The Right Baptism
Acts 19:1-5

Introduction:
A. Text makes one thing clear — Just any baptism will not do.
   1. These had been baptized unto John's baptism.
   3. These had to be baptized again — “in the name of Jesus” (cf. Mt. 28:18-20).
B. One must be careful to be baptized right.

Discussion:
I. The Right Element.
A. Baptism in “name of Jesus” is not in the Holy Spirit. (Acts 8:15-16).
B. Baptism that saves is in water. (1 Pet. 3:21; Acts 8:38).

II. The Right Action.
A. Baptism is immersion by definition. (Greek — baptizo).
B. Baptism is immersion by description. (Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12).
C. Baptism is immersion by demonstration. (John 3:23; Acts 8).

III. The Right Authority.
A. Not by church authority. (Voting on candidate).
B. Not by preacher authority. (Only “ordained” preacher.)

IV. The Right Preparation.
A. Only after teaching produces faith. (Matt. 16:15,16).

V. The Right Purpose.
A. The purpose is not:
   1. To please any person on earth.
   2. To get into a denomination.
   3. To show that one is already saved.
B. The purpose is:
   1. To obey God — submit to his authority.
      a. Saved added to church (Acts 2:47)
      b. Saved are in one body. (1 Cor. 12:13).

Conclusion:
A. What about your baptism?
B. Does it have all these right characteristics?