

II Peter i: 2-11; ii: 20-22; I John ii: 15; iii: 13; v: 19; I Cor. x: 31. A desire to live in the spirit of these scriptures is the best *evidence* of regeneration.

Ques.—Should the child of God unite with the visible Church of Christ immediately upon conversion, or not?

Ans.—Most emphatically he should, *without any delay*. According to the teachings of God's word all the unregenerated should be in the world, and all the regenerated should be in the Church. Matt. xxviii: 19, 20; Acts ii: 41-47; v: 14; xi: 24; viii: 12; x: 48; John xiv: 15, 21, 24; xv: 14; I Cor. xi: 2.

Ques.—Were there *local* churches organized and officered in the apostolic days, to which believers were added?

Ans.—Most certainly there were. One of Paul's principal burdens was "the care of all the churches." And our Lord's instruction concerning the discipline of the Church would be impossible unless the Church were a local, officered organization. Otherwise the offended brother could not "tell it unto the Church." Matt. xviii: 17; Acts ix: 31; xi: 26; xiii: 1; xiv: 23; xv: 22, 41; xvi: 5; Rom. xvi: 4, 16; I Cor. iv: 17; vii: 17; xi: 16; xiv: 23, 33; xvi: 1, 19; II Cor. i: 1; viii: 1, 18, 19, 23, 24; xi: 8, 28; xii: 13; Gal. i: 2, 22; I Thess. i: 1; ii: 14; II Thess. i: 4; III John x.

Ques.—How are members added to this organization?

Ans.—"Baptism is a sacrament [I would rather call it an ordinance] of the New Testament whereby the parties baptized are solemnly admitted into the visible church, and enter into an open and professed engagement to be wholly and only the Lord's." (*Presbyterian Confession of Faith*, Ans. to Ques. 165.)

Ques.—Who are the proper subjects for this solemn ordinance?

Ans.—Those who repent and believe the gospel. Matt. iii: 5-10; xxviii: 19, 20; Mark i: 4, 5; xvi: 15, 16; Acts ii: 37-41; viii: 12, 36, 37; ix: 18; x: 47, 48; xviii: 8; Gal. iii: 27; Col. ii: 10-12; I Peter iii: 21.

Ques.—Is water baptism necessary at all, if we have the baptism of the Spirit?