

# Baptism

## *The Believer's First Step with Christ*

(Acts 2:41–42)

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The believer's testimony in baptism is a great evidence that they have received Christ. The same faith it took to receive Christ, is the same faith that is needed to start walking with Him (Col. 2:6). A believer that does not desire to be baptized is one that has not been taught concerning baptism or has not had the opportunity to be scripturally baptized. There is no example in Scripture of one that is saved that refused to be baptized. Baptism among other things is the beginning of our service for Christ. Jesus did not minister on earth until He himself was baptized. He did not perform any miracles until after His baptism. Our walk with Christ truly begins with our identification with Christ in believer's baptism.

### I. The Mode and Meaning of Baptism

- A. Baptism is transliterated from the Greek word *baptismo* or *baptizo* which means, "to \_\_\_\_\_ or to \_\_\_\_\_."
- B. Biblical accounts also verify immersion as the mode of baptism.
  - 1. John baptized in the \_\_\_\_\_ (Mark 1:9).
  - 2. The heavens opened and the Spirit descended upon the Christ the moment He came \_\_\_\_\_ out of the water (Mark 1:10).

3. The Ethiopian eunuch was baptized in the desert. When they came to certain water. He and Philip both went into the water and came up out of the water (Acts 8:35–39).
4. \_\_\_\_\_ - was baptized in the Red Sea and the Cloud (I Cor. 10:1–2).

C. The word baptism is used in different ways in Scripture.

1. The baptism of \_\_\_\_\_—This was the baptism that John was performing to Israel exclusively, as a sign of repentance identifying with the coming Messiah (Mark 1:2–5; Acts 13:24; 19:4–5).
2. The baptism of the \_\_\_\_\_—This was an event where Jesus Christ empowered the church with the power of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost so the church could fulfill Christ’s purpose in the church age (Mark 1:8; Acts 1:5; 11:16).
3. The baptism of \_\_\_\_\_—those that are immersed in suffering, identifying with Christ and His purpose (Mark 10:38).
4. \_\_\_\_\_ baptism—every believer is placed into Christ at salvation one time, making them a part of Christ’s body (I Cor. 12:13; Rom. 6:3; Eph 4:5; Gal. 3:26–29).

5. New Testament \_\_\_\_\_ baptism—an ordinance given to the church of which every born-again believer obediently partakes to identify with Jesus Christ and the Gospel uniting in membership with the local church that expresses the body of Christ on earth (Acts 2:41–42).
  - a. One must be \_\_\_\_\_ before water baptism.
  - b. One must be scripturally baptized before church \_\_\_\_\_.

## II. The Identification of Baptism

A. Baptism identifies you with the ideology or \_\_\_\_\_ of the one doing the baptism (Eph. 4:5).

1. Israel was baptized unto \_\_\_\_\_ (I Cor 10:2).
2. The disciples of \_\_\_\_\_ were rebaptized identifying with Jesus Christ (Acts 19:1–5).

B. Our water baptism identifies us with the \_\_\_\_\_ and purpose of Jesus Christ.

1. We are baptized in “The Name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost” (Mat. 28:19). The name is always associated with one’s character (Prov 22:1; II Thess. 1:11–12).

2. There are those that teach another \_\_\_\_\_ and another \_\_\_\_\_ (II Cor. 11:2–4).
- a. The last days will be full of doctrinal deception and \_\_\_\_\_ teachers (I Tim. 4:1).
  - b. False teachers hold positions of church \_\_\_\_\_ (II Tim. 4:3; Acts 20:28–30).
  - c. Those that add to the \_\_\_\_\_ are false teachers (I Cor 15:1–4; Rom. 1:16; Gal. 1:6–9; Eph. 1:12–13; I Cor 1:14–17).

### III. The Authority of Baptism

- A. John the Baptist was authorized by \_\_\_\_\_ to baptize the people of Israel (John 1:6–7; Mark 11:27–33).
- B. Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_ scriptural baptism (Mat. 3:15).
- C. Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_ scriptural baptism (Mat. 3:13–17).
- D. Jesus Christ authorized the \_\_\_\_\_ to perform baptisms (Mat. 28:18–20).

1. Baptizing in the “name of the Father, Son and the Holy Ghost” is baptizing under the authority of the godhead.
  2. The authority to baptize cannot be claimed by an individual. Since the command was given to the church, it is the churches responsibility to perform that baptism.
  3. The church authorizes its \_\_\_\_\_ to arrange and perform baptisms.
- E. Only a church under Jesus Christ’s \_\_\_\_\_ can scripturally baptize.
- If a church is operating outside of scripture, they are no longer operating under Christ’s authority.

#### IV. The Testimony of Baptism

- A. It testifies that one has \_\_\_\_\_ the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Rom. 6:1–4; Gal 2:20).
1. Death—The \_\_\_\_\_ of sin is paid.
  2. Burial—The \_\_\_\_\_ of sin was broken.
  3. Resurrection—We are removed from the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin.

- B. It testifies of our willingness to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus Christ (Mat. 3:15; Acts 2:37–38).
- C. It testifies that we are not \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ (Rom. 1:16).
- D. It testifies of our desire to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus Christ (Rom. 6:11–13; Gal 3:26–29).
- E. It testifies of our desire to \_\_\_\_\_ together with the local church (Acts 2:41–42).