

# DO YOU AGREE WITH JESUS?

**QUESTION: Is baptism to be administered in the name of Jesus only?**

There are those in the religious world who vehemently oppose the idea of the necessity of baptism for the remission of sins. Some view it as an act of obedience to God, but with no connection with salvation. Yet others see no need in being baptized at all. Among those who practice immersion, there are different views about how it should be done. There has been much contention over the idea that baptism should be done in the name of Jesus only (Acts 2:38 and Acts 4:12, among others, have been cited as proof). What does Jesus say about this?

In giving the Great Commission to his disciples, Jesus stated, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:18-20). To baptize in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit is to administer immersion by the authority of the Godhead. Jesus himself had all authority ("power") upon earth, and he instructed his apostles to baptize by the authority of every member of the Godhead. Not only did he instruct them to do so, but he also commanded them to pass his teachings on to those they taught and baptized. Thus, it comes down to us today to administer baptism in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Also, we must not think the commandment of Jesus is a specific formula of words that must be recited at baptism. The emphasis is on the fact that those who go and teach and baptize do so by the authority of heaven! God's word leads us to know that this is a Divine command which cannot be ignored.

Do you have a question that you would like for us to consider together, or a comment regarding what has been written? If so, please email us at [sixthavenue@bellsouth.net](mailto:sixthavenue@bellsouth.net), or write to us at the Sixth Avenue Church of Christ, 1501 Sixth Avenue, Jasper, Alabama, 35501.