

The Acts Pattern

The Book of Acts shows what people did in New Testament times to be saved. Let's notice a few examples from this book that establish a pattern for salvation.

In Acts 2:22-41, Peter preached that Jesus had been crucified, raised from the dead, and exalted to the right hand of God as both Lord and Christ. When the people heard this, they asked what to do, and Peter told them to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for forgiveness of their sins. About 3,000 souls did just that.

In Acts 3, Peter and John healed a lame man, and a crowd gathered around them. Peter declared that the man was healed by the power of Jesus' name and commanded the people to repent so that their sins would be wiped away.

In Acts 8:5-13, Philip the evangelist preached Christ in the city of Samaria. When the people believed the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike.

In Acts 8:26-40, Philip preached Jesus to a man from Ethiopia. The man asked, "What prevents me from being baptized?" Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." The man then confessed, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God," and he was baptized.

In Acts 9:1-22 and 22:1-16 the Lord Jesus appeared to Saul of Tarsus and sent him to Ananias, who would tell Saul what to do. Ananias told him to be baptized and wash away his sins.

In Acts 10, Peter preached the gospel for the first time to Gentiles. He told them that everyone who believes in Jesus receives forgiveness of sins, and they were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

In Acts 16:11-15, Lydia heard Paul preach the gospel of Christ, and she and her household were baptized.

In Acts 16:25-34, a Philippian jailer asked Paul and Silas, "What must I do to be saved?" They told him to believe in the Lord Jesus, and immediately he and his household were baptized.

Do you see a pattern? Have you followed this pattern for salvation?