

What does the Bible teach about Baptism?

Matthew 3:1 In those days came **John the Baptist**, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying, **Repent** ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. 3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. 4 And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey. 5 Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, 6 And **were baptized** of him in Jordan, **confessing their sins.** 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees **come to his baptism**, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: 9 And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to *our* father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. 10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit

is hewn down, and cast into the fire. **11** I indeed **baptize you with water** unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall **baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:** **12** Whose fan *is* in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

13 Then cometh **Jesus** from Galilee to Jordan unto **John**, to be **baptized of him.** **14** But John forbad him, saying, **I have need to be baptized of thee,** and comest thou to me? **15** And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer *it to be so* now: for thus **it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness.** Then he suffered him. **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: **17** And lo a voice from heaven, saying, **This is**

my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

- The word Baptize is used 7 times in this chapter
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1. Bible examples of Baptism

a. John the Baptist was called that because he baptized

i. He would baptize no one who had not made a firm decision

1. They came confessing their sins **Matthew 3:6** **6** **And were baptized** of him in Jordan, **confessing their sins.**

2. They were to let their lives show that they had truly believed in Jesus **8** **Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:**

ii. John the Baptist baptized in the Jordan River **5** **Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the**

region round about Jordan, **6** And **were baptized** of him in Jordan, **confessing their sins.**

1. When Jesus was baptized He came up out of the

water **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:

2. John baptize where there was a lot of water

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.

b. Jesus gave us an example of being baptized

i. He said it was the right thing to do **15** And Jesus answering said unto him, *Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness.* Then he suffered him.

ii. He was baptized in the Jordan River **13** Then cometh

Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto **John**, to be
baptized of him.

1. That means there was lots of water
2. In no way can pouring or sprinkled be gathered from the idea of going to a river
3. He came up out of the water when He was baptized

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:

iii. The Father was pleased with Jesus at His baptism and
publicly expressed it **17** And lo a voice from heaven,

saying, **This is my beloved**

**Son, in whom I am well
pleased.**

- c. On the day of Pentecost many people were baptized
Acts 2:41 Then they that **gladly received his word** were baptized: and the same day there were **added unto them** about three thousand souls.
- i. They were obviously old enough to understand the Word of God
 - ii. They made their own choice to be baptized
 - iii. They joined up with the church in number that day
- d. The Ethiopian Eunuch got baptized **Acts 8:36** Then Philip opened his mouth, and **began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.**
36 And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a **certain water:** and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; **what doth hinder me to be baptized?** **37** And Philip said, **If thou believest with all thine heart,** thou mayest. And he answered and said, **I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.** **38** And he

commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went

down both into the water,

both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized

him. 39 And when they were **come up out**

of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught

away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

- i. First he had Jesus preached to him
 - ii. Then he asked to be baptized
 - iii. He was told that he had to believe first
 - iv. He confessed that he did believe
 - v. They both with down into the water and they both came up out of the water
- e. The jailer gets baptized Acts 16:25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. 26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and

every one's bands were loosed. 27 And **the keeper of the prison** awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. 28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. 29 Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, 30 And brought them out, and said, **Sirs, what must I do to be saved?** 31 And they said, **Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved,** and thy house. 32 And they **spake unto him the word of the Lord,** and to all that were in his house. 33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and **washed *their* stripes;** and **Was baptized,** he and all his, straightway.

- i. He got saved-he asked what it took

1. No mention was made of baptism
 2. No mention was made of works
 3. Prayer was not even mentioned
 4. He was told to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ
 5. He showed repentance-washing their stripes
- ii. He got baptized
1. It was right away
 2. It was after he believed

2. Why should a person get baptized

- a. Because Jesus gave us that example and it pleased the Father
- b. Because we see many examples of baptism in the New Testament
- c. Because the Great Commission says that the church was to go and baptize **Matthew 28:18** And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. **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:** **20** Teaching them to observe all things

whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you *always, even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

- d. It is a way to publicly identify yourself with Christ

II Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. **Romans 6:3** Know ye not, that

so many of us as were **baptized into Jesus Christ** were baptized into his death?

3. Who should get baptized

- a. Baptism is for believers
- b. It isn't really baptism until after you have believed
- c. It is a public profession of your faith in Christ and a testimony that you have turned from one way of life to another
- d. You should get baptized if you want to be identified with the Lord Jesus Christ, His people-the church, and His teachings
- e. Baptism is a picture of the finished work of Jesus on the cross of Calvary

- f. Baptism is a picture of grace and how God takes a sinner and makes him into a new person

4. When should you get baptized

- a. Only when you are old enough to understand and make your own decisions
- b. You should get baptized once you know you are saved as a public testimony of what Jesus has done in your heart and life
- c. Only when you realize that your baptism gains you no merit with God but is only done as a revelation of something that God has done in your life
- d. If you have been christened or had water poured on you then you should follow the Bible pattern
- e. If you have believed since you were baptized you should be baptized as a testimony of your faith and confession not that of your parents etc