*Monday, June 3, 2013*

**Now Faith**

Mark 16:15-20 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. (KJV)

Let’s begin where we left off last week with the term baptized and what it represents spiritually. Baptism is not some outdated ritual anymore, but a way of life which starts with a death, that being our old fallen nature. Take notice of a key word in verse 16 which says “is” baptized and not “was”. “Is” refers to an ongoing process which one will have to continue if they are truly going to inherit eternal life, and not find out someday that they have run the race in vain; that all their labor was in vain, empty and worthless.

Romans 6:3-5 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: (KJV)

Remember the Bible is full of parables, symbols, and figures that use things we have seen in the outward to describe what is now taking place inwardly in the realm of the Spirit. Given the fact that God Himself is a Spirit then isn’t being in the Spirit the place you should be today, right now. Verse 4 reminds us that our old man is dead and buried, you know like your past?

Romans 6:6-8 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin. 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: (KJV)

So what time does your Spiritual clock show? How about now, today, this moment; do you believe more in Christ and what He has done on our behalf and less in what you think you are doing on His? Well, if you keep that doubting, pouting old man nailed to his spiritual cross will you be able to believe.

Luke 11:21-23 When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace: 22 But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils. 23 He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth. (KJV)

I don’t care how strong and gung ho you were in the beginning of your walk, if you let down your guard and allow the enemy to come back in and take over, the world and its carnal influences can have more of an effect on you than the Lord. Verse 23 is your wakeup call Church; if you are not with Him, well, then you are in opposition to Him.

God bless dearly loved, and have a prosperous day in Christ Jesus our Lord.