



QA: Were the Apostles Baptized? by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: "Where does the Bible say the Apostles were baptized?"

ANSWER:

1. Refer to these Gospel accounts:

John [the Baptist] came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. (**Mark 1:4-5**)

[John the Baptist said:] "I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water."
And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."
Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, "Behold the Lamb of God!" (**John 1:31-36**)

One of the two who heard John speak and followed Him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. (**John 1:40-42**)

The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote — Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." (**John 1:43-45**)

John's baptism of repentance was preached "to all the people of Israel" (**Acts 13:24**);
"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. (**Acts 19:4**)

[Jesus] is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those

who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.
(**Hebrews 9:15**)

CONCLUSIONS:

- 1) All Jews living in Jesus' day had to be baptized in John's baptism, confessing their sins which were removed by Jesus' death. Jesus was the only exception, since He had no sins, but as such, stood out as "the Son of God."
- 2) From His baptism, Jesus began calling His Jewish Galilean Apostles, a qualification of which was to "have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John" (**Acts 1:21-22**). It is inconceivable that Jesus named as Apostles any Jew who had not been baptized of John "to fulfill all righteousness" (**Matthew 3:15**).

2. After the Day of Pentecost, Saul of Tarsus was told

"Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (**Acts 22:16**)

Jesus' baptism is for Jew and Gentile, and for all time (**Matthew 28:18-20**). This baptism, Paul preached for both Jew and Gentile (**Romans 6:3-7**; **Galatians 3:22-29**). Paul did not record each individual baptism,

I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. (**1 Corinthians 1:14-16**)

Must we conclude that if not specifically recorded, no one else was baptized? God forbid!

--- *jtpII, October 28, 2018*