

WITNESSES FOR JESUS – 2

APRIL 7, 2024

REVIEW: ACTS 1:8

- Jesus left us on Earth to be His witnesses (Gr. Martus) or martyrs.
- A witness provides evidence based on what he has seen, heard, experienced.
- He does so with confidence, even willing to die for the cause (Stephen).

CONTINUE: ACTS 2:36-40

Peter's message brought deep conviction and controversy; Jesus fulfilled Yom Kippur and accused them of killing the sacrificed lamb. Those who believed asked what they should do. Peter said to repent and be baptized.

- I grew up in a church that practiced infant baptism. The belief was to free one from original sin. The Bible has no record of an infant being baptized. This practice produces false hope and is used to make people think they're right with God.
- **MARK 16:14-16** The truth is, an infant can't repent or understand the Gospel. Even Jesus was 30 when He was baptized by John.

ACTS 19:1-7

These individuals were circumcised as infants and baptized by John. They weren't saved until Paul preached to them the Gospel. Then they were baptized and received the Spirit.

MT. 10:28-39

Faith in Christ impacts every area of our lives, including family life. By the time this Gospel was written, many were separated from their families because they confessed Christ.

- The family is God's blessing to us. If all others forsake us, our family is there for us. Not if you're Jewish and you confess Christ.
- These people had to choose between confessing Christ and dying physically or not confessing Him and dying eternally.

ACTS 3:12-15

Peter preached to those who identified with the Abrahamic covenant and Mosaic law. To many who cried "Crucify Him" on the same streets where they were celebrating Passover.

- Peter perfectly modeled what it means to be a witness. He spoke boldly, with confidence and he was willing to sacrifice his life for what he knew to be true.

ROM. 6:1-7 NLT

Water Baptism represents our identifying ourselves with Christ and gives witness to our belief in His finished work in redemption.

CONCLUSION:

Instead of taking us to Heaven, Jesus left us on Earth to do something for Him that we can't do for Him in Heaven. To witness to lost sinners of His great love for mankind that sent Him to the Cross.