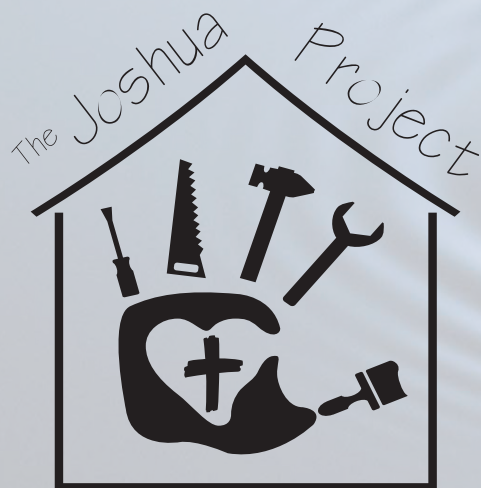


The word baptism originated from the Greek word baptizo. Baptizo simply means to dip, to plunge, or to submerge. Is it time for you to be baptized? Check out God's plan to save man....

Do You Understand:

- Hear the Gospel? (Romans 10:17) Yes No
- Believe in Jesus? (Acts 16:31) Yes No
- Repent of Sins? (Acts 2:38) Yes No
- Confess Christ? (Matthew 10:32-33) Yes No
- Be Baptized? (Matthew 28:18-20) Yes No
- Remain Faithful? (Revelation 2:10) Yes No

If you answered yes to all the questions listed above, it is time for you to be baptized into Christ for the remission of your sins. This will add you to the Church of Christ. You will wear the name Christian. Are you ready to step into Christ?

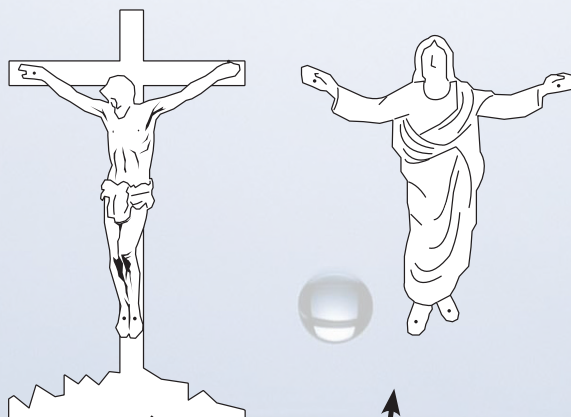


For additional information, contact Christian Holley at thejoshuaproject@yahoo.com.

Have you seen this diagram?

What our Lord did for us: **1 Corinthians 15:3-4**

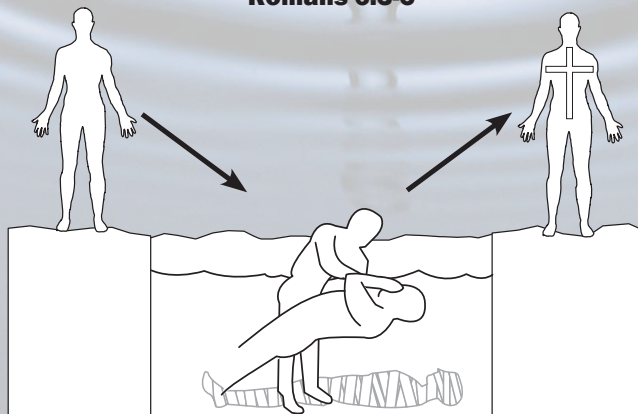
He died on the cross for our sins. He rose from the grave.



He was buried in a tomb.



Likewise, we die, are buried and are resurrected: **Romans 6:3-5**



We are buried in baptism and resurrected a Christian.



WHAT IS THE BIG DEAL ABOUT BAPTISM?

Really, just WHAT is the big deal about baptism? Why do so many in the religious world "water down" its necessity?

Acts 8:36 asks the question,

"What hinders me from being baptized?"

The Ethiopian Eunuch knew baptism was essential!

Why not us today?

Listed below are a few examples why a majority of the world's population considers baptism to be "No Big Deal"

- Fear
- Family Traditions
- Peer Pressure
- Lack of Knowledge
- Pride
- Most popular churches say that you do not have to be baptized.
- Lack of Time
- Refusal to change lifestyles
- Selfishness
- Self Confidence
- Religious Division
- Lack of Discipline

The Bible plainly teaches that baptism **IS** a big deal to Jesus, that baptism **IS** a big deal to the apostles and that baptism **IS** a big deal to those who heard the message!

BAPTISM WAS A BIG DEAL TO JESUS!

Despite what many would say, baptism is a priority with Jesus! He spoke about it often and was baptized Himself in order to “fulfill all righteousness.”

(**Matthew 3:15**) Not only that, Jesus commanded baptism for those who wanted salvation! In Mark 16:16, Jesus plainly says, “Whoever believes AND is baptized will be saved....” He also said that except one is born of both water and spirit one cannot see the Kingdom of God. (**John 3:5**) We can conclude therefore that baptism is the **ONLY** way of salvation and refusal of baptism equals condemnation.

BAPTISM WAS A BIG DEAL TO THE APOSTLES!

On that first Pentecost Sunday after Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection, Peter stood up with the eleven other apostles. They told those who cried out to the Lord for salvation that they were to “repent and be baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.”

(**Acts 2:37 – 38**) Those that “gladly received his word were baptized” that very day! Not only that, “the Lord added to the church daily” those who were being saved when they repented and were baptized. (**Acts 2:47**)

- The apostles taught that baptism is for everyone.
- The apostles taught that repentance is required for everyone who is baptized.
- The apostles taught you are baptized into Christ’s church for the remission of your sins.
- You can read from Matthew to Revelation & you will not find another plan of salvation.

BAPTISM WAS A BIG DEAL TO THOSE WHO HEARD THE MESSAGE!

Throughout the Book of Acts we see person after person and group after group that thinks baptism is a big deal! In fact, the word “obsession” comes to mind. Those who hear, believe and repent are enthusiastically motivated to “get in the water” to meet the saving blood of Jesus Christ – the sinner’s only hope. Here are but a few examples:

1. The Ethiopian Eunuch Thinks Baptism Is a Big Deal! (Acts 8:36 – 39) “36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” 37 And Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he replied, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” 38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.”

2. The Philippian Jailer & His Household Think Baptism Is a Big Deal! (Acts 16:33 – 34) “33At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. 34 The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.”

[NOTE: When the jailer was told to “believe in Jesus Christ and you will be saved,” Paul and Silas spoke in the FUTURE tense. Once he and his household heard the gospel message, they were all baptized IMMEDIATELY, the SAME hour of the night. Finally, no rejoicing took place until AFTER their baptism. When the word “believe” is used at the end, it is cast in the PAST tense, it was AFTER baptism!]

3. Lydia and Her Entire Household Think Baptism Is a Big Deal! – (Acts 16:14 – 15) “14 One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul’s message. 15 When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home.”

CONCLUSION:

WHY IS BAPTISM STILL A BIG DEAL?

- **Before baptism** We are lost in sin. (1 Peter 3:21)
- **After baptism** Our sins are washed away. (Acts 22:16)
- **Before baptism** We are without hope and are separated from God. (Ephesians 2:12)
- **After baptism** We are in Christ. (Romans 6:3)

Not only does baptism remove our sins and puts us into Christ, It gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit and adds us to the church.

(Acts 2:38, 41, and 47)

Jesus thinks baptism is a big deal.
The Apostles think baptism is a big deal.
Those who heard the message think baptism is a big deal.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

From the very beginning of the church, baptism has been an important event to those who have decided to be added to the church Jesus established with His own blood. Do you think baptism is a big deal? Your eternal destiny hinges upon your answer.

And now what are you waiting for?

“Get up, be baptized and wash away your sins calling on the name of the Lord”.

(Acts 22:16)

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