

# The Rest of the Story

175

## The story: The Ministry of John the Baptist

- <sup>1</sup> And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup> And he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” <sup>3</sup> And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They said, “Into John’s baptism.” <sup>4</sup> **And Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus.”** Acts 19:1-4 (ESV)

176

## John the Baptist called people to a commitment publicly expressed in water baptism. Luke 3:1-22

- This was a commitment to radically change the way they approached life by:
  - Focusing on their accountability to God rather than their physical heritage.
  - Living out God's intended purpose
  - Looking to the promised Messiah Who would bring both salvation and judgment.

177

The rest of the story is that Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah and has died, risen, ascending to the Father and sent the Holy Spirit into the world until His return.

- The ministry of the Holy Spirit is essential in the life of the disciple of Jesus Christ.
- <sup>4</sup> And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." <sup>5</sup> On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup> And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying. <sup>7</sup> There were about twelve men in all.  
Acts 19:4-7 (ESV)

178

The rest of the story is that Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah and has died, risen, ascending to the Father and sent the Holy Spirit into the world until His return.

- Those who receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord receive the indwelling Holy Spirit.
- <sup>4</sup> And Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus.” <sup>5</sup> On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup> And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying. <sup>7</sup> There were about twelve men in all.  
Acts 19:4-7 (ESV)