

The Apostolic Doctrine of Water Baptism

Part 3

The blood of Jesus was shed for the remission of sins according to

Matthew 26:28 “For this is my blood of the New Testament, which is **shed for many for the remission of sins**”. and that “**shedding**” took place at His death on the cross.

Colossians 1:20-22, 20 And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. **21** And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled **22** in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight

In the Old Covenant sacrificial system, when an offering was made by the priest for an individual's sin. The recipient of the sin offering had to be directly identified with the death of the sacrifice.

The individual bringing the offering for sin, was required to lay their hand upon the head of the offering, symbolically transferring their own sin guilt onto the substitute, and through the death of that substitutionary sin offering, the blood of that sacrifice was applied, by faith, to the recipient for the atonement of their sin.

Leviticus 1:1-5, 1 And the LORD called unto Moses, and spake unto him out of the tabernacle of the congregation, saying, **2** Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, If any man of you bring an offering unto the LORD, ye shall bring your offering of the cattle, even of the herd, and of the flock. **3** If his offering be a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish: he shall offer it of his own voluntary will at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation before the LORD. **4** **And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering;** and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him. **5** And he shall kill the bullock before the LORD: and the priests, Aaron's sons, shall bring the blood, and sprinkle the blood round about upon the altar that is by the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

The penalty of sin is death

Ezekiel 18:4 & 20, 4 Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: **the soul that sinneth, it shall die.**
20 The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

Knowing that the heart of man is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked, God gave the substitutionary offerings of animals to make atonement for the people of the Old Covenant that they die not.

Leviticus 17:11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: **for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.**

The Old Covenant was the type and shadow of the New Covenant, and so it is in the New Testament that Jesus Christ became our substitute, our propitiation.

Romans 3:25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.

Propitiation is the act of appeasing anger or wrath, to gain favor instead of punishment.

We too must also be personally identified with the death of Jesus Christ, our sacrificial substitute; so that the precious blood of His offering would be applied, by faith, to us for the atonement of our sins. This is not a symbolic gesture; this is a spiritual reality.

Hebrews 9:12-14, 12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. **13** For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: **14** How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

- **How do we receive the application of the blood of Jesus Christ for the remission of our sins?**

- **When is the blood applied to our soul?**
- **Is it by simply believing that Jesus died for our sin?**

Believing is absolutely necessary; you're not going to receive anything without first believing.

The Bible tells us plainly in **Acts 2:38** to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ **for the remission of sins**.

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.*

Reasoning **Matthew 26:28** *For this is **my blood** of the New Testament, **which is shed for many for the remission of sins**.*

Together with **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**.*

His blood was shed for the remission of sins, and baptism in His name is for the remission of sins. **We can conclude that the blood of Jesus is applied to the believer through faith in the act of water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ.**

If this statement is true, then the scripture will confirm it and if this statement is not true, then scripture will also expose it.

We briefly spoke about the sin offerings under the Old Covenant and how the one who was seeking remission was to be identified with the death of the offering.

1. **First by laying their hand upon the head of the offering and then**
2. **by the killing of the offering.**

Leviticus 1:4-5, 4 ***And he shall put his hand upon the head of the burnt offering***; and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him. **5** ***And he shall kill the bullock before the LORD***: and the priests, Aaron's sons, shall bring the blood, and sprinkle the blood round about upon the altar that is by the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

When are we identified with Jesus Christ our offering for sin?

What does the Bible say?

According to **Romans 6:3-4** we are baptized into His death.

Romans 6:3-4, 3 Know ye not, that so many of **us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?** **4** 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 also says we are buried with him in baptism.

“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”.

Our old sinful life is buried in that watery grave, through the authority of the name of Jesus Christ; and we are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God.

To walk with Him in newness of life and to serve Him in newness of spirit.

Revelation 1:5 says “and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us **and washed us from our sins in his own blood**”.

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.

Revelation 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us and **washed us from our sins in his own blood**.

Let's pay attention to the word wash used in **Revelation 1:5**.

In the last study we gave the definition of the word baptize translated from the Greek word baptizo (bap-tid'-zo) and one of the meanings was to wash, to cleanse by dipping.

Revelation 1:5 says, “unto him that loved us, **and washed us from our sins in his own blood**”, and Ananias told Paul in **Acts 22:16**

*“And now why tarriest thou? arise, **and be baptized, and wash away thy sins**, calling on the name of the Lord”.*

Clearly, we can see the connection with washing away sins and baptism from **Acts 22:16**. And we can then also reason that the way that Jesus washed us from our sins in His own blood **Revelation 1:5** is through baptism.

Why can we confidently say that?

Because scripture tells us in **Acts 2:38** that baptism is for the remission of sin, remission being the removal. Paul told the Corinthian saints that they had been washed, sanctified, and justified in the name of the Lord Jesus. **1 Corinthians 6:11**.

***Acts 22:16** And now why tarriest thou? arise, and **be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord**.*

***1 Corinthians 6:11** And such were some of you: **but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus**, and by the Spirit of our God.*

Can anyone really say that the washing that is being described by the scriptures is taking a bath? We know that the scriptures refer to the washing or cleansing of sin.

Let's recap:

- **The blood of Jesus Christ was shed for the remission of sins. Matthew 26:28.**
- **Baptism in the name of Jesus Christ is for the remission of sins. Acts 2:38.**

In **Acts 10:43** we read this: *“To him give all the prophets witness, that **through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sin's**.”*

This verse states that through **the name of Jesus Christ**, whosoever believes in him shall **receive remission of sins**.

Some would say that this verse says you only have to believe in Him to receive the remission of sins.

As we mentioned in **part 1** of this study, those that believed obeyed the preaching of John and were baptized, confessing their sin. You must believe in Jesus and be baptized in His name for the remission of sin.

Acts 10:43 *To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.*

There are many scriptures that support this fact.

We read in **Acts 4:12** And in **Luke 24:47**.

Now we can start to see why the Apostles baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. **The blood of Jesus is in the name of Jesus**, it is by the authority of the name of Jesus Christ our sins are remitted.

It was in baptism that the Apostles instructed us to call upon the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to wash away sins. **Acts 22:16**

Acts 4:12 *Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

Luke 24:47 *And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.*

Acts 2:21 tells us and **Romans 10:13** says:

These scriptures are not telling us to simply call upon the name of Jesus and you will be saved. But just as Ananias told Paul, **be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.**

These verses are referring to calling on the name of Jesus Christ in baptism for the remission of sins. The salvation that Jesus died for was the salvation over the sin that held us in bondage.

1 Peter 2:24 healing of sin

Acts 2:21 *And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

Romans 10:13 *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

1 Peter 2:24 *Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.*

The being dead to sins spoken of in **1 Peter 2:24**, when did we die to sin?

Romans 6:4 *buried with Him **by baptism into death**:*

We said before, if you have not been planted together in the likeness of His death, then you will not share in the likeness of His resurrection. It is by baptism that we are planted together in the likeness of His death **Romans 6:5**.

Why would the Bible say so much about baptism and make so many different references to baptism if baptism is not necessary for salvation?

Beginning at Jerusalem, when Peter said in Acts 2:38:

*“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”.*

Acts 2:38 tells us the who, how, and why of water baptism.

Who? – every one of you

How? – in the name of Jesus Christ

Why? – for the remission of sins

You must be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; it is in the waters of baptism that the blood of Jesus is applied to the believer by faith.

If you have not been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ then there has been no remission, you are still in your sins.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 9 *Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, **10** Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. **11** And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.*

In **Romans 10:9-10** there are many believers that quote this scripture to justify their belief that baptism is not necessary for salvation. They say if you confess with your mouth and believe on Jesus in your heart, you will be saved.

When we ask the question again, saved from what?

These verses say nothing about the remission of sins, they speak of confession and belief. You can confess all you want; you can believe that Jesus rose from the dead all you want. But that will not remove your sins.

Romans 10:9-10 *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

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.*

In order for one to obey the command to repent and to be baptized they must first believe on the Lord Jesus with their whole heart and repentance involves confession.

What did Philip tell the Ethiopian eunuch in **Acts 8:26-39**?

After Philip explained the scriptures in the Book of Isaiah speaking of the death of Jesus, he continued to preach Jesus, and the first thing the eunuch wanted to do was to be baptized.

How did the eunuch even know about baptism? The Bible says that Philip preached unto him Jesus, and that preaching must have included water baptism in the Name of Jesus for the remission of sin.

The only condition of baptism given by Philip to the eunuch was belief.

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

Romans 10:9-10 is in perfect harmony with **Acts 2:38** because obedience requires belief, and repentance requires confession. **Matthew 3:6**

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

What about all the scriptures that describe the Apostles baptizing believers in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sin?

Do we ignore them?

Are they no longer applicable to us?

We cannot pick and choose which parts of the gospel we're going to believe. By doing so, we make the word of God of no effect and actually diminish from the word of God.

Deuteronomy 4:2 *Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, **neither shall ye diminish ought from it**, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.*

Without receiving the remission of our sins through water baptism, the death of Jesus Christ is in vain, and our faith is vain.

His blood was shed for many, for the remission of sins, **Matthew 26:28** and baptism is the method of receiving remission.

It is plainly laid out in the scriptures and yet there are millions of people believing you do not have to be baptized to be saved.

That means there are millions of people who sincerely think that they have obeyed the gospel but have not received the remission of their sins through baptism in the name of Jesus Christ.

And because God hasn't shown up with a couple of angels to discuss His expectations, they think everything is alright.

Matthew 7:21-23, 21 *Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; **but he that doeth** the will of my Father which is in heaven. **22** Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? **23** And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*

John 15:14 *Ye are my friends, **if ye do whatsoever I command you.***

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