTIZING IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT**

**Introduction:**

The word, “Ghost,” is not a very good translation. The better translation is “Spirit.” In the Great Commission Jesus has assigned His church three tasks: (1) To carry the gospel to the unsaved; (2) To baptize the saved, and (3) To teach and train those who are saved and baptized.

In the previous message I spoke to you about baptizing the saved, but did not cover that part of the instruction which says,; “...in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.” This is a part of the instruction by Jesus and deserves our careful attention.

**I. Some erroneous views**

- A. Some hold that there is no Trinity.
  - 1. They say that the terms “Father, Son and Holy Spirit” are descriptive of three different qualities of the one person.
  - 2. Some say that the terms speak of 3 different offices of the one person.
  - 3. If there is but one person then why did Jesus say “The Father hath sent me.”?
  - 4. And why did the Father say, “This is my Son in whom I am well pleased”? (Why did He not say, :”This is Me and I am well pleased with myself?”)
  - 5. And how in the world did Jesus sit upon His own shoulder?
  - 6. And why is it said that Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father?
- B. Some hold that this part of the verse is spurious..
  - 1. They have no textual nor manuscript evidence that it is spurious.
  - 2. They just assume that the Trinitarian formula for baptism did not exist for several generations.
  - 3. This is pure speculation.
- C. Some hold that this formula was later changed so that baptism should be in the name of Jesus only.
  - 1. They consider it rank heresy to baptize in the name of all three in the Trinity.
  - 2. Yet the three in Trinity are so closely united that it would be impossible to baptize in the name of one without doing it in the name of all three.
- D. Some believe that being baptized in the name of Jesus puts one into Jesus or into the grace of Jesus.
  - 1. To put it another way, they believe that baptism puts one into salvation.
  - 2. Thus, they say that baptism is essential for salvation.
  - 3. They ignore John 3:18.

**II. What Jesus meant by what He said**

- A. He surely meant something.
- B. He meant the expression to be taken figuratively.
  - 1. It would be impossible to baptize literally into a name. (Not into the sound waves of the spoken name; not into slips of paper on which the names “Father, Son and Holy Spirit are written.)
- C. Jesus meant that there should be a direct connection between the act of baptism and the names of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

1. It means that the person being baptized professes to believe the gospel message sent out by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
2. It means that this person intends to live his life or her life in obedience to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. It means that he intends to live his or her life for the honor and glory of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- 4 It means that he is being baptized by the authority of the Father, The Son and the Holy Spirit.

### **III. Some observations**

- A. While baptism will not save, nor help save nor help I[ kee on saved