

## What is Baptism

### **We are commanded to baptize**

*Matthew 28:19*

*Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:*

*Baptism – to be emersed into*

*The Greek word baptizo has two meanings, one literal and the other figurative.*

*The word literally means “to submerge,”  
figurative meaning is “to be identified with.”*

### **Pouring, Sprinkling or Emersion**

*Matthew 3:16*

*And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up **straightway out of the water**: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:*

*John 3:23*

*And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim because **there was much water there**: and they came, and were baptized.*

*Baptism is never used as putting water on someone or sprinkling... because a little dab won't do you.*

### **History of Baptism – Very Old**

*Washing for the Priesthood – Consecration*

*Leviticus 8:1-6 or Exodus 29:1-4*

*And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying,*

*<sup>2</sup> Take Aaron and his sons with him, and the garments, and the anointing oil, and a bullock for the sin offering, and two rams, and a basket of unleavened bread;*

*<sup>3</sup> And gather thou all the congregation together unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.*

*<sup>4</sup> And Moses did as the Lord commanded him; and the assembly was gathered together unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.*

*<sup>5</sup> And Moses said unto the congregation, This is the thing which the Lord commanded to be done.*

*<sup>6</sup> And Moses brought Aaron and his sons, and washed them with water.*

*Laver – Place of Cleansing before the tabernacle*

*Proselyte*

*Designed by God to be a visual commitment to Him*

*On the part of a non-Jew, A Gentile who wanted to become identified with the Jews and worship the true God.*

*Three stage ceremony*

*Circumcision identification with God's people*

*Immersion in water – dead to their old  
Life, beginning of a new life  
Animal sacrifice*

*There are many references to being washed and  
cleansed from sin in the OT.*

*(Isa. 1:16; Ezek. 36:25; Ps. 51:2)*

### **Several Baptisms in scripture**

**Hebrews 6:1-2**

**Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,**

**<sup>2</sup>Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.**

**“Baptisms” - More than one Baptism**

### **John the Baptist**

*Matthew 3, John 1:31, Mark 1:2-5*

*Baptism of Repentance*

*Baptized by Fire and Water*

*New testament begins with John the Baptist,  
baptizing them unto repentance from sin and a call to  
righteousness, to be ready for the Messiah*

*To die to the old way and turn to a new way.*

*John’s baptism was unto repentance for sinners... but Jesus came to him to be baptized.*

*John tried to stop Jesus because he knew Jesus was sinless*

*Jesus told him to do it that scripture would be fulfilled.*

*To fulfill the Order of the Priesthood -*

*He was “about thirty years of age” (Luke 3:23), and the Jewish Levites began their work at age thirty (see Num. 4:3, 35).*

*His baptism in the Jordan the Lord’s baptism in water was a picture of His work of redemption.*

*Baptism then is a symbol, an object lesson, a visual representation of a spiritual reality that describes and defines a complete submersion and immersion into Christ*

*John’s baptism looked forward to the coming of the Messiah, while Christian baptism looks back to the finished work of Christ.*

### **Baptism of the Early Church**

*Acts 1-10*

*Understand that the first ten chapters of Acts record a period of transition, from the Jew to the Samaritan to the Gentile.*

God's pattern for today is given in Acts 10: the sinner hears the gospel, believes, receives the gift of the Spirit, and then is baptized.

*Acts 10:44-48*

*44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.*

*45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.*

*46 For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,*

*47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?*

*48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.*

*It is dangerous to base any doctrine or practice only on what is recorded in Acts 1—10, for you might be building on that which was temporary and transitional.*

*Acts 2:38*

*Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*

*Remember this is a transitional period*

*It is important to note that the Samaritans did not receive the gift of the Holy Spirit when they believed.*

*It was necessary for two of the apostles, Peter and John, to come from Jerusalem, put their hands on the converts, and impart to them the gift of the Spirit.*

*Why? Because God wanted to unite the Samaritan believers with the original Jewish church in Jerusalem. He did not want two churches that would perpetuate the division and conflict that had existed for centuries.*

*Jesus had given Peter the “**keys of the kingdom of heaven**” (Matt. 16:13–20), which meant that Peter had the privilege of “opening the door of faith” to others. **He opened the door to the Jews at Pentecost, and now he opened the door to the Samaritans.** Later, he would **open the door of faith to the Gentiles** (Acts 10).*

*Note:*

*Acts 19:2*

*He said unto them, **Have ye received** the Holy Ghost since **ye** believed? And they said unto him, We **have** not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.*

*These were followers of John the Baptist*

*They Believe the Messiah had come but had not yet received Him as Savior.*

### **Baptism of the Christian**

*Romans 6:3*

*Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?*

*<sup>4</sup> Therefore we are **buried** with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was **raised** up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in **newness of life.***

*Colossians 2:12*

*Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.*

*We are identifying with Christ, Death, Burial and Resurrection.*

### **Baptism of the Holy Spirit - No water involved - figurative**

*Baptized or indwelt by the Holy Spirit*

*Acts 1:5*

*For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.*

*The baptism of the Spirit came at Pentecost (Acts 1:5, and note that Jesus said nothing about fire).*

*Baptized by the Holy Spirit into the body of Christ*

*Today, whenever a sinner trusts Christ, he is born again and immediately baptized by the Spirit into the body of Christ, the church*

*1 Cor. 12:12–13*

*<sup>12</sup> For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.*

*<sup>13</sup> For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.*

*Ephesians 4:5*

*<sup>4</sup> There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;*

*<sup>5</sup> One Lord, one faith, one baptism,*

*<sup>6</sup> One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

*To be baptized by the Spirit means that we belong to Christ's body. To be filled with the Spirit means that our bodies belong to Christ.*

## ***Is Baptism a requirement for Salvation***

*Thought if you say YES then did Jesus need to be saved?*

*No!!*

*1 Corinthians 1:14*

*I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius;*

*If baptism saved Paul would have been baptizing  
Everybody...*

*1 Peter 3:18*

*<sup>18</sup> For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:*

*<sup>19</sup> By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;*

*<sup>20</sup> Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.*

*<sup>21</sup> The like figure 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,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:*

*it is important that we have a clean conscience by obeying (1 Peter 3:21), but we must not think that baptism is a part*

*of salvation. If so, then nobody in Hebrews 11 was saved, because none of them was ever baptized.*

*Is infant baptism something we should do*

*No, They are not able profess Jesus as Lord*