A Study on Baptism

Introduction: Probably no subject is more misunderstood or maligned than baptism. Baptism is water salvation, a church ritual, product of being saved, a sign of a mature faith, frosting on the cake, an outward sign of an inward grace, sprinkling—pouring—or immersion. In a debate a man said “Only three things born of water; a tadpole, a child of the devil, and a Campbellite. We want to simply look at the scriptures and see what it says about baptism.

**I was saved when--**

**I) Early Passages**

**A) It should be noted that baptism is not an Old Testament practice.**

1. It is mentioned in reference to the children of Israel passing through the Red Sea and under the cloud in **1 Corinthians 10.2.**

2. Such was the way of safety and salvation.

**B) Baptism of John, Matthew 3.6**

1. It was a baptism which came from God, **Matthew 21.25ff.**

2. It was immersion in water.

3. It was for a specific purpose mentioned by John.

4. It did not place then in the kingdom or wash away their sins. **Mark 9.1.**

**C) The Baptism of Jesus, Matthew 3.13ff.**

1. Purpose was to fulfill all righteousness, submit to the will of God.

2. Not for the remission of sins, He had none.

3. Not to place Him inside the church or the body of Christ.

4. He was immersed into water.

**D) No one else was commanded to be baptized in the Gospels.**

**II) Baptism in Acts**

**A) Acts 2.38 Baptism was commanded**

1. Who were baptized, Day of Pentecost, Jews, those who had heard the Gospel.

2. The Gospel is mentioned in **Luke 24.46-47**

3. Every person in Acts who was baptized had heard the Gospel.

a. **Acts 8.12** Samaritans

b. **Acts 8.35** the Ethiopian Eunuch

c. **Acts 10.33ff** preached peace through Jesus.

4. Every person who was baptized heard, understood the Gospel. **Acts 8** do you understand what you are reading? **V. 30.**

**B) Baptism- who believed, Acts 2.37.**

1. Without belief baptism becomes an empty ritual.

2. I cannot find one person in Acts who was baptized who did not believe.

3. Did Cornelius believe? He and his household were commanded and were baptized, **Acts 10.46-48.**

4. Jesus said we cannot be saved without believing in Him, **John 8.32.**

**C) Baptism – for those who repented. Acts 2.38; 3.19**

1. Without repentance there is no remission of sins, **Luke 13.3.**

2. There is two types of sorrows in this life; a. Those which means we are sorry for the consequences and getting caught but will do it again if we think we can get by with it, b. That which means a change in will in direction.

3. A Christian may sin but he or she will be sorry for transgressing God’s law.

**D) Baptism – for those who confessed Jesus as the Son of God, Romans 10.9**

1. To confess means to say the same thing as. We are stating what God says.

2. The Ethiopian Eunuch , **Acts 8.37.**

**E) Why? Purpose**

1. Purpose is important, reason for, meaning, etc.

2. For the remission of sins, **Acts 2.38**, see **Matthew 26.28.**

3. For salvation **Mark 16.16.**

4. To wash away sin, **Acts 22.16.**

**F) What happens when a person is scripturally baptized?**

1. Their sins are washed away.

2. Their sins are remitted.

3. They are added to the body of Christ, **Galatians 3.27.**

4. The blood of Christ saves us, **Ephesians 1.7.**

Conclusion: A person cannot be scripturally baptized and not have heard the Gospel, believed, repented, confessed Jesus. A person is not saved before they are added to the body of Christ. Look back at what you wrote earlier. Does your statement harmonize with what the Bible teaches?