

Key Points about Baptism in Water

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WHY: Baptism is necessary in order to be obedient to God Mat. 28:19. It is our public testimony (1 Pet 3:21) of our new life in Christ and our rejection of our previous sinful life.

WHO AND REQUIREMENTS: Baptism is always after repentance and salvation, and is only for believers, and by people acting in an official capacity of the church. Always the biblical order is first the preaching of the gospel, saving faith, salvation and conversion, and then baptism. *"Those that gladly received his word were baptized" (Acts 2:41). "What doth hinder me from being baptized? If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest He answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and he commanded the chariot to stand still: ... he baptized him" (Acts 8:36, 38 Ethiopian Eunuch and Philip). "but when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women" (Acts 8:12). "Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized." (Acts 18:8) "A certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul" (Acts 16:14)* The baptism of infants is not found in the Bible, but the baptism of any child that has accepted the Lord as his savior is correct and biblical. As the multitudes sought out baptism from John the Baptist and Christ (Luke 3:7), we ought to understand this as meaning that there is a need of personal desire on the part of each Christian to be baptized.

WHEN: Baptism should be as soon as possible after salvation as possible. The Bible always places baptism **AFTER** salvation. Also baptism in water should be as soon after salvation as possible like the jailer in Acts 16, (straightway) even though it was at night or in the case of the Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8) the same day he accepted Christ as soon as possible. Cornelius and Paul are examples of people who were baptized some days after being saved (waiting for the arrangements to be made).

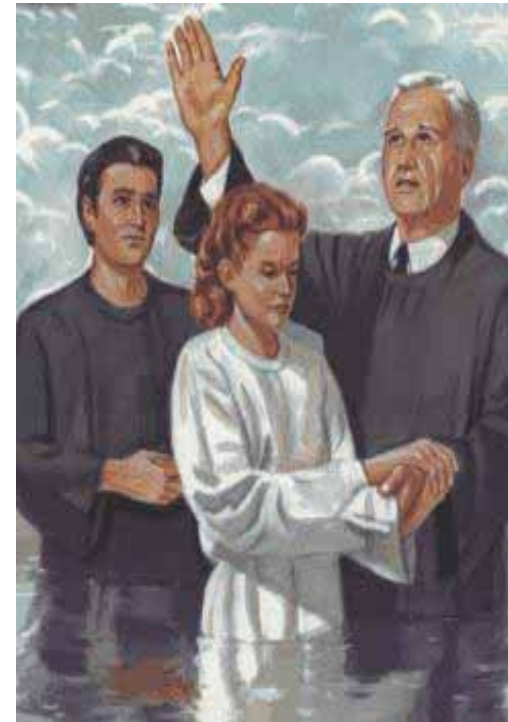
MODE: Baptism is by complete immersion. The symbol of baptism according to Romans 6:4 and Colossians 2:12 is that of being buried (completely surrounded or closed in by dirt or rock). The only mode that would correspond to this symbol of burial is immersion. John chose a river to baptize (John 10:40) and he frequented places *"because there was much water there"* (John 3:23). In Acts 8:38 Philip baptized the Ethiopian Eunuch going down into the water, and coming up out of the water. The most common sense understanding of these words is that his baptism was by the method of complete immersion in water. We always encounter in whatever verse using the word "baptize" or "baptism" the object or the person being put into the water and never the reverse.

FORMULA: Baptism should be in the name of the Triune God. It would seem that Mat. 28:19-20 indicates the formula, "in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Just as God raised Jesus from the dead giving him life, also the Triune God gives eternal life to us Zech. 12:10; Luke 1:35; John 2:19,21; 1 Pet. 3:18; Rom. 8:11; Acts 3:26 The Trinity is seen in the example of Jesus' baptism (Luke 3:21-22). But contrast this with examples of people being baptized in the name of the Lord – Acts 22:16; 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5; 1 Cor. 1:13,16. The symbolism is of the death of Jesus, but the formula is in the names of the three persons of God.

Baptism

A study for new converts

This book is written to help new Christians with the step of obedience which is their baptism.



Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

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FIRST READ THIS!

If you have doubts about what it is to be saved, first study part VII, “Salvation.”

If you cannot read and study the entire book, I would recommend that you study very carefully parts I through IV. When you finish reading these parts, then go to X, “*Questions to answer before being baptized*”.

Go over this part with you pastor before being baptized.

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KEY VERSES AND CONCEPTS

Key Passages about baptism after Acts:

Romans 6:2-10 "so many of us were baptized into Jesus Christ, were baptized into his death?" Galatians 3:26-28 "For as many of you have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" Ephesians 4:5 "one baptism". Colossians 2:9-13 "buried with him in baptism" 1 Peter 3:21 "whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God)"

Baptism of Israel in the Red Sea: 1 Corinthians 10:1-5.

Direct Commandment to be baptized: Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16.

Baths of the Israelites before serving God: Numbers 8:21-22; Exodus 29:4-7.

The purifying of the Jews: Hebrews 9:10; Luke 11:38; Mark 7:4,8.

The baptism of Jesus Christ: Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; John 1:32.

The baptism of Christ in the cross: Matthew 20:22-23; Mark 1:10-11; John 1:32.

The disciples of Jesus baptized under his direction: John 3:22; 4:1-2.

Specific Baptisms of People: Paul: Acts 9:1-19; 22:6-16; 26:9-18. Ethiopian Eunuch: Acts 8:26-40. Simon the sorcerer: Acts 8:9-25. Cornelius: Acts 10:1-22; 11:4-14. Lydia: Acts 16:14-15. Philippian Jailer: Acts 16:23-34. Disciples in Ephesus: Acts 18:24-28; 19:1-5.

Five People and houses baptized: Cornelius Acts 10:2,24,48, 11:14; Lydia Acts 16:10,14-15; Philippian Jailer: Acts 16:10,31,34; Crispus Acts 18:8; 1 Corintios 1:14; Stephanas 1 Corinthians 1:16.

Baptism should not cause divisions: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17.

The Mode of Baptism is Immersion: 2 Kings 5:14; Acts 8:38-39.

Jesus baptizes us: Matthew 3:11; 1 Corinthians 12:13; John 1:33; Acts 1:5.

Promise of God the Father: Matthew 3:11; Luke 24:49; John 1:33; 7:39; Acts 1:4-5,8; 2:4; 8:15-17; 10:34-48; 11:15.

If the Holy Spirit doesn't dwell within us, then we are not saved.: Romans 8:9

Deny oneself and follow Christ: Matthew 16:24 10:38; Luke 14:27.

If you deny Christ, Christ will deny you: Hebrews 11:24-26; Matthew 10:33.

Arm ourselves with the thought that we will suffer in our flesh: 1 Peter 4:1.

Salvation is not by baptism: Titus 3:5; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Peter 3:21.

Baptism is linked very close to the time of salvation: Acts 22:16; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21.

Salvation is always BEFORE baptism: Acts 2:41; 8:36; Luke 7:30.

He who is born of God does not practice sin: 1 John 5:17.

Priesthood of the believers: 1 Peter 2:5,9-10; Exodus 19:5-6.