

## What is Baptism?

1. A public declaration of faith in Christ by the believer before men.
2. An outward demonstration of an inward act.
3. A picture of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Baptism has nothing to do with salvation. This is settled when one trusts Christ as his personal saviour. John 5:24 and 6:47.

## Who Should Be Baptized?

Only those who have accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour.

"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized." Acts 2:41.

"If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest." Acts 8:37

The Philippian jailor was baptized after accepting Christ as Saviour. Acts 16: 30, 31 and 33.

"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." Acts 8:12.

## How Should We Baptize?

1. With water. "I indeed baptize you with water." Matthew 3:11; Luke 3:16; John 1:26 and 33.
2. Going down into the water.

"They went down both into the water." Acts 8:38.

"...Jesus... was baptized of John in Jordan." Mark 1:9

"And straightway coming up out of the water..." Mark 1:10.

Being submerged or placed under the water is symbolic of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. Romans 6:3-5.

## Why Should We Be Baptized?

1. In obedience to Christ. Baptism is commanded by Jesus in Matthew 28:18-20.

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:..." "

2. Christ asked to be baptized. Matthew 3:13-15 "Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness. Then he suffered him."

3. Christ approved of the practice of baptism by the disciples. John 4:1 and 2. "When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John, (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)"

4. He commanded His disciples in the Great Commission to teach and baptize all nations. Mark 16:16 "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."

5. The apostles and early disciples taught and practiced baptism. Acts 2:38-41; "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. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized:..."

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."

Acts 9:18 "And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized."