

WAS JESUS A REGULAR BAPTIST?



Lesson Five – How did Jesus see the Church?

How Did Jesus See the Church?

This chart lays out some of the differences:

Israel	Category	Church
Descendants of Jacob (Gen. 35:9-12)	Origin	Coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 1:4-5)
Covenants (Romans 9:4)	Basis of Existence	Baptism of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12:13)
One people group/nation (Is. 52:11)	Makeup	People from all nations (Col. 3:11)
Salvation by faith (Gen. 15:6) Fellowship by law keeping (Ex 24:1-8)	Relationship to God	Salvation by faith (Eph. 2:8-9) Fellowship by faith (2 Cor. 5:7)
End of the Millennium (Rev. 20:7-14)	Culmination	The Rapture (1 Thes. 4:13-18)

The church was a “mystery” not yet revealed in the Old Testament and Gospels (Ephesians 3:3-13).

- Jesus Christ gave Paul a new “responsibility” (dispensation) of grace (3:1-2).
- Jesus revealed something to Paul (and the Apostles) which was previously unknown (3:3-5).
- The “mystery” is the body of Christ – those who are “in Christ” through the gospel (3:6-7).

- This “mystery” was hidden from the beginning, but now the wisdom of God is displayed in the church (3:8-11ff).

Jesus introduces the church as a concept for the future (Matthew 16:18).

- Jesus promises that He will build His church in the future.
- The church is the assembly of people who believe in Jesus as Savior.

Jesus gave the “keys of the Kingdom” to the church to witness about the coming Kingdom (Matthew 16:19, 18:15-18).

- By “keys of the Kingdom,” Jesus means that Peter and the Apostles have the teaching (key) that unlocks the Kingdom, i.e., Peter’s confession, the gospel.
- The role of the church is to preach the gospel of salvation in Christ helping people to know with clarity whether they are granted a citizenship in the Kingdom or not.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit would make the church unique.

- That baptism of the Holy Spirit would be done by Jesus in the future (Mark 1:8).
- Jesus taught His disciples about this new Spirit work (John 14:16-17).
- During the church age, believers indwelt by the Spirit, are the temple of God (John 4:23-24; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

- The baptism of the Spirit had not yet come at the beginning of Acts (1:4-5).
- The arrival of the Spirit meant a delay in the Kingdom to give time for witnessing (Acts 1:6-8).
- The baptism of the Spirit first occurred on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4).
- The baptism of the Holy Spirit was paid for by the cross but is different than the Spirit's New Covenant work (Ezekiel 36:24-28; Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:17-21).
- The baptism of the Spirit happens when a person believes and is for everyone who believes (Acts 11:15-17).
- The baptism of the Holy Spirit forms the church, the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 27-28).

God is using the church age to prepare Israel for their salvation (Romans 11:11, 25-27).

- God has granted salvation to the Gentiles in order to do a work in Israel (11:11).
- God has allowed Israel to reject Him temporarily, until the fullness of the Gentiles (11:25).
- After that time, Israel will be saved (11:26).
- God will keep His covenant to Israel (11:27-29).

Conclusion

- Jesus taught that the church would be built in the future.
- He taught that it would consist of those who believe in Him as Savior.
- He taught that it would be formed by the baptism of the Spirit.
- Jesus taught that the church would be His witnesses about the coming Kingdom and the need for salvation before it arrives.