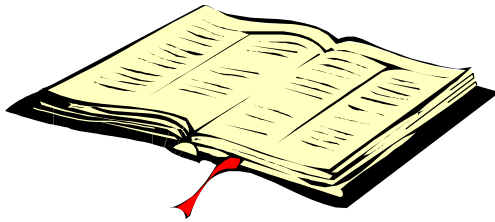


Sound Doctrine Studies

*“But speak thou the things which
become sound doctrine:” (Titus 2:1)*



WATER BAPTISM

Charity Baptist Church, Bible Institute & Seminary

Water Baptism for the Believer

Now that you have trusted the Lord Jesus Christ to be your Savior, the next important thing for you to do is to get baptized. This study will help you better understand what baptism is and what it is not. It is very important for you to know that the Bible teaches that water baptism has nothing to do with a sinner being saved during this age of grace.

Water baptism for the believer is a "like figure" of the Spirit baptism, an act of obedience on the part of the believer, and a testimony to the world that a believer is already a true Christian.

Using your King James Bible, fill in the blanks with the appropriate words to complete the passage.

1. Who Should Be Baptized In Water?
 - a. Those who have already been saved. *"Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which _____ received the Holy Ghost as well as we?"* (Acts 10:47) Notice that water baptism is for those who have already received the Holy Ghost. When does that happen?

The Bible says in Ephesians 1:12-14 - *That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. (13) In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise. (14) Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.*

When you trusted the Lord Jesus Christ to be your Savior, you were filled with the Holy Spirit (which is also called the Holy Ghost). The next act of obedience is water baptism.

- b. Those who have first believed in Jesus Christ.
“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? And Philip said, If thou _____ with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” (Acts 8:36-37) Philip told the eunuch that he must first believe on the Lord Jesus Christ (be saved), then he could get baptized. In the Bible, baptism follows belief in the Lord Jesus Christ.

- c. You may have heard or have been taught that you get baptized as a baby to wash away original sin. That teaching is not found in the Bible. It is a tradition of man. (Read Mark 7:1-9) We have already seen that a person must believe on the Lord Jesus Christ first, and then get baptized. An infant can't do that! According to the scriptures below, you must understand the law of God and what sin is before you can be saved. An infant cannot do that.



These scriptures also show you that infants are “safe,” that is, cannot go to hell for sin until they come to the knowledge and understanding of the law and sin. The Anabaptists or Baptists were so named because an individual who had been baptized as an infant, were re-baptized AFTER they had trusted the Lord Jesus Christ to be their Savior, which is what the scripture teaches.

- (1) *“Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.”* (Romans 4:15)
- (2) *“For until the law sin was in the world: but _____ is not imputed when there is no law.”* (Romans 5:13)
- (3) *“What shall we say then? is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet. But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead. For I _____ alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I _____. And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death.”* (Romans 7:7-10)

2. When Should a Believer Be Baptized? Shortly, after a true salvation experience.
 - a. *“And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.”* (Acts 9:6)
 - b. *“And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.”* (Acts 9:18)
 - c. *“And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.*

*And he took them the _____
hour of the night, and washed their stripes;
and was baptized, he and all his,
straightway.” (Acts 16:31-33)*

- d. *“And Crispus, the chief ruler of the
synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his
house; and many of the Corinthians hearing
_____, and were baptized.”
(Acts 18:8)*

This is important for you as a new believer to be baptized as soon as possible after receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior. This is also a great opportunity for you to invite your lost family and friends to church, to witness your baptism. You are scheduled to be baptized on _____.

3. What is Water Baptism According to the Bible?
- a. Immersion or complete burial in water.
- (1) *“Therefore, we are _____ 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.”
(Romans 6:4)*
- (2) *“And Jesus, when he was baptized, went
up straightway _____ of
the water: and, lo, the heavens were
opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit
of God descending like a dove, and
lighting upon him:” (Matthew 3:16)*
- (3) *“And he commanded the chariot to stand
still: and they went down both _____
the water, both Philip and the eunuch;
and he baptized him.” (Acts 8:38)*

- b. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. *“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:”* (Matthew 28:19)

We currently use a portable baptistery to baptize. You will be seated in the baptistery and after being asked if you have received the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you will be leaned backward until you are completely immersed and then returned to the seated position. This is very comfortable and you are only under water for a moment. You can even hold your nose to go under water, if you like!

4. What Water Baptism IS NOT.

- a. It is not “sprinkling.” Sprinkling in the Bible is connected with blood, not water in the New Testament. Water baptism for the believer is always by immersion in water. It is a picture of the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. When was the last time you buried someone or some thing by sprinkling dirt on them?

(1) *“For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer _____ the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:”* (Hebrews 9:13)

(2) *“Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.”* (Hebrews 10:22)



- (3) *“Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of _____, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.”* (Hebrews 11:28)
- (4) *“And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.”* (Hebrews 12:24)
- (5) *“Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.”* (1 Peter 1:2)
- b. It is not a part of or connected with “the gospel” which saves a sinner.
- (1) *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.”* (Romans 1:16) Note that baptism is not mentioned!
- (2) *“For Christ sent me _____ to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.”* (I Corinthians 1:17)
- (3) *“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you _____ gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ _____ for our sins according to the scriptures;*

And that he was _____, and that he _____ again the third day according to the scriptures: And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.” (I Corinthians 15:1-6)

It is very important to remember that baptism is not connected to the gospel and is NOT a part of your salvation. So why get baptized?

5. Why Does the Believer Submit To Baptism?

- a. It is a “*like figure*” (a picture physically) of the believer’s past salvation experience, which included a spiritual death, burial, resurrection, baptism, and new birth inside the believer. It is a physical, outward testimony of what has happened to you spiritually. You may not understand now what all has happened to you spiritually, but you will understand this more as you grow as a Christian.

(1) “*The **like figure** whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (_____ the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:” (I Peter 3:21)*

(2) “*Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 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. For if we have been _____ together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: Knowing that Christ being _____ from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 6:3-11)

- (3) *“For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.” (I Corinthians 12:13)*
- (4) *“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized _____ Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.” (Galatians 3:26-28)*

- b. It is an act of obedience and submission to the pastor or shepherd of a local church whom God has ordained to lead the believer out of the world and into a spiritual walk with Christ. *“But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway. 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; And were all baptized _____ Moses in the cloud and in the sea;”* (I Corinthians 9:27-10:2)
- c. It is a testimony of the believer’s belief in a future, physical resurrection.
- (1) *“Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead?”* (I Corinthians 15:29)
- (2) *“Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead _____*
incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.” (I Corinthians 15:51-53)

This is an exciting time for you as a new believer and getting baptized is the next exciting step. After being baptized the next important step is to be a member of a Bible believing and preaching church. Ask for the booklet regarding church membership and talk to the Pastor about becoming a member.

NOTES

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2. When Should a Believer Be Baptized?
3. What is Water Baptism According to the Bible?
4. What Water Baptism IS NOT!
5. Why Does the Believer Submit To Baptism?