

Acts 19:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Analysis

When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus—

The immediate response demonstrates genuine conversion's eagerness to align with revealed truth. Baptism **in the name of the Lord Jesus** (εἰς τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ Κυρίου Ἰησοῦ) signifies baptism into Christ's authority and ownership, confessing Him as Lord and Messiah. The Greek preposition εἰς (into) suggests entering into relationship with Christ, not merely ritual compliance. This re-baptism is unique in Acts, addressing the specific situation of those baptized before Pentecost. It establishes that Christian baptism is Trinitarian in essence (Matthew 28:19) and Christ-focused in confession.

Historical Context

This occurred around AD 53-54 in Ephesus. The practice of re-baptizing those who had only John's baptism appears unique to this transitional situation. Later Christian baptism was always 'in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,' though Acts frequently emphasizes the name of Jesus.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. What does baptism 'into the name' of Jesus reveal about Christian identity and belonging?
2. How should churches respond to those with incomplete understanding of baptism or the gospel?

Interlinear Text

ἀκούσαντες	δὲ	ἐβαπτίσθησαν	εἰς	τὸ	ὄνομα	τοῦ
they heard	When	this they were baptized	in	G3588	the name	G3588
G191	G1161	G907	G1519		G3686	
κυρίου	Ἰησοῦ					
of the Lord	Jesus					
G2962	G2424					

Additional Cross-References

Acts 8:16 (Baptism): (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

Acts 8:12 (Baptism): But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Acts 2:38 (Baptism): Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

1 Corinthians 10:2 (Baptism): And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

Acts 10:48 (Baptism): And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

