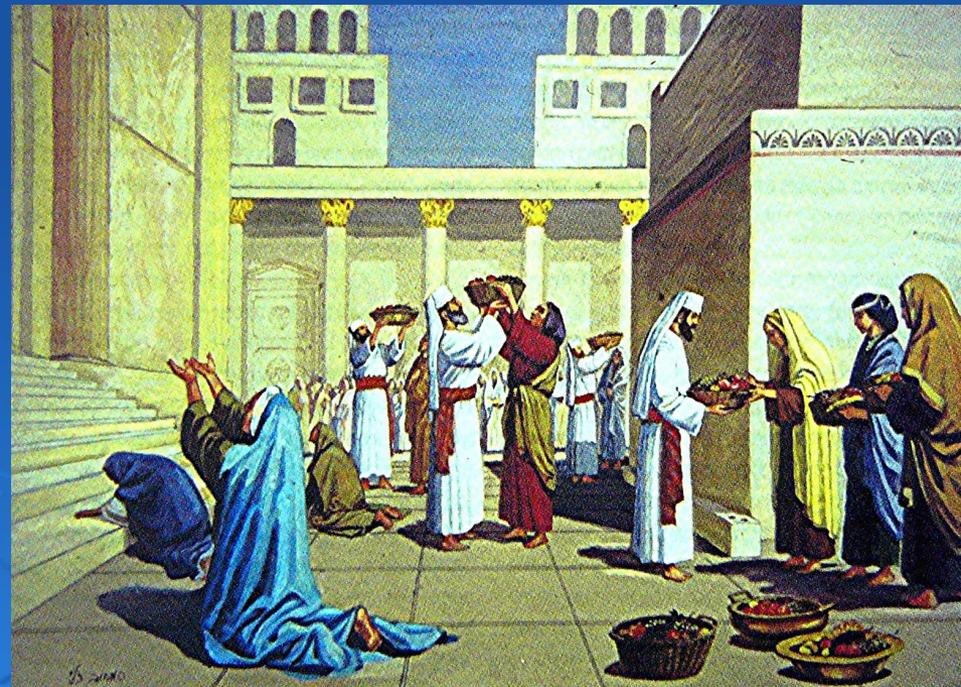
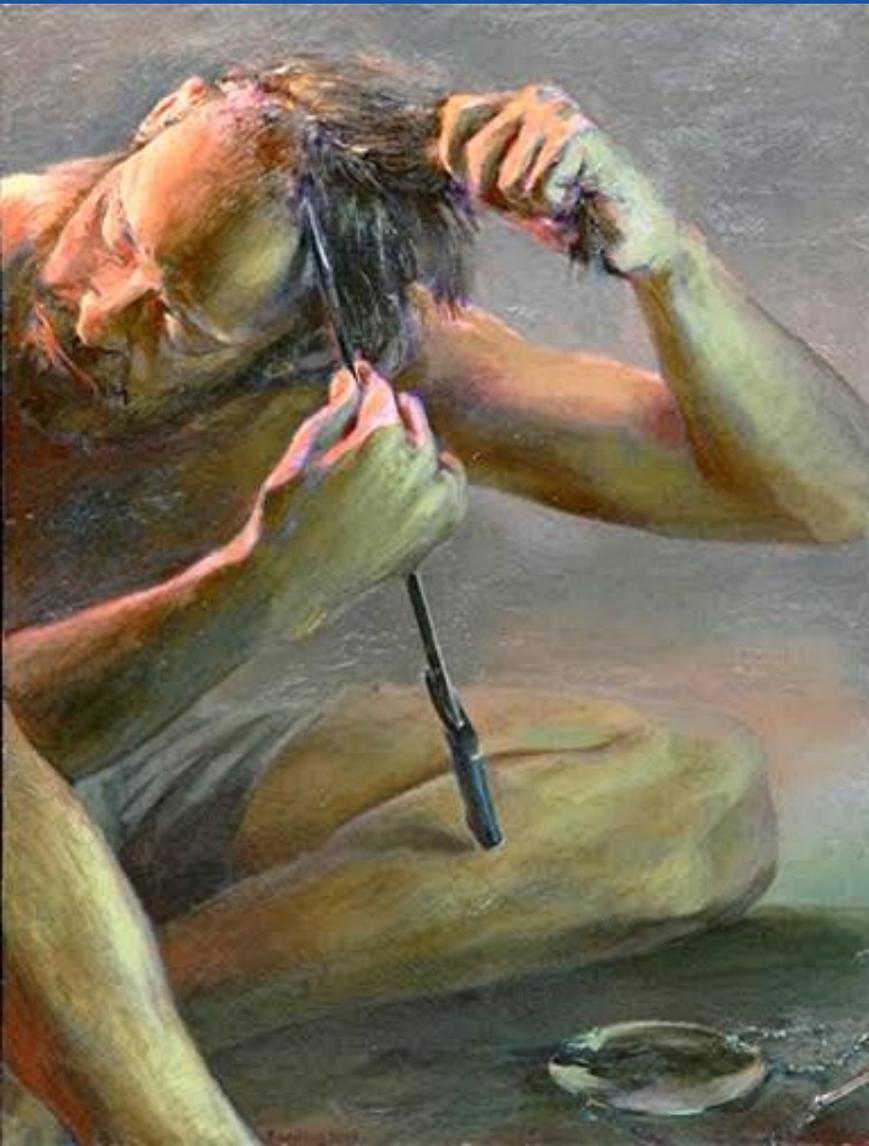


THE RELIGION OF THE JEWS IN 50 A.D.

- Most Jews thought the Messiah would be a re-do of King David, the warrior-king
- The Synagogue was the source of religious instruction
- Temple seen as corrupt
- Yet priests were needed for Torah commanded Temple rituals
- Judea and Galilee had a close connection with the Temple
- Jews of the Diaspora rarely went to the Temple



EXPLAINING PAUL'S VOW OFFERING



- Paul in Cenchrea to catch a ship back to the Holy Land
- Cuts his hair as part of a vow offering
- Jerome: “*...Paul did what he did NOT wish to do...*”
- Bede: “*...he played the part of a Jew...to win over the Jews...*”
- These thoughts are anti-Semitic, anti-Scripture, and erroneous

TWISTING SCRIPTURE

- Bede suggests that Paul only **PRETENDED** to be a Jew
- Church view: one must be a gentile to be a Christian
- Supposedly Paul had, at some time, converted and renounced his Jewish heritage
- This is the mindset of many early Church Fathers (gentiles)
- A Doctrine is adopted, then Scripture is twisted to make it fit



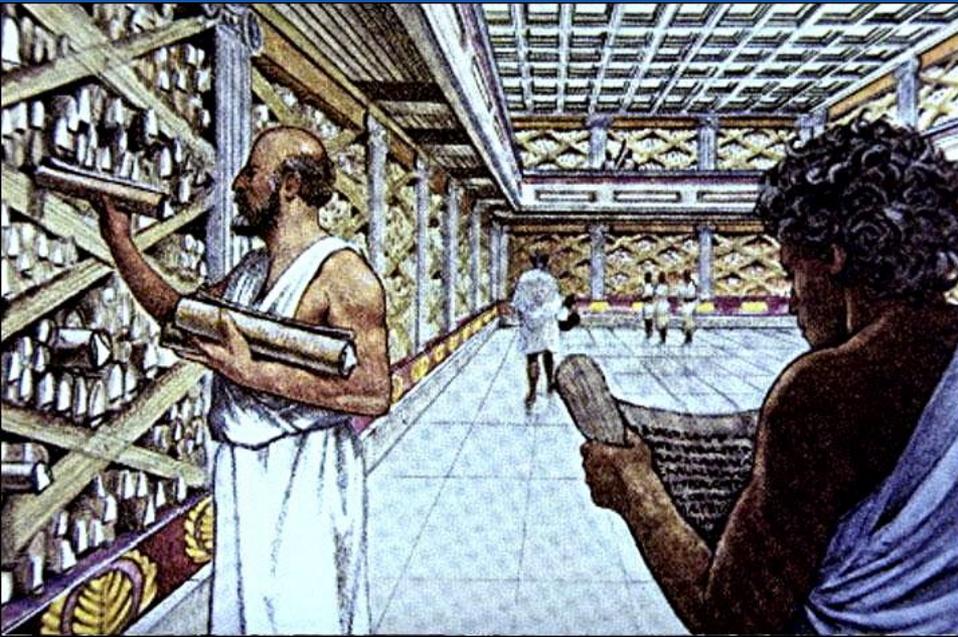
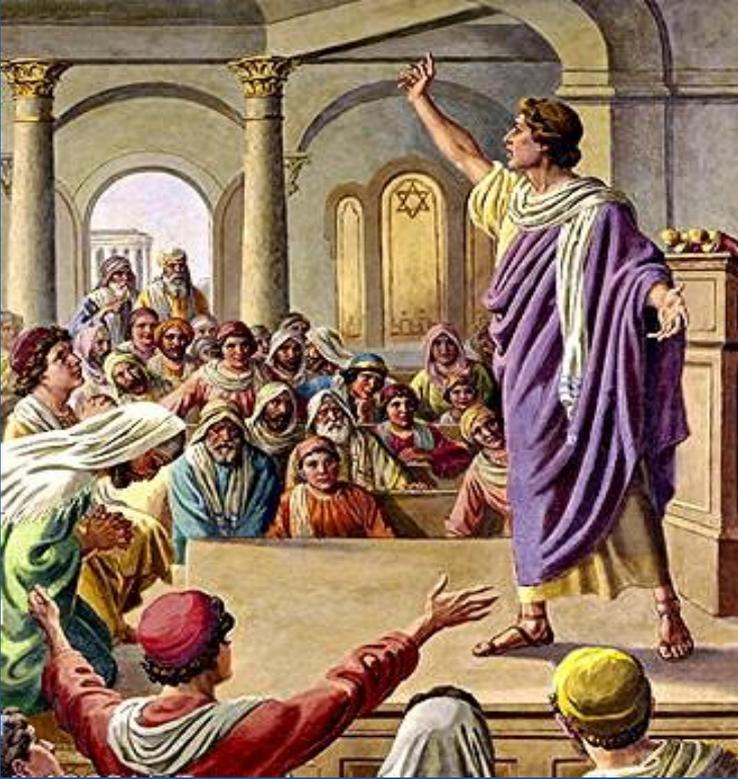
GOING UP

- When arriving back in the Holy Land Paul first went to Jerusalem
- It is always “UP” to Jerusalem
- All other places are “DOWN”
- Has nothing to do with elevation
- *Ekklesia* = assembly, community
- Does not mean “church” with stained glass, steeple, and pews
- Believers still attending synagogues

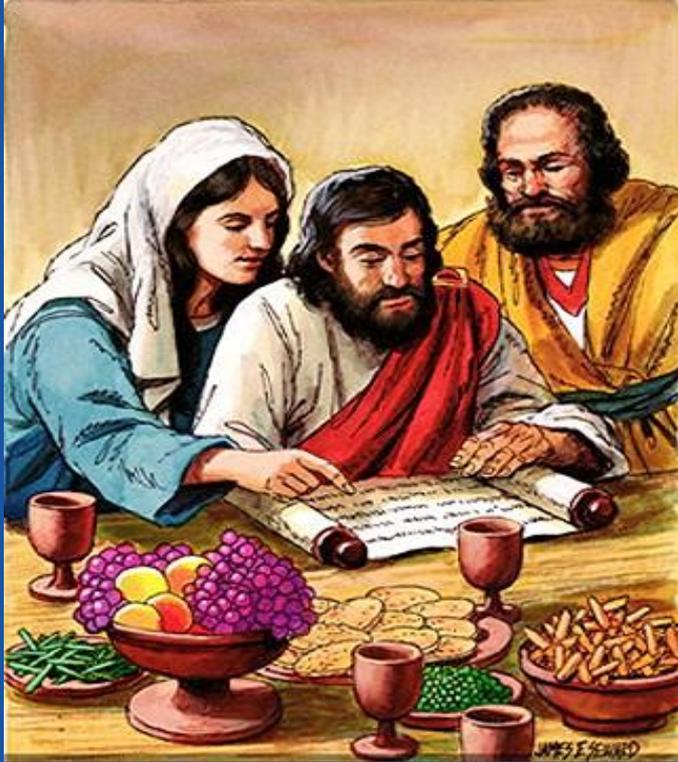


APOLLOS

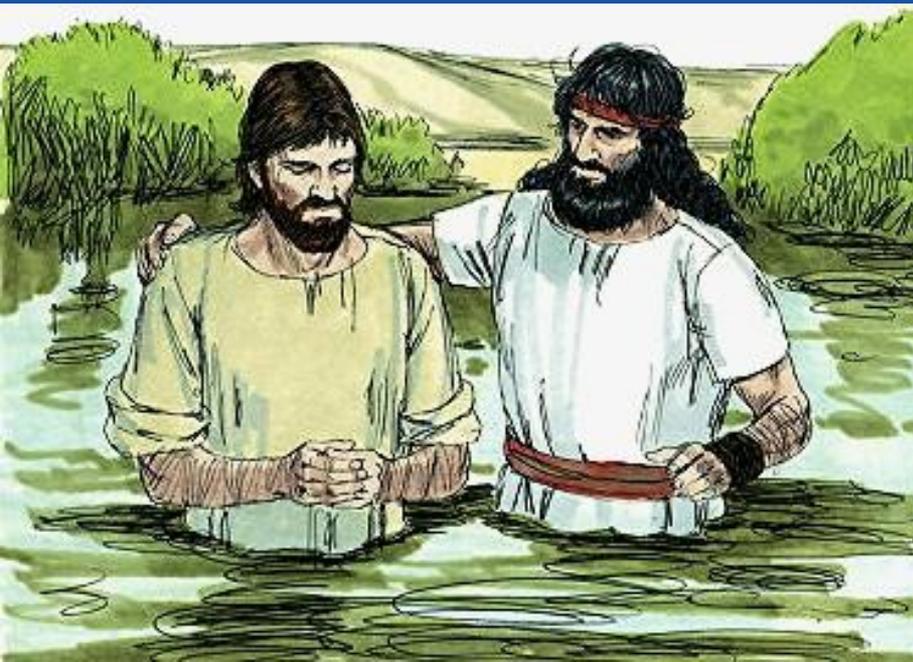
- Apollos came to Ephesus to teach
- Ephesus 3rd largest city in Roman Empire
- Many Jews on their own were evangelizing for Christ
- Alexandria, Egypt was a cosmopolitan city
- The Judaism practiced in Alexandria was progressive and in line with Hellenism
- Philo and other Jewish intellectuals flocked there



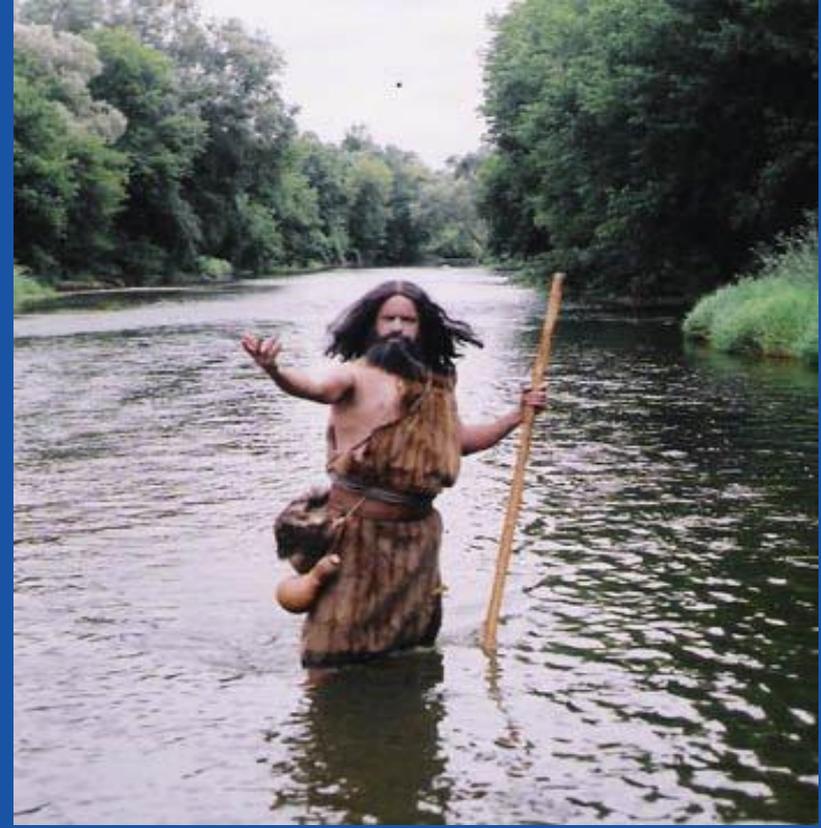
THE IMMERSION ISSUE



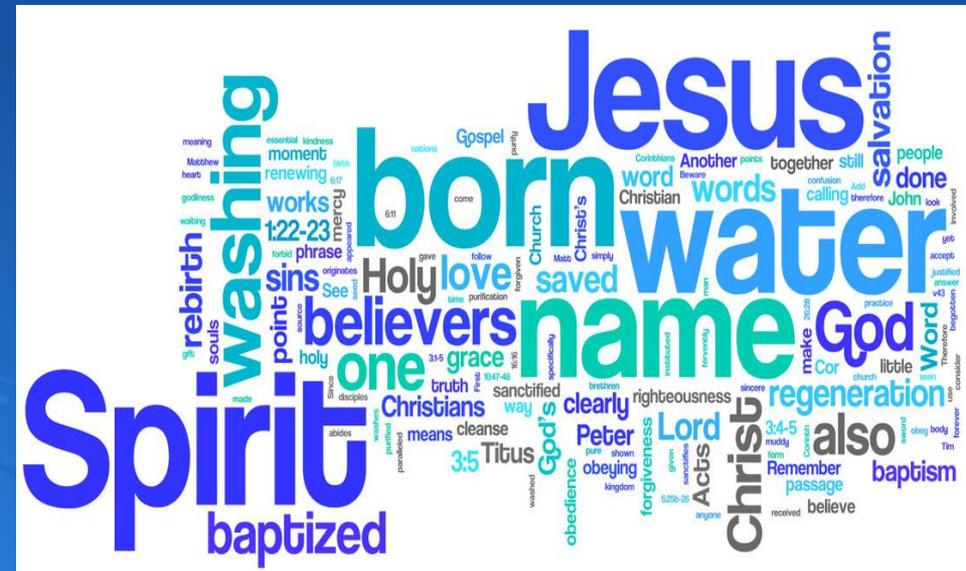
- Apollo very studied in the Tanakh
- He only knew about the “immersion in John”
- Aquila and Priscilla heard him speak, helped him understand more about Yeshua and The Way
- Several “strands” of Messianic Judaism at this time, not all based on The Way in Jerusalem



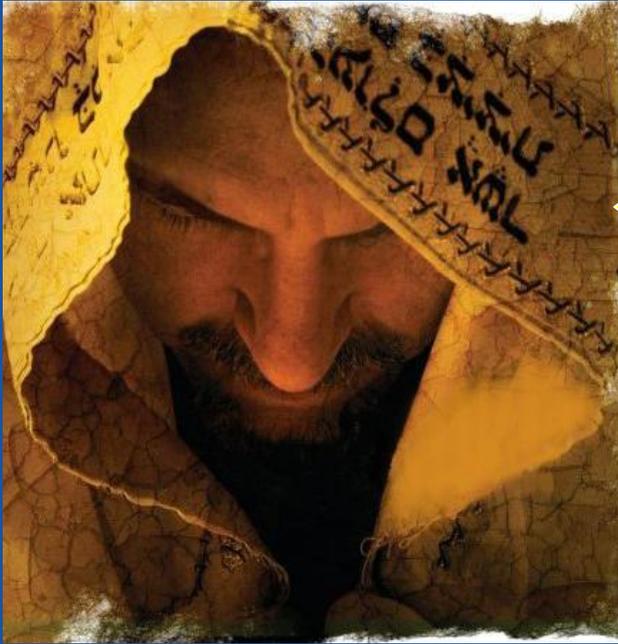
BAPTISM 101



- John immersed people into repentance of sins
- This was NOT about Salvation!
- No one received the Holy Spirit from this type of Baptism
- Immersion in Christ is about spiritual re-birth
- Apollos had NOT received the Holy Spirit
- A non-Believer can know a lot about the Bible, but for them it is only literature
- Apollos was a spiritual man



KNOWING THE REAL YESHUA



HIM ?



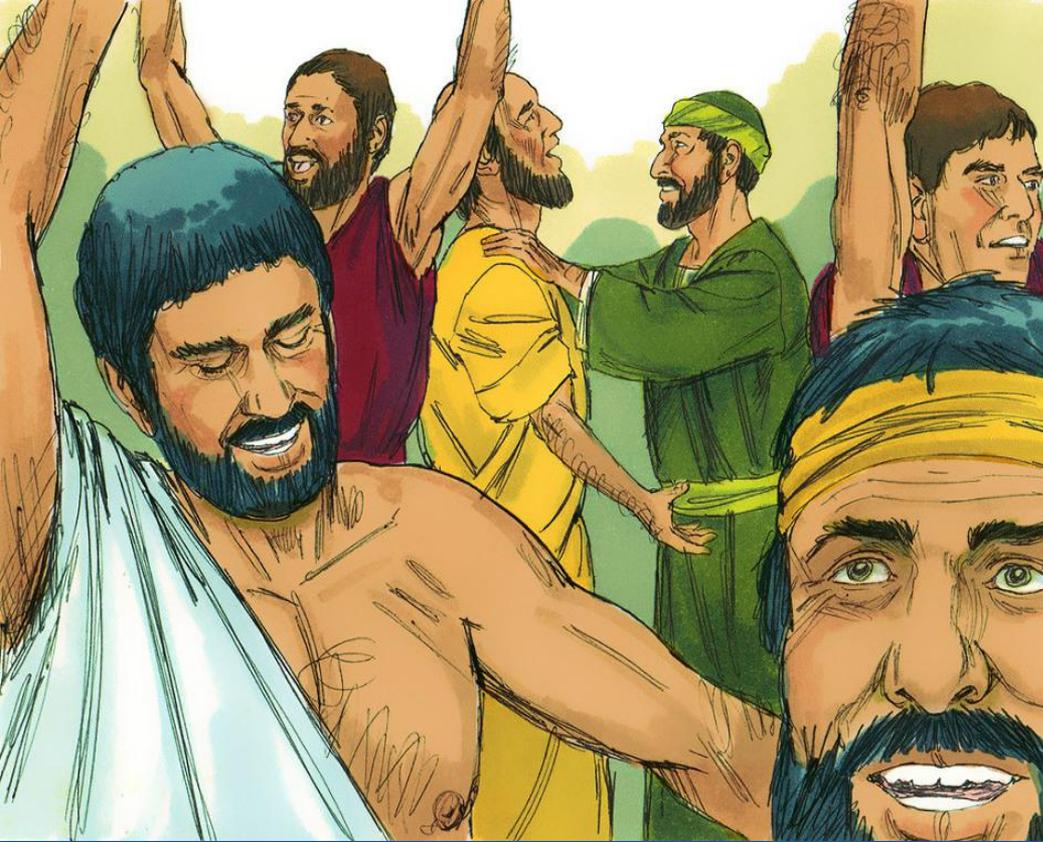
OR HIM ?



- Many millions of Christians know some facts about Jesus
- What do they actually believe about Him?
- What were they immersed into?
- The Christ of our imaginings? Or the REAL one?
- Does this affect Salvation?



- Acts Chapter 19
- Apollos in Corinth, at the same time Paul returned to Ephesus
- Paul asks Believers if they had received the Holy Spirit... they didn't even know what that was !!
- They were baptized into "John" but not into Christ
- Paul sensed they knew little about their faith in Yeshua
- Paul saw no sign or evidence of the Holy Spirit indwelling



PAUL'S IMMERSION

- Was it the immersion or Paul laying on hands that brought the Holy Spirit?
- At Pentecost, Holy Spirit came with NO immersion or laying on hands
- We should not make rigid doctrines about Holy Spirit, immersion, laying on hands, speaking in tongues
- But.....N.T. commands Believer's Baptism in Christ !!

DIVISION, ELECTION, SEPARATION

- The synagogue split over Paul's teaching
- Some went with Paul and they moved to the Hall of Tyrannus
- Leaving a congregation, or a split, can be gut wrenching and bad feelings always result
- Yet when it is God directed, and not from pettiness or selfishness, we must do it
- Paul did this twice so far in Acts

