

The Apostolic Doctrine of Water Baptism

Part 2

Let's look at some scriptures concerning water baptism for the remission of sins in the New Covenant.

Remission of sin can also be described as:

- the removal of sin,
- the freedom of sin,
- the pardon of sin,
- the deliverance of sin,
- the forgiveness of sin,
- to be set at liberty from sin.

In the New Covenant, the remission of sins only comes by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Romans 3:25-26, 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; 26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.*

The apostles received commandment from Jesus to preach, teach, and to baptize. The scripture also records how the apostles interpreted.

Matthew 28:19-20, 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 alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*

If you want to see how they interpreted **Matthew 28:19-20** simply look at the Book of Acts.

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.*

Mark 16:15-16, 15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. **16** He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Luke 24:44-48, 44 And he said unto them, these are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. **45** Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, **46** And said unto them, thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: **47** And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached **in his name** among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. **48** And ye are witnesses of these things.

Acts 2:38 & 41, 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. **41** Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

Acts 8:5, 12, 14-16, 5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. **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. **14** Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: **15** Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: **16** (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized **in the name of the Lord Jesus**).

Acts 8:35-38, 35 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.

Acts 9:17-18, 17 And Ananias went his way and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. **18** And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

Acts 10:45-48, 45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. **46** For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then answered Peter, **47** Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? **48** And he commanded them to be baptized **in the name of the Lord**. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

Acts 16:14-15, 14 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul. **15** And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.

Acts 16:31-33, 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.

Acts 18:8 And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthian's hearing believed, and were baptized.

Acts 19:1-7, 1 And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, **2** He said unto them, have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, we have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. **3** And he said unto them, unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. **4** Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

5 When they heard this, **they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus**. **6** And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues and prophesied. **7** And all the men were about twelve.

Acts 22:12-16, 12 And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there, **13** Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him. **14** And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. **15** For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. **16** And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, **calling on the name of the Lord**.

Notice that not once in any of the scriptures, is there recorded a single example of anyone being baptized in any other name than the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.

No where is it recorded in the Bible of anyone being baptized in the titles the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

The word name, in **Matthew 28:19** is in the singular sense, meaning there is one name for believers to be baptized in.

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are one, and have one name.

Speaking of Jesus Christ, the Bible has this to say in **Acts 4:12**.

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.

The one name is Jesus = Yahuah or Yahweh (Some know the Name as Jehovah) is salvation.

Isaiah 43:11 I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour.

Isaiah 44:6 Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.

Jesus speaking in **Revelation 22:13** *I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.*

John 20:28 *And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.*

What did it mean for Thomas, an instructed Jew, to call Jesus his God?

Did Thomas think Jesus was another god beside Yahuah/Yahweh/Jehovah?

The Jews religion was monotheistic meaning they believed in only one God and their worship was exclusive to Yahuah/Yahweh/Jehovah.

Exodus 34:14 *For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God*

Jesus, rebuking Satan said in **Matthew 4:10** *“Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve”.*

Why didn't Jesus correct Thomas for calling Him God?

Because Thomas spoke the truth calling Jesus his God.

Thomas knew that he was speaking with Yahuah/Yahweh/Jehovah, manifested in the flesh, when he called Jesus his God.

Romans 6:1-5, 1 *What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 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. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection.*

Are you dead to sin? When did you die to sin? If you haven't been planted together in the likeness of His death, then you won't be raised in the likeness of His resurrection either.

1 Corinthians 1:13-17, 13 *Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius; 15 Lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name. 16 And I baptized also the household of Stephanas: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other. 17 For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.)*

Verse 17 is unfortunately used by some to say that baptism is not necessary for salvation because Paul said, **“For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel.”**

The scripture records Paul himself being baptized in the name of the Lord.

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

Paul also baptized others in the name of Jesus Christ.

Acts 19:4-5, 4 *Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. 5 When they heard this, **they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.***

Even there at Corinth, Paul says he baptized some. To say that Paul did not preach baptism as a condition of salvation is not accurate. Paul's own conversion and his actions as recorded in the Book of Acts discredit that view.

Paul was sent to preach the gospel to the Gentiles, and he established churches as he went, and in every church, he set in order and instructed the local ministries to be accountable to God, and to faithfully preach the gospel, make disciples, and baptize the believers of the gospel message in the name of Jesus.

Just as Jesus prepared and equipped His apostles to continue preaching the gospel after His physical absence, Paul established churches that would continue ministering the apostolic gospel message and make disciples of believers in his own physical absence. They had the whole message, and they had the apostles there for oversight.

They were all speaking the same things.

1 Corinthians 1:10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that **ye all speak the same thing**, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

1 Corinthians 10:1-4, 1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; **2** And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; **3** And did all eat the same spiritual meat; **4** And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

Knowing that Egypt symbolically represents sin in the exodus story, and if all that came out of Egypt (**sin**) were baptized unto Moses (**who was a type and shadow of Christ**) in the Old Covenant; is it strange if all that come out from sin in the New Covenant, are to be baptized unto Jesus Christ (**the antitype of Moses**)?

Galatians 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Why doesn't it say baptized into the Father and into the Son and into the Holy Ghost, but instead says baptized into Christ?

Ephesians 4:4-6, 4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; **5** One Lord, one faith, **one baptism**, **6** One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.) There is one baptism.

Colossians 2:9-13, 9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. **10** And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: **11** In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: **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. **13** And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses.

Philippians 3:3 *For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.*

Romans 2:28-29, 28 *For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: 29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.*

Here we read about the circumcision made without hands, the putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, and the apostle connects it with baptism. Ask yourself the question, when were my sins put off?

When was my heart circumcised with the circumcision made without hands by God? Do you have book, chapter, and verse to support your answer? It's only when **all the scriptures** have been examined on any subject, that true Bible doctrine can be established.

If physical circumcision was required under the Old Covenant, is it hard to believe that spiritual circumcision is a requirement in the New Covenant?

Genesis 17:13-14, 13 *He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant. 14 And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.*

The circumcision of the New Covenant is the circumcision that God has always desired for His people, the circumcision of the heart.

Deuteronomy 10:16 **Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart** and be no more stiffnecked.

Deuteronomy 30:6 And the LORD thy God **will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed**, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.

Jeremiah 4:4 *Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart, ye men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem: lest my fury come forth like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.*

Ezekiel 36:26-27, 26 *A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.*

Romans 2:28-29, 28 *For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: 29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.*

2 Corinthians 3:3 *Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.*

Colossians 2:11-12, 11 *In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: 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.*

Colossians 2:11-12 above says that it is in baptism, that God performs this operation of circumcision made without hands; it is in baptism that God washes away our sins and takes away our stony, callused heart and gives us a heart to love and obey Him.

We have looked at many of the Scriptures that speak about water baptism in the New Covenant. We covered some of the differences between the baptism of repentance and the baptism of remission of sins. We read about baptism described in the gospels and in the epistles

No where in the Scriptures is it recorded that baptism is not necessary for salvation, but on the contrary, the Bible records the Apostles preaching baptism, and commanding all that believed the gospel to be baptized, and the works of the apostles recorded in the book of Acts, only strengthen the necessity of water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.

The purpose of this study is to bring people to the reality, that if you have not been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, according to the scriptures, then your sins have not been washed away by the blood of the lamb. You are still in your sins.

The Bible has a lot to say about water baptism and you must have a good understanding of the word of God to answer the greatest question, “***What must I do to be saved?***”.

We hope to encourage believers to seriously study the word of God, to read out of it what God has said from the beginning, and to stop reading into it the traditions of men.

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