THE DISTINCTIVE NATURE OF THE N.T. church - IN ALL THINGS ORDER # 4

Intro:
A. As we consider the restoration movement of the 18\textsuperscript{th} ans 19\textsuperscript{th} centuries I believe it is important for us to consider what it is that these men were looking at as they read the New Testament scriptures.
   1. The N.T. church is very distinct in nature - we are in the world, but not of the world.
   2. Our Head is Jesus Christ and His body is made up of individuals not congregations or churches.
B. What we saw in the restoration movement there are four distinct characteristics of those who are in Christ Jesus as they view things differently in many ways.
   1. Absolute Truth (Guide - One Faith)
   2. Gospel Plan (Entrance - One Baptism)
   3. Undenominational (Unity - One Body)
   4. Biblical Authority (Head - One Lord)
   a. In all things that pertain to ---- Worship, Mission, Appeal
C. We have noted in our past lessons two areas of agreement with the scriptures and those of the restoration movement.
   1. This morning I want to focus on our Fourth point part b - which pertains to UNITY of the ONE BODY under the Headship of Christ as it pertains to all things that govern the work, worship and mission of the body of Christ.
   2. This unfortunately during the restoration movement as well as today has been a huge divide amongst those who want to be the “church/body” of Christ and those who simply want to wear the name without giving adoration and honor to its Head/King.
   3. This has been an area of contention and disagreement, caused many divisions and established just like during the reformation movement new secular denominations - something that we have already seen in lessons past clearly condemned by Christ and the scriptures.
D. In our last lesson we noted four areas of discussion concerning Christ as our Lawgiver:
   1. If Christ is the Head and Lawgiver then we will Submit to Him - Eph 5:23-24 (NKJV) - 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.
   2. If Christ is the Head and Lawgiver then we will Hear Him - Deut 18:18-19 (NKJV) - 18 I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him. 19 And it shall be that whoever will not hear My words, which He speaks in My name, I will require it of him.
   3. If Christ is the Head and Lawgiver we will Obey Him - Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV) - 18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.
   4. If Christ is the Head and Lawgiver we will do All things by His Authority - Col 3:17 (NKJV) - 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
E. Let us now turn our attention to this all important study of “How to Establish the Authority of Christ”
   1. ROMANS 10:17 - faith comes from hearing and hearing the word of God
   2. We Cannot Know The Mind of God Except Through Revelation – 1 Cor. 2:11,14

\textsuperscript{1} \textit{The New King James Version}. Nashville : Thomas Nelson, 1982
a. **1 Corinthians 2:11** (NKJV) - 11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

b. **1 Corinthians 2:14** (NKJV) - 14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

3. **God Has Revealed All That He Wants From Us** – **1 Cor. 2:12,13; 1 Peter 1:3; 2 Tim. 3:16,17**

a. **1 Corinthians 2:12** (NKJV) - 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

   (1) **1 Corinthians 2:13** (NKJV) - 13 These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

b. **1 Peter 1:3** (NKJV) - 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

c. **2 Timothy 3:16** (NKJV) - 16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

   (1) **2 Timothy 3:17** (NKJV) - 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

4. **And therefore - Walking By Faith Means That We Walk By What God Has Said** – **2 Cor. 5:7; 1 Cor. 4:6; Gal. 1:6-9**

a. **2 Corinthians 5:7** (NKJV) - 7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

b. **1 Corinthians 4:6** (NKJV) - 6 Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that you may learn in us not to think beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one against the other.

c. **Galatians 1:6-9** (NKJV) - 6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed..

II. **HOW to Establish the Authority of Christ - In All That we do, say and believe.**

   **A.** Firstly to be noted in any area of authority studies is the difference between “Specific Authority” and “Generic Authority”.

1. **Specific authority**: Precisely formulated or restricted. If a command is specific, the action is authorized, then the details are specified.

   a. Eg. A parent tells their child to go to the store and buy 6 green apples - gives them $ 20:00. What must the child do?

2. **Generic authority**: General; opposite to specific. If a command is generic, an action is authorized without the details.

   a. Eg. Same scenario as before except the parent here says buy fruit for fruit salad. What can the child now do?

   **B.** To establish this biblical concept we can see this clearly illustrated throughout scripture.

1. Illustrated in **Genesis 6:14-16** (NKJV) - 14 Make yourself an ark of gopherwood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch. 15 And this is how you shall make it: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits.
16 You shall make a window for the ark, and you shall finish it to a cubit from above; and set the door of the ark in its side. You shall make it with lower, second, and third decks. ---- What God Specified Noah to do in the construction of the Ark.

a. GOD Specified these things:
   (1) Gopher wood (14)
   (2) Compartments (14)
   (3) 450’ Long (15)
   (4) 75’ Wide (15)
   (5) 45’ Tall (15)
   (6) 1 Window & Door (16)
   (7) 3 Stories (16)
   (8) DID NOAH UNDERSTAND THIS SIMPLE PRINCIPLE? - Genesis 6:22; 7:5 (NKJV) -

   22 Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did. ----
   Genesis 7:5 (NKJV) 5 And Noah did according to all that the Lord commanded him.

2. But in this very same Illustration of Genesis 6:14-16 - we see the distinction between Generic and Specific Authority.
   a. Generic & Specific: Build (generic) an ark of gopher wood (specific) – The command to build is like the command of the parent to the child to “go” in our illustration.
   b. What does this mean with regards to authority?
      (1) The authority of God now rests in the hands of men of how to carry out the command.
      (2) Using Expedients: Tools & Size of material dependant upon specific need and
      (3) Liberty: Source and means of transporting materials
   c. In making these choices Noah built the Ark and Genesis 6:22 and 7:5 says - “HE DID ALL THAT GOD COMMANDED HIM”.
      (1) Even tho he may have used a hammer and a saw and an Elephant to transport the lumber - He did what was authorized by God - tho not specified.

3. No what is important to note from this illustration of Noah and the Ark - is to understand that Generic Authority - Authorizes as in the Incidental’s (Tools, Scaffolds and Help) it does not Authorize (ie. Give Noah the liberty to: (add another door, use different wood or change the size) - since these things are specific.

C. This is a pattern that we can follow throughout the Old Testament with God’s dealings with Man.
   Time will not allow us to follow this thread throughout the History of God’s dealings with His own special people as it pertains to their worship, dress, dietary laws ect.

III. How to Establish the Authority of Christ - In Like Manner - Our Illustration in the N.T. turns to the Great Commission given by the Lord in Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV) - 18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

A. Vrs 18 - Establishes Christ as having Authority to command
   1. Vrs 19-20 - we see the very same elements (specific and generic authority) intermingled with one another.
   2. What is Specified: Make disciples (how preaching the Gospel)
      a. Baptizing them
      b. Teaching them to observe all things
   3. This excludes: making athletes; or professionals
      a. Sprinkling or pouring
b. Or teaching them Chemistry etc.

B. Now just as in Noah’s case let us note the Generic’s of this Great Commission
1. Go Make disciples
2. Go Baptize
3. Go TEACH
   a. What this includes: The method of GOING (ie. Boat, car, plane walking and what nation)
   b. Where to baptize - in a river, pond, creek, Ocean, tub, baptistry (only requirement is that such contains “much water” that a burial can take place - Romans 6:1-4 (NKJV) - 1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 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.
   c. The setting of the teaching - one on one, bible class, public preaching (materials written, etc)

C. With Regards to making disciples the body of Christ follows the head.
1. Repent and be baptized - Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-4 (NKJV) - 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. Romans 6:3-4 (NKJV) - 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 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.
   a. What is specified:
      (1) The purpose - for forgiveness of sins
      (2) The Mode - immerse in water
      (3) Pre-requisites - must believe & repent
   b. It is a violation when:
      (1) different reason - symbol
      (2) different mode - pour
      (3) different subject - infant
   c. But when baptizing the scriptural subject there are general expedients.
      (1) river, pool, baptistry
      (2) who does the baptizing
2. The Lord’s Supper - 1 Cor 11:17-33; Acts 20:7 (NKJV) - 17 Now in giving these instructions I do not praise you, since you come together not for the better but for the worse. 18 For first of all, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it. 19 For there must also be factions among you, that those who are approved may be recognized among you. 20 Therefore when you come together in one place, it is not to eat the Lord’s Supper. 21 For in eating, each one takes his own supper ahead of others; and one is hungry and another is drunk. 22 What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I do not praise you. 23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” 25 In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes. 27 Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. 28 But let a man
examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For he who eats and
drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's
body. 30 For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. 31 For if we would
judge ourselves, we would not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened by the
Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world. 33 Therefore, my brethren, when you come
together to eat, wait for one another. —— Acts 20:7 (NKJV) - 7 Now on the first day of the week,
when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to
them and continued his message until midnight.

a. What is Specified:
   (1) fruit of the vine
   (2) unleavened bread
   (3) 1st day of week
b. It is a Violation when:
   (1) different type drink
   (2) different type food
   (3) different time frame
c. But once again there are general expedients.
   (1) # of containers, morning or eve, When in service . . .

3. Singing In Worship - Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16 (NKJV) - 19 speaking to one another in psalms and
hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,---- Colossians
3:16 (NKJV) - 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and
admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your
hearts to the Lord.

a. What is Specified:
   (1) spiritual hymns, psalms
   (2) singing (let each one)
   (3) the Instrument – the heart
b. It is a Violation when:
   (1) different type songs
   (2) different types of music
   (3) different type of instrument
c. But once again there are general expedients
   (1) 4-part harmony, # of songs, song books, pitch pipe
   (2) Does NOT change the instruction – 1 Cor 14:40 (NKJV) - 40 Let all things be done
decently and in order.

4. Organization of Local Churches - Phili 1:1; 1 Tim 3:1-13; Tit. 1:5-9 (NKJV) - 1 Paul and
Timothy, bond servants of Jesus Christ, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with
the bishops and deacons:---- 1 Timothy 3:1-13 (NKJV) - 1 This is a faithful saying: If a man
desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. 2 A bishop then must be blameless, the
husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; 3 not
given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; 4
one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence 5 (for
if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); 6
not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.
7 Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into
reproach and the snare of the devil. 8 Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued,
not given to much wine, not greedy for money, 9 holding the mystery of the faith with a pure
conscience. 10 But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found

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likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. 12 Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. 13 For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus. — Titus 1:5-9 (NKJV) - 5 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you — 6 if a man is blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of dissipation or insubordination. 7 For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, 8 but hospitable, a lover of what is good, sober-minded, just, holy, self-controlled, 9 holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict.

a. What is Specified
(1) Saints, Elders & Deacons
(2) Plurality of Elders -
(3) Specific Qualifications

b. It is a violation when:
(1) Regional Headquarters
(2) Pastor / Laity System
(3) Unqualified / Women

c. But once again there are general expedients
(1) More than two elders / deacons
(2) Method of appointment . . .
(3) Does NOT change the instruction – 1 Cor 14:40

d. BUT, here is a simple example of the saved refusing to follow the instructions of the Head, . . .
(1) The Stamford Church of Christ is a multi-racial, gender-inclusive Church of Christ . . . there are things we do that other Churches of Christ may not, and things that other Churches of Christ may do that we do not. As the result of much study of scripture, for instance, we do not restrict roles or assign privilege or status on the basis of birth. We believe that God judges all people everywhere not by the categories of their physical births but by the maturity of their spiritual births. http://www.stamfordchurch.com/
(2) Since we would no longer use the teaching “Slaves, obey your earthly masters” (Eph. 6:5-9; Col. 3:22-41; Titus 2:9-10) to defend slavery, why would we continue to use 1 Cor 14:33-35 or 1 Tim. 2:9-15 to silence women’s voices in our worship assemblies? **** Please note the website has been changed from 2006 and these statements have somewhat been modified but the progress into division is quite clear.
(3) The answer to this statement is simple - Its not your church and you are not the Head.

D. Expediency in human wisdom involves the right of choice within the realm of those things included in what God has authorized –
1. When God specifies, then man has no choice but to obey or be in rebellion to God.
2. To go beyond or fall short of that which is specified is “EVIL” –
3. If it is not Authorized in the Bible It is:
a. It is an addition to God’s word (Dt. 4:2; Pr. 30:5-6)
(1) Deuteronomy 4:2 (NKJV) - 2 You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.
(2) Proverbs 30:5-6 (NKJV) - 5 Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him. 6 Do not add to His words, Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a
liar.

b. It is not as the oracles of God (1 Pet. 4:11) (NKJV) - 11 If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

c. It is not according to the pattern (Heb. 8:5 NKJV) - 5 who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, “See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.”

d. It is another gospel (Gal. 1:6-10 NKJV) - 6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed. 10 For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ.

e. It is of men (Mt. 21:25 NKJV) - 25 The baptism of John—where was it from? From heaven or from men?” And they reasoned among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ He will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’

f. It cannot be done by faith (Rom. 10:17 NKJV) - 17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

g. It cannot be done in the name of the Lord (Col. 3:17 NKJV) - 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

h. It is not a good work (2 Tim. 3:16-17 NKJV) - 16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

i. It does not pertain to life and godliness (2 Pet. 1:2-3 NKJV) - 2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

j. It does not promote unity but division – (1 Cor. 1:10-11 NKJV) - 10 Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. 11 For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe’s household, that there are contentions among you.

k. It causes one to not have God (2 Jn. 9-11 NKJV) - 9 Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. 10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; 11 for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.

E. A Church Belonging To Christ understands that The New Testament Contains The Teachings of Christ Regarding:

1. How to Worship
2. How to be organized
3. What to teach
4. And How to live.
5. Understands these clear and plain scriptures:
   a. **Col 3:17** (NKJV) - 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
   b. **1 Cor 14:6** (NKJV) - 6 But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you unless I speak to you either by revelation, by knowledge, by prophesying, or by teaching?
   c. **Rev 22:18-19** (NKJV) - 18 For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.
   d. **Prov 30:6** (NKJV) - 6 Do not add to His words, Lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.

F. When we conform to the Authority of the Head of the church (body) we see the positive features of what Christ prayed for amongst His followers:
   1. Brings unity in Belief - Teaching - Practice – **John 17:20,21; Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 1:10-13**
      a. **John 17:20** (NKJV) - 20 “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;
      b. **Acts 2:42** (NKJV) - 42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.
      c. **1 Corinthians 1:10-13** (NKJV) - 10 Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. 11 For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe’s household, that there are contentions among you. 12 Now I say this, that each of you says, “I am of Paul,” or “I am of Apollos,” or “I am of Cephas,” or “I am of Christ.” 13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

IV. **In Conclusion:**
   A. Absolute Truth (Guide - One Faith)
      1. Gospel Plan (Entrance - One Baptism)
      2. Undenominational (Unity - One Body)
      3. Biblical Authority (Head - One Lord)
         a. In all things that pertain to ---- Worship, Mission, Appeal
   B. **TRUTH concerning the Plan of Salvation ---- Hear, Believe, Repent, Confess and be Baptized**
      1. **HEAR:**
         a. **Luke 8:11** (NKJV) - 11 “Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.
         b. **Romans 10:17** (NKJV) - 17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
      2. **BELIEVE:**
         a. **John 8:24** (NKJV) - 24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.”
         b. **Hebrews 11:6** (NKJV) - 6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.
      3. **REPENT:**
         a. **Luke 13:3** (NKJV) - 3 I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.
b. **Luke 13:5** (NKJV) - 5 I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.”

c. **Acts 17:30** (NKJV) - 30 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,

d. **Acts 2:38** (NKJV) - 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.

4. **CONFESS:**

   a. **Matthew 10:32-33** (NKJV) - 32 “Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. 33 But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

5. **BE BAPTIZED:**

   a. **1 Peter 3:21** (NKJV) - 21 There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

C. **Are You Willing To Obey The Truth of God’s Word Today?**

   1. **1 Cor. 12:13** (NKJV) - For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

   2. **Galatians 3:26-27** (NKJV) - For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.