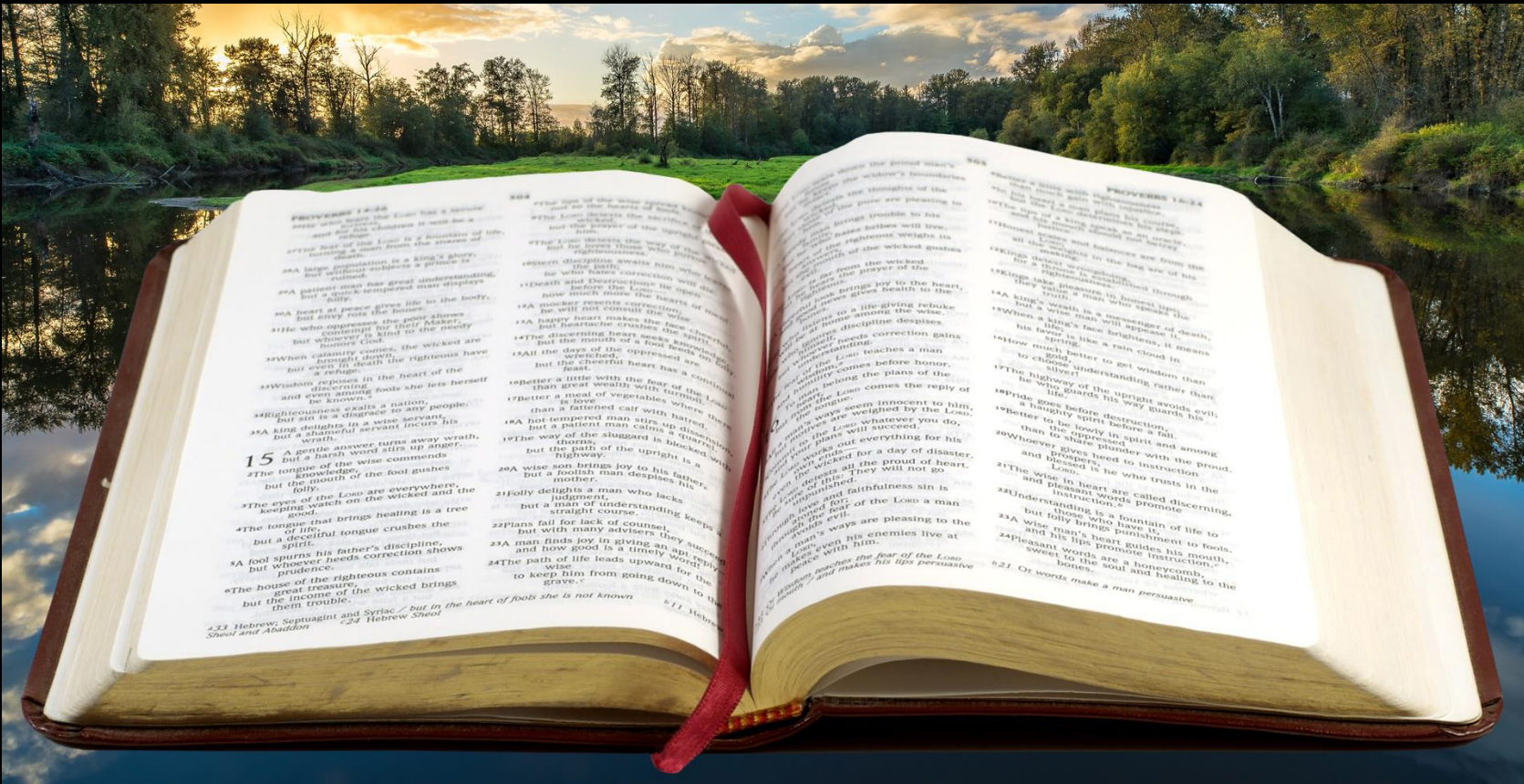




## Declaring Allegiance



**PROVERBS 14:22**

22A large man has a king's glory,  
but a man of low stature is despised.  
23A large man has a king's glory,  
but a man of low stature is despised.  
24A patient man has great understanding,  
but a man without temperance displays folly.  
25A heart at peace gives life to the body,  
but envy eats the bones.  
26He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their misery,  
but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.  
27When calamity comes, the wicked are caught in their own sin,  
but the righteous have a refuge.  
28Wisdom takes root in the heart of the just,  
and even among fools she lets herself be known.  
29Righteousness exalts a nation,  
but sin is a disgrace to any people.  
30A king delights in a wise servant,  
but a shameful servant incurs his wrath.

**15** A gentle answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger.  
1The tongue of the wise conveys knowledge,  
but the mouth of the fool gushes out folly.  
2The eyes of the Lord are everywhere,  
keeping watch on the wicked and the good.  
3The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life,  
but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.  
4A fool spurns his father's discipline,  
but whoever heeds correction shows prudence.  
5The house of the righteous contains great treasure,  
but the income of the wicked brings them trouble.

223 Hebrew; Septuagint and Syriac / but in the heart of fools she is not known  
224 Hebrew Sheol  
Sheol and Abaddon

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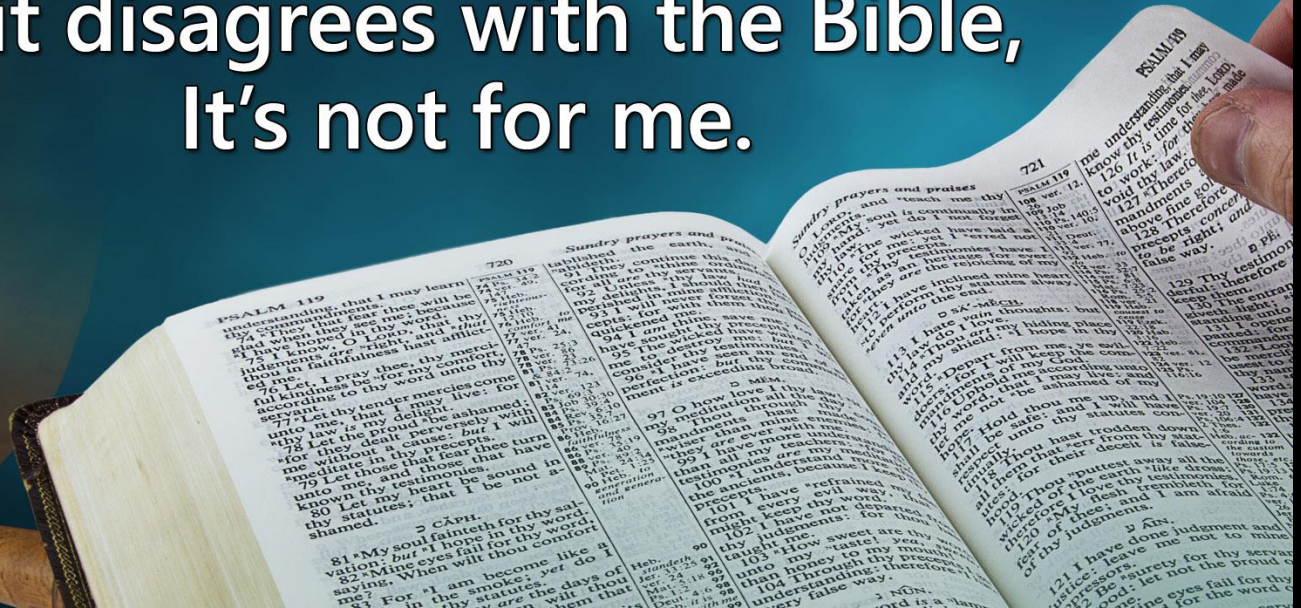
**PROVERBS 14:24**

24A king's wealth is in harvest time,  
but a king's ruin is in a storm.  
25When a king's face brightens,  
it means a spring.  
26How much better to get wisdom than to choose silver!  
27The highway of the upright avoids evil;  
a haughty spirit before a fall.  
28Whoever gives heed to instruction  
and hides it is he who trusts in the Lord.  
29The wise in heart are called discerning,  
and pleasant words promote instruction.  
30But folly brings punishment,  
and his lips promote punishment.  
31Pleasant words are a honeycomb,  
sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.  
32Or words make a man persuasive  
and makes his lips persuasive.

**PROVERBS 14:25**

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If it's in the Bible, I believe it.  
If it disagrees with the Bible,  
It's not for me.













**In the last days of earth's history,  
neutrality will not do.**

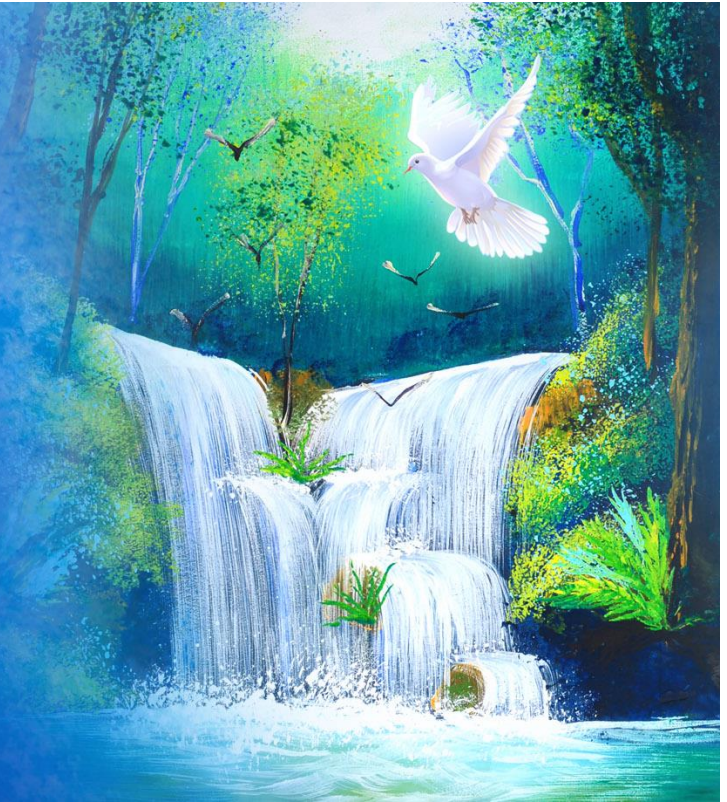
**God is calling every one of us  
to take a public stand.**





## Revelation 22:17

“Whosoever will,  
let him take the  
water of life freely.”



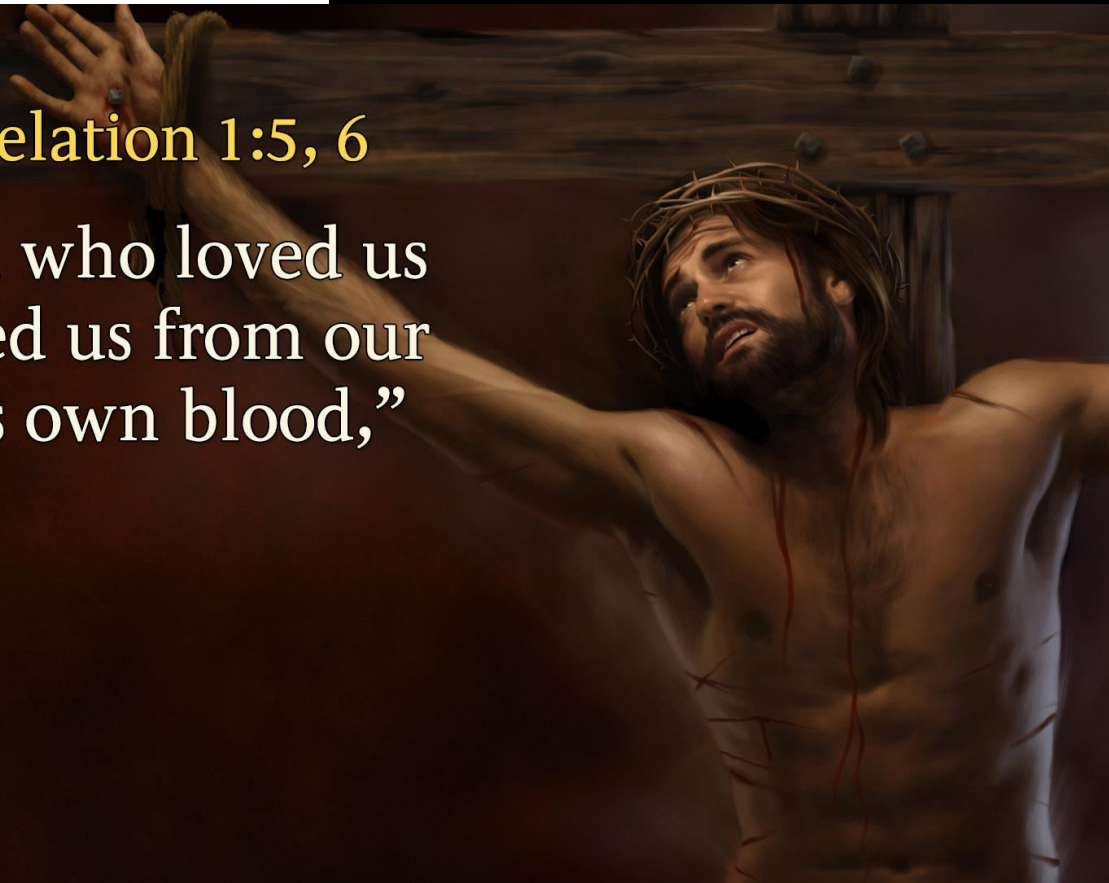
**How do we  
take a stand?**





## Revelation 1:5, 6

“...To Him who loved us  
and washed us from our  
sins in His own blood,”



**Baptism is a symbol  
of our commitment,  
loyalty, and allegiance  
to Jesus Christ.**





## Matthew 28:19, 20

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,



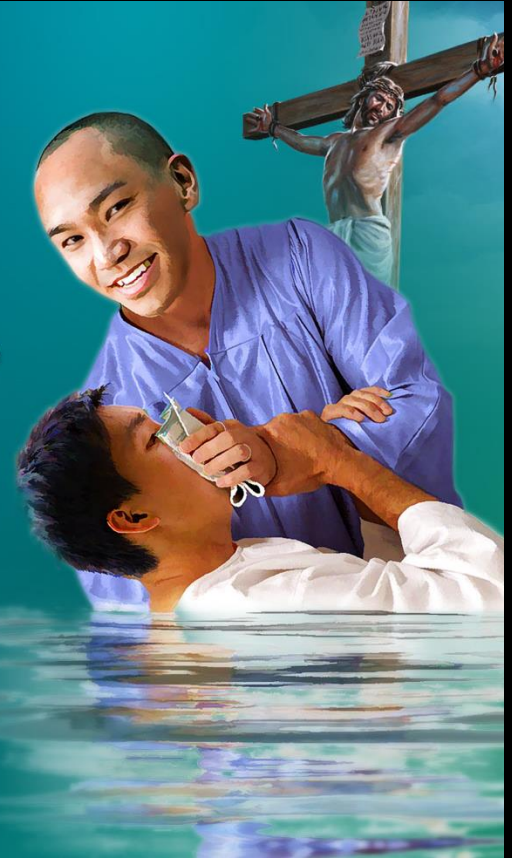


## Matthew 28:19, 20

teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' Amen.”



**When we are baptized,  
we declare our allegiance.  
We take a public stand.  
We show who's side  
we are on.**











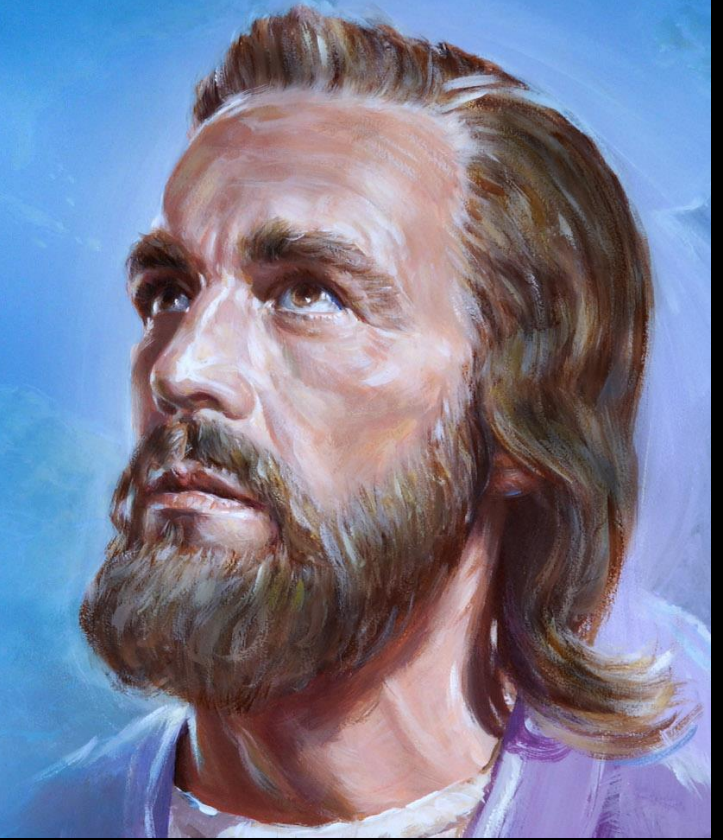


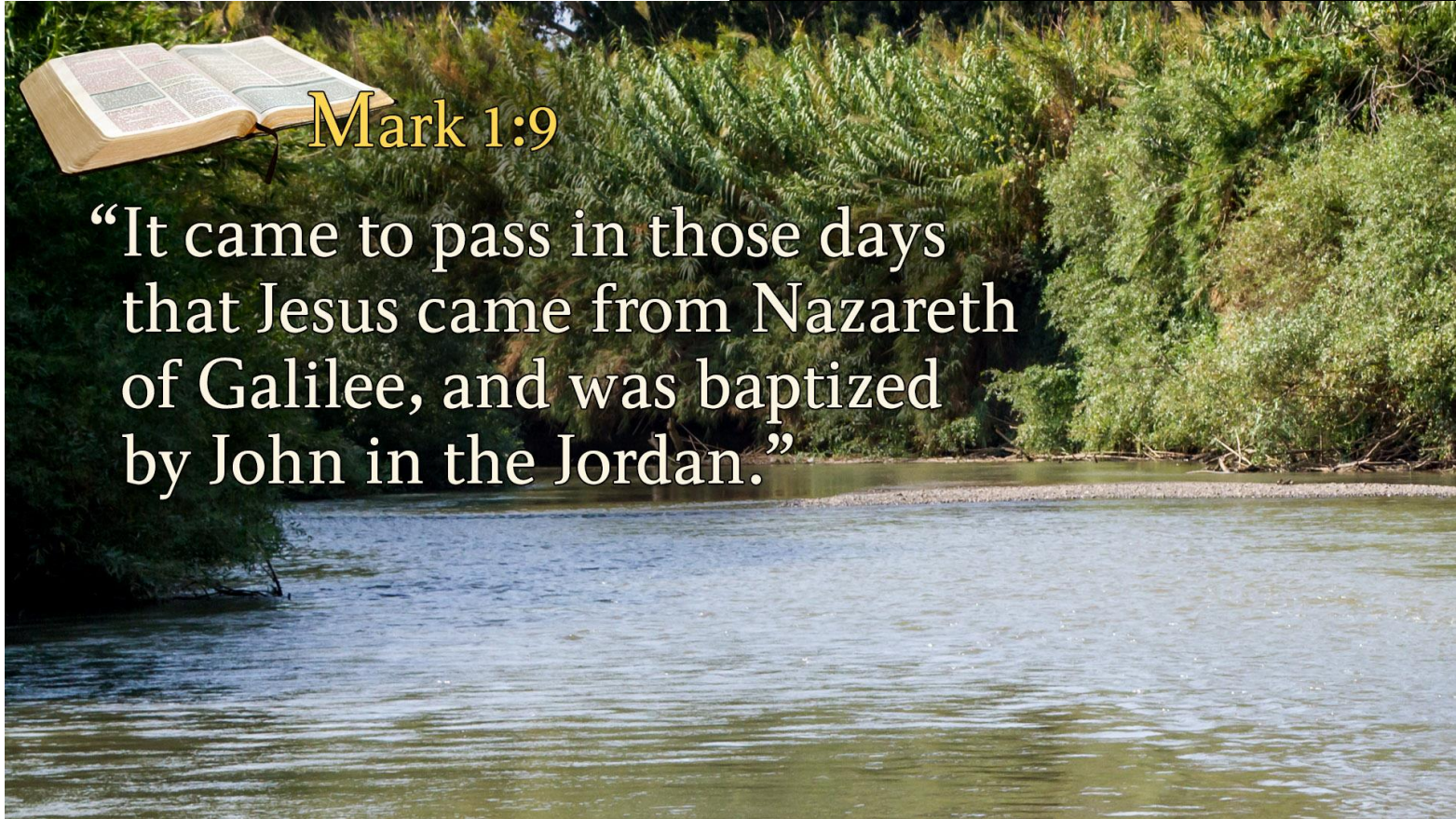


Ephesians 4:5

“One Lord, one faith,  
one baptism.”

**How was Jesus  
baptized?**





Mark 1:9

“It came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan.”



## Matthew 3:16, 17

“... Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him,





Matthew 3:16, 17

and He saw the Spirit  
of God descending  
like a dove and  
alighting upon Him.







Matthew 3:16, 17

And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.'”



**1. The Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus to give Him supernatural power to face temptation.**





Acts 10:38

“... God anointed Jesus  
of Nazareth with the  
Holy Spirit and with  
power.”



**1. The Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus to give Him supernatural power to face temptation.**

**2. The Father spoke to Him from heaven.**





## Matthew 3:17

“...This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”



Believers down  
through the centuries  
have experienced the  
joy of making a full  
commitment to Christ  
through baptism.

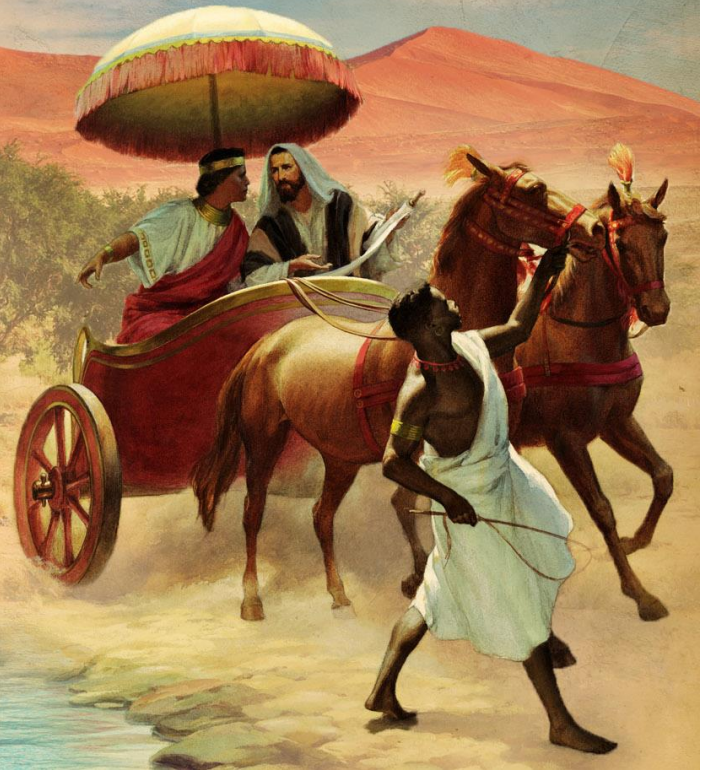






## Acts 8:36-39

“Now as they went down the road, they came to some water.

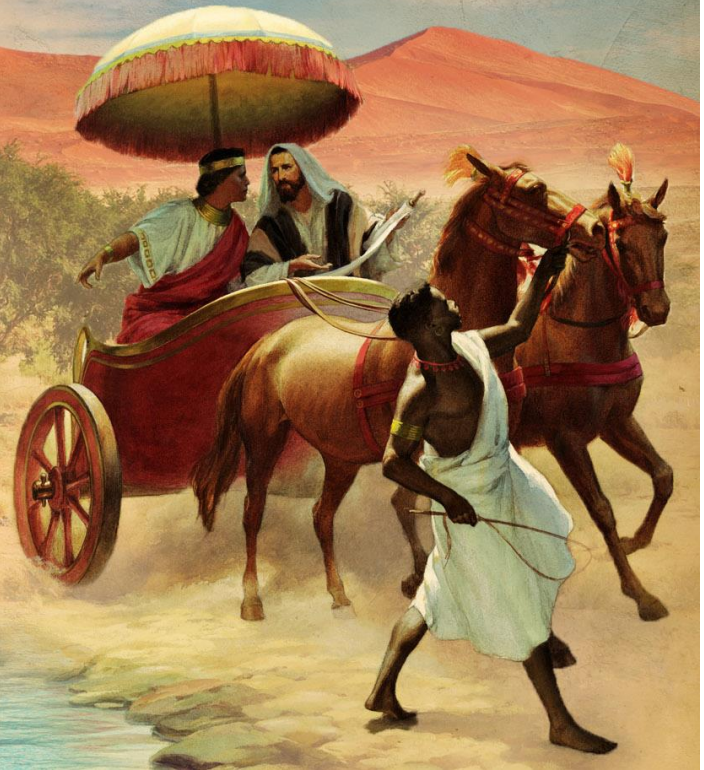






## **Acts 8:36-39**

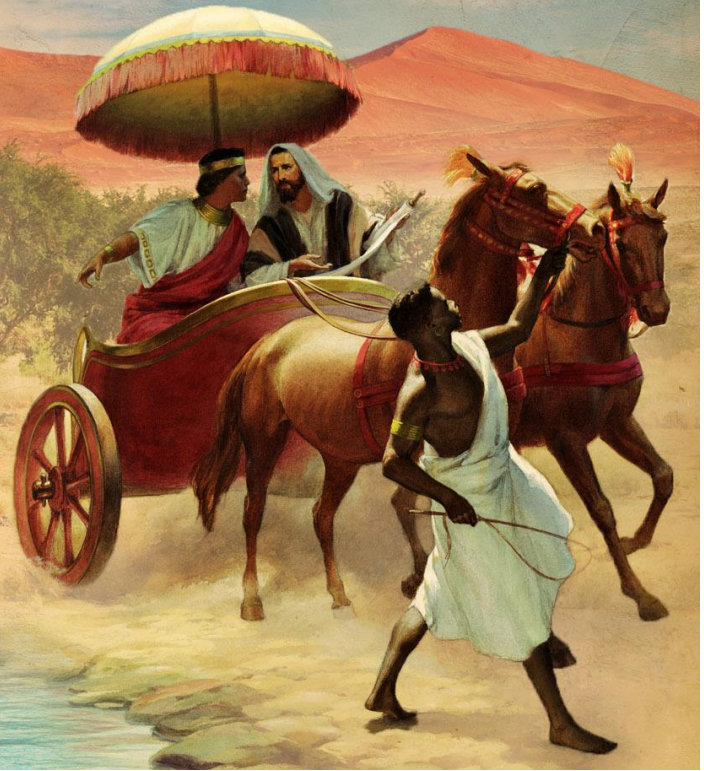
**And the eunuch said,  
'See, here is water.  
What hinders me  
from being baptized?'**





## Acts 8:36-39

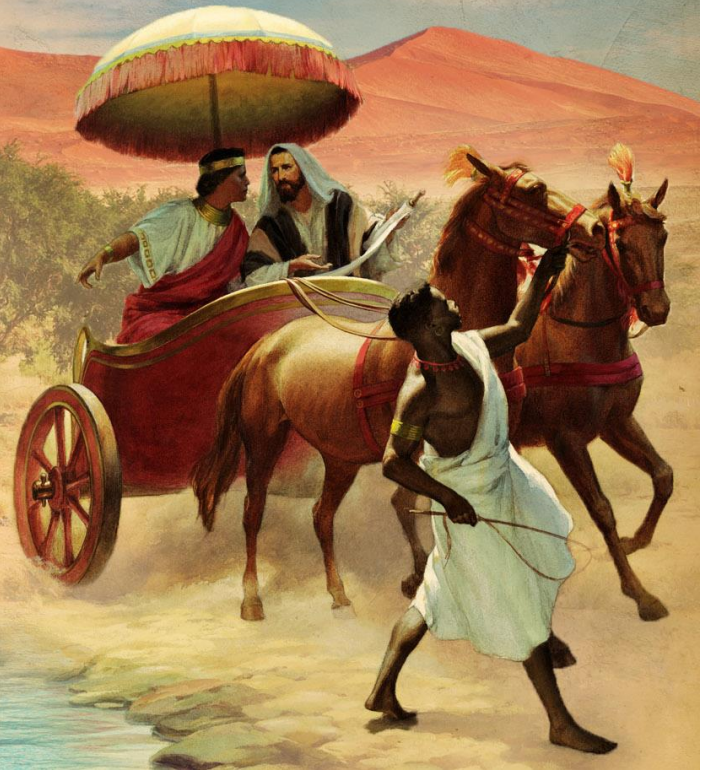
Then Philip said, 'If you believe with all your heart, you may.'





## Acts 8:36-39

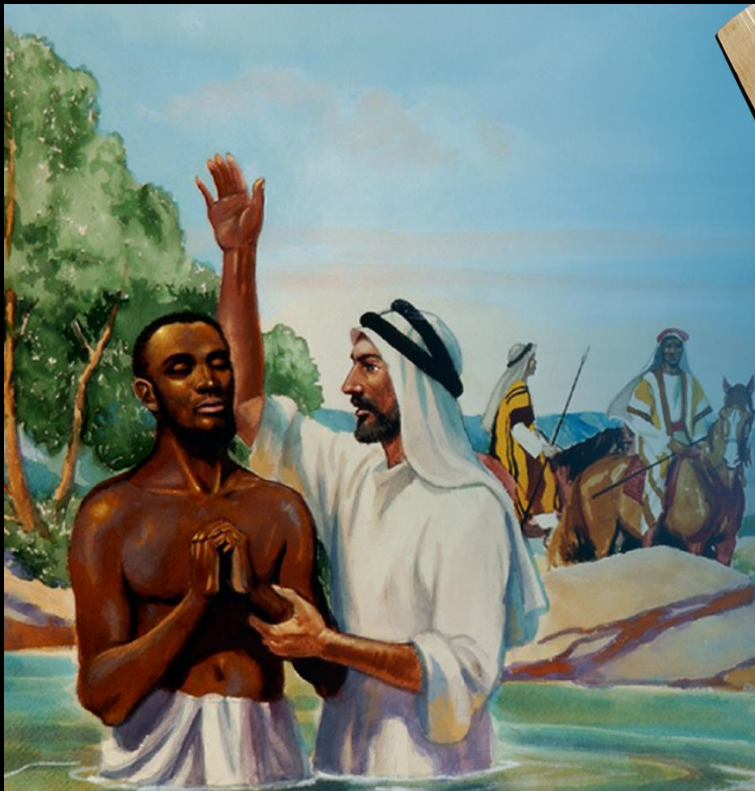
And he answered and said, 'I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.'





## Acts 8:36-39

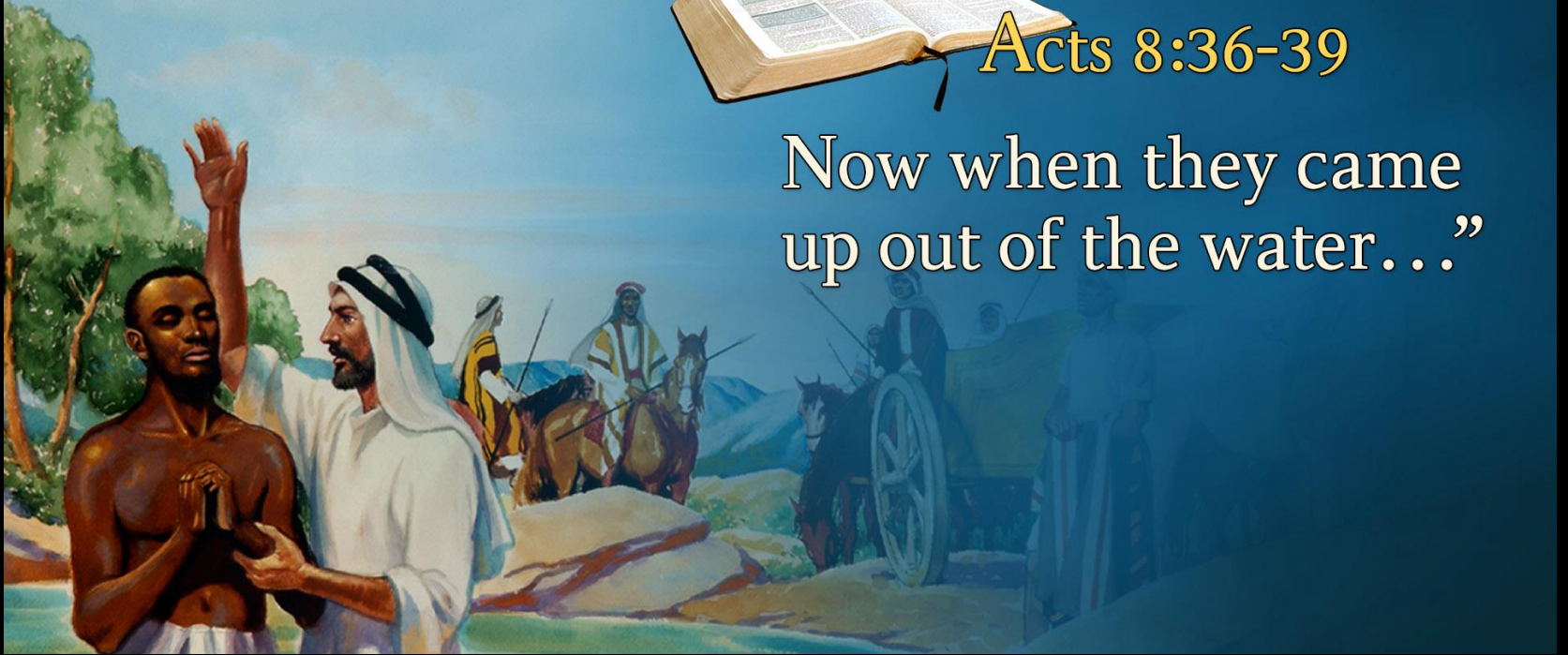
So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.





Acts 8:36-39

Now when they came  
up out of the water...”





## **Truths About Baptism**

- 1. The Ethiopian accepted Christ.**
- 2. His baptism indicated he was taking a public stand.**
- 3. The Ethiopian and Philip went into the water.**
- 4. The Ethiopian was fully immersed.**



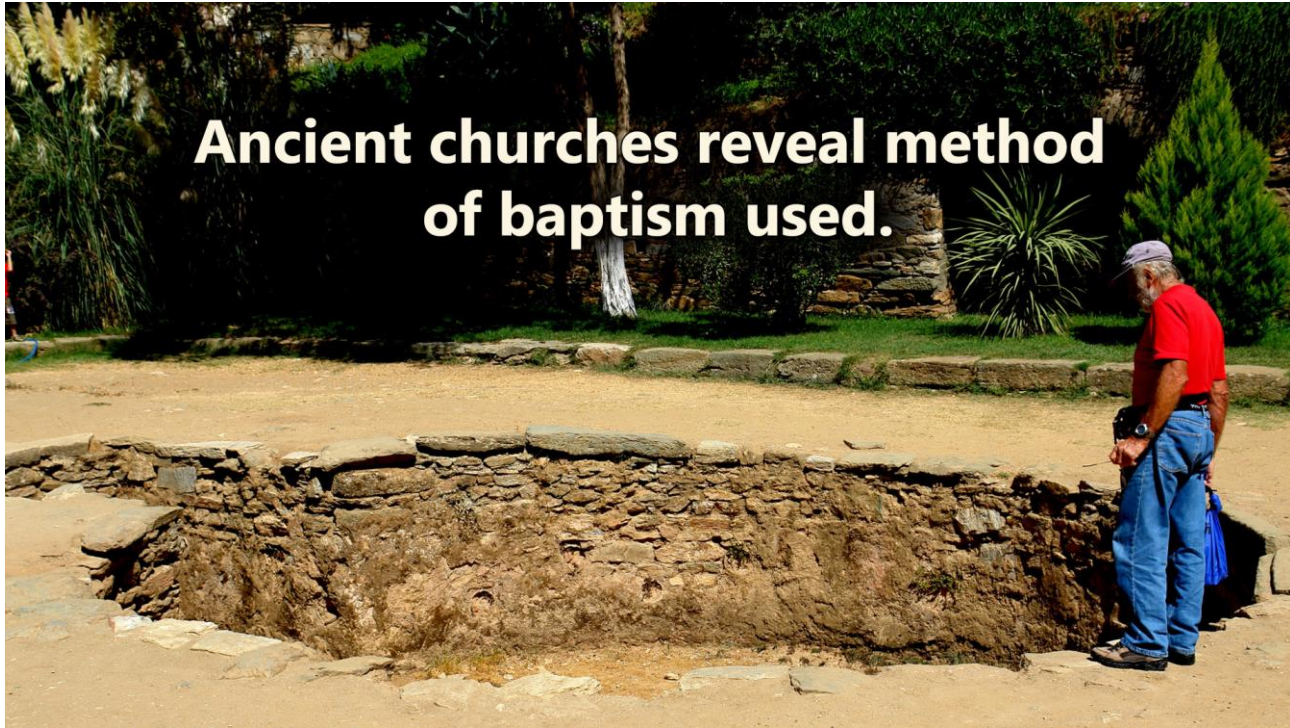
# **Baptism: What does it mean?**

**The Greek word, "baptizo" means  
"to dip", to immerse",  
"to plunge underwater."**





**Ancient churches reveal method  
of baptism used.**



# First Century Church in Philippi



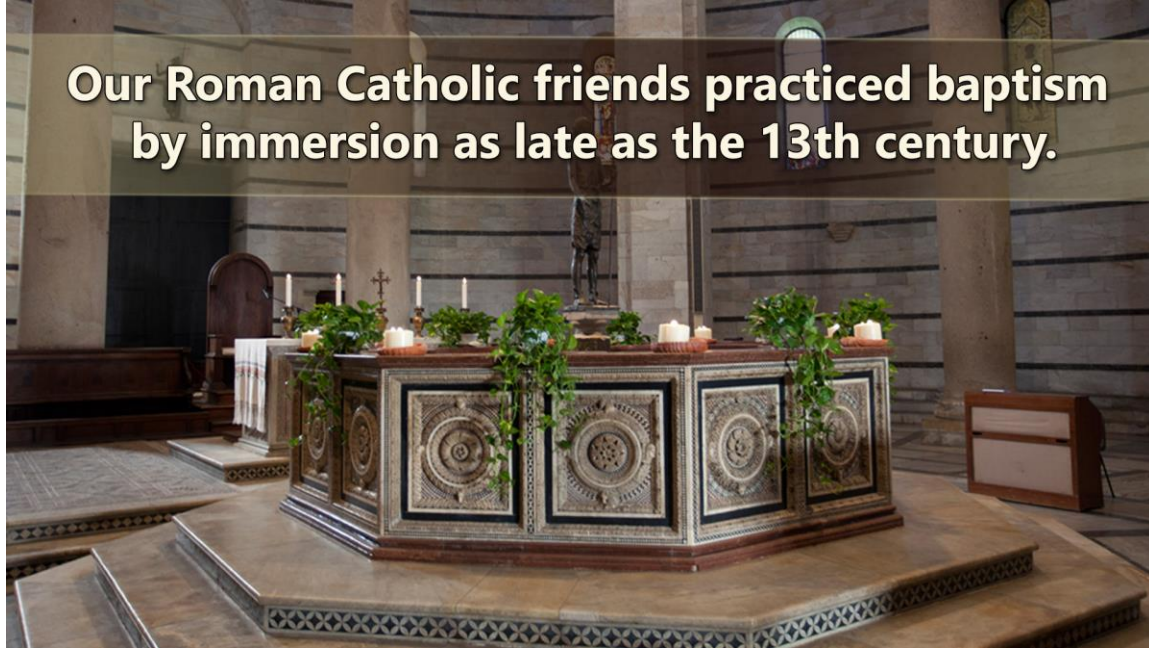


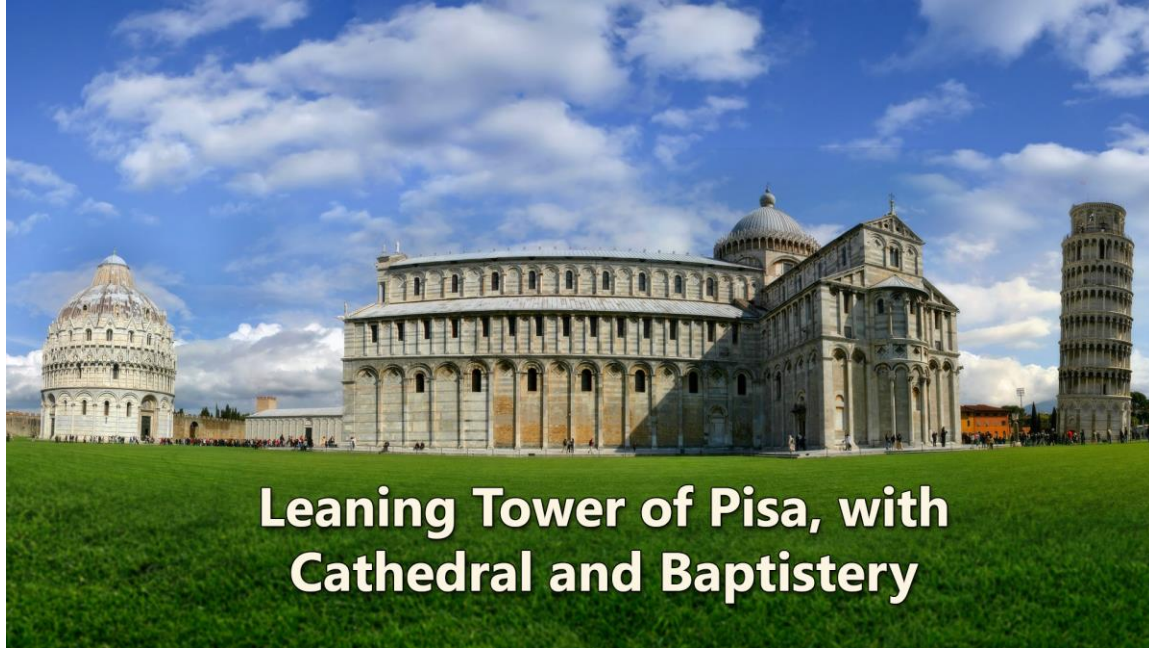
**Saint John of Lateran**



**Saint John of Lateran—Baptistry**

**Our Roman Catholic friends practiced baptism by immersion as late as the 13th century.**





**Leaning Tower of Pisa, with  
Cathedral and Baptistery**



**Cappadocia, Turkey**





A satellite-style map of Europe and the Mediterranean region. A red dot is placed on the northern coast of Italy, specifically in the Emilia-Romagna region, to indicate the location of Ravenna. The text 'Ravenna, Italy' is written in white above the dot.

**Ravenna, Italy**

**It was not until the Council of Ravenna in A.D. 1311 that sprinkling and pouring were officially accepted as equally valid as immersion in the rite of baptism.**



**What is the meaning of Bible baptism?**





## Romans 6:3, 4

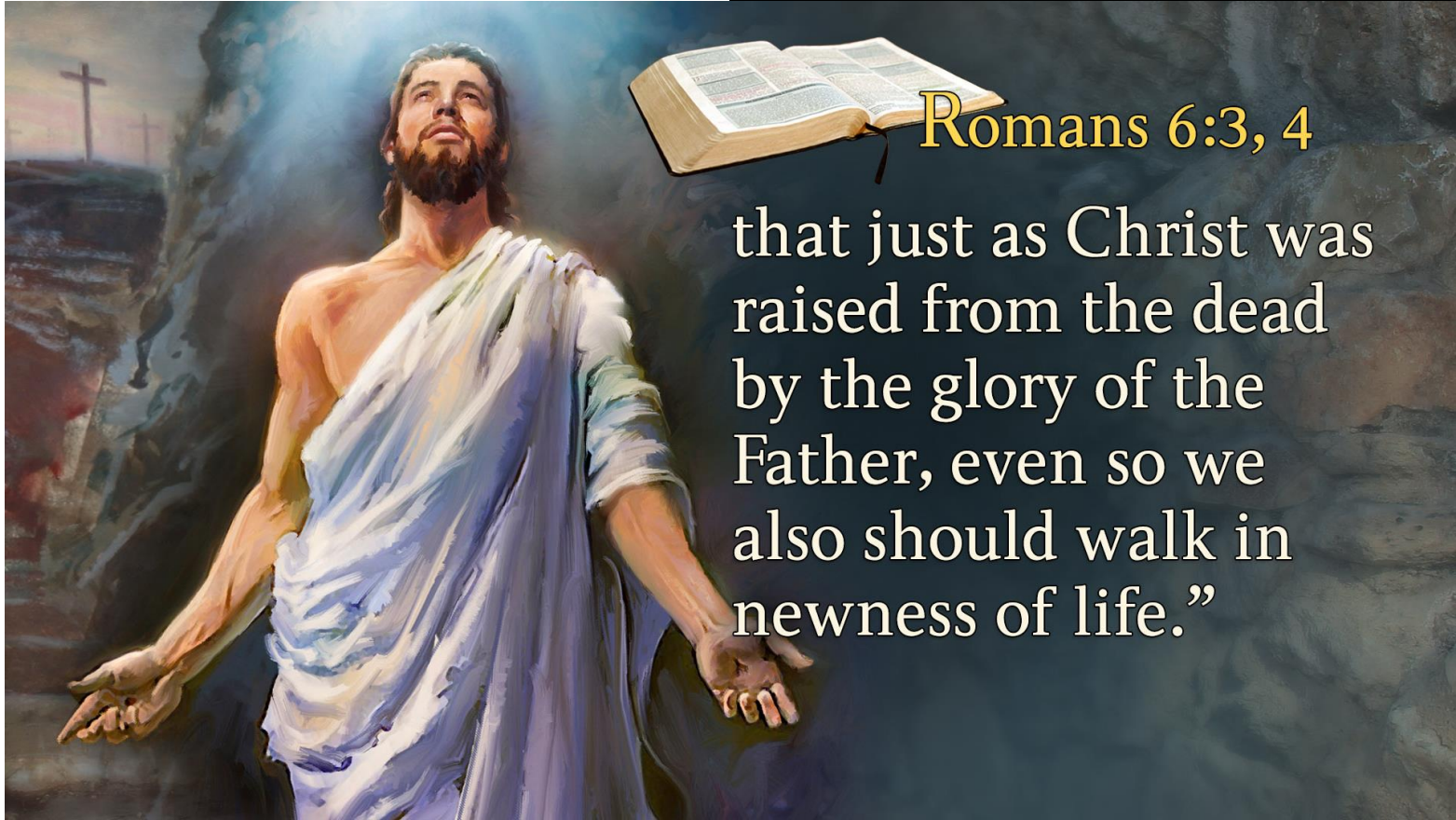
“Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?”





Romans 6:3, 4

Therefore we were  
buried with Him  
through baptism  
into death,



Romans 6:3, 4

that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”



Death

Resurrection

Burial

The background features a blue gradient with a wavy line at the top representing water. The text is centered on this background.

# Baptism

1. Dying to old sinful way of life.







# Baptism

1. Dying to old sinful way of life.
2. Burying our sins in the watery grave.



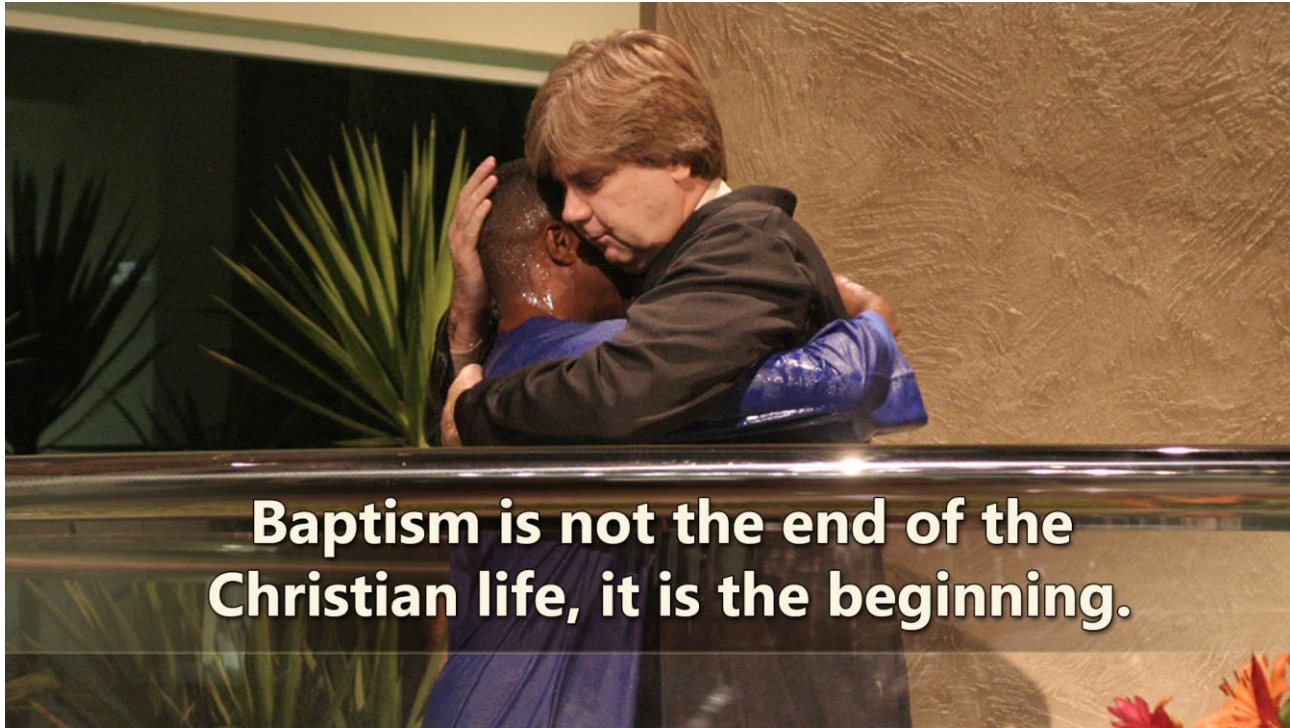
# Baptism

1. Dying to old sinful way of life.
2. Burying our sins in the watery grave.
3. Rising up again out of the water to walk a new life.



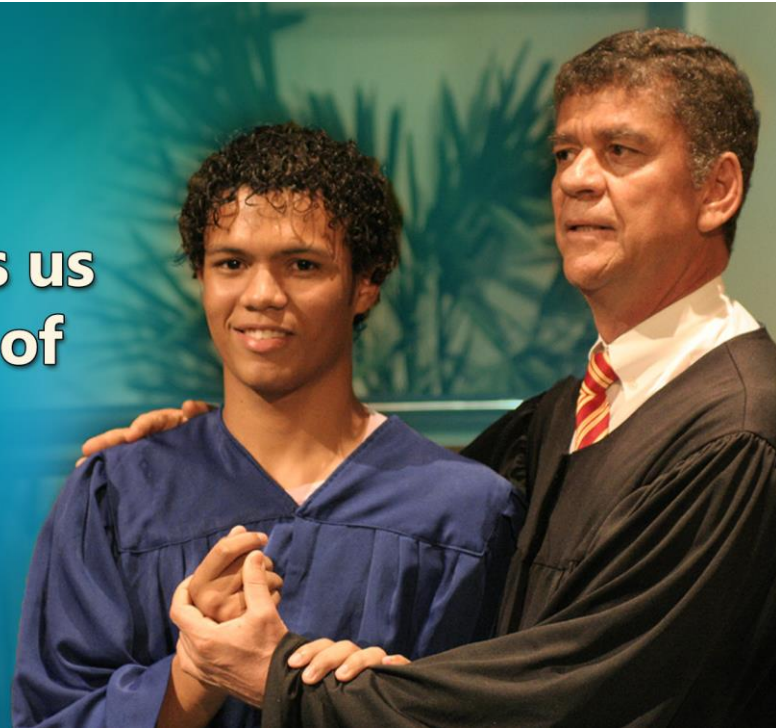


**Baptism doesn't mean you're perfect;  
it means you're committed.**



**Baptism is not the end of the  
Christian life, it is the beginning.**

**Baptism gives us  
a new sense of  
freedom.**



**Baptism gives  
us a new  
spiritual power  
in our lives.**





The image features a central rectangular frame with a black border. Inside the frame, the background is a clear, vibrant blue, representing water. At the top of the frame, there is a wavy, shimmering line that indicates the surface of the water. The overall aesthetic is clean and minimalist, focusing on the text and the symbolic color of water.

**What happens when  
we are baptized?**



# What happens when we are baptized?

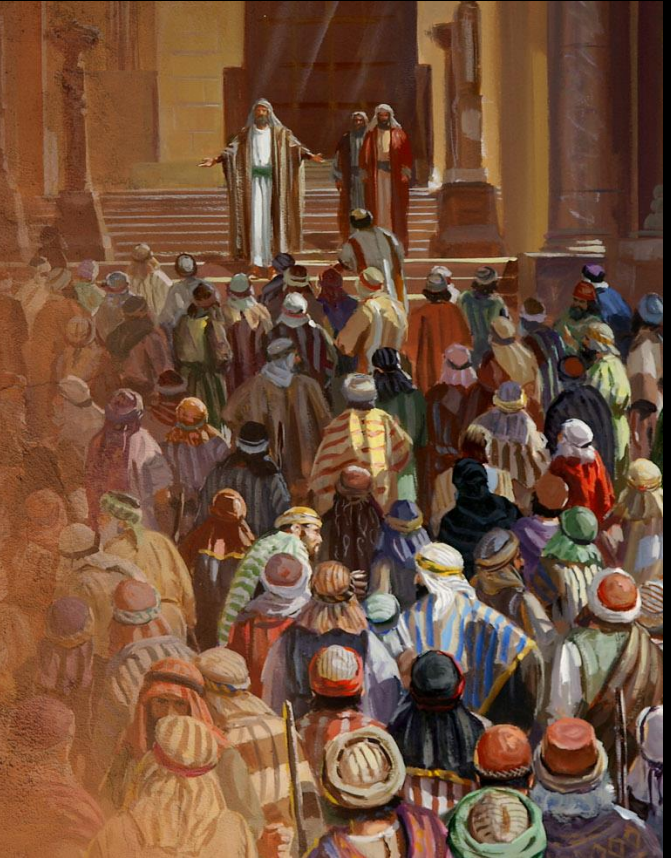
1. Every sin is forgiven. – **Acts 2:38**



## Acts 2:38

“Then Peter said to them,  
‘Repent, and let every one  
of you be baptized in the  
name of Jesus Christ for  
the remission of sins.’”





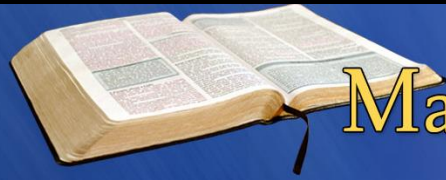
**What about the  
thief on the cross?**

# What happens when we are baptized?

1. Every sin is forgiven. – **Acts 2:38**

2. The Spirit is given to us.

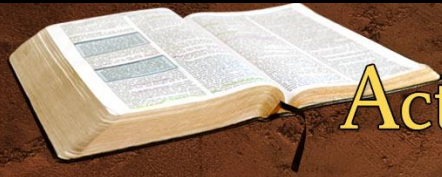
– **Mark 1:10, Acts 2:38, 39**



## Mark 1:10

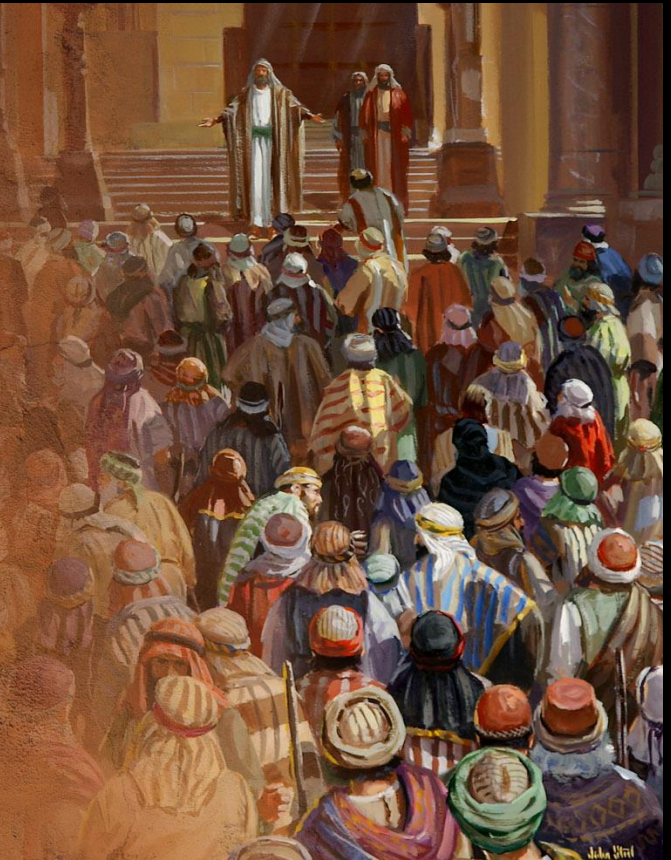
“And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove.”





## Acts 2:38, 39

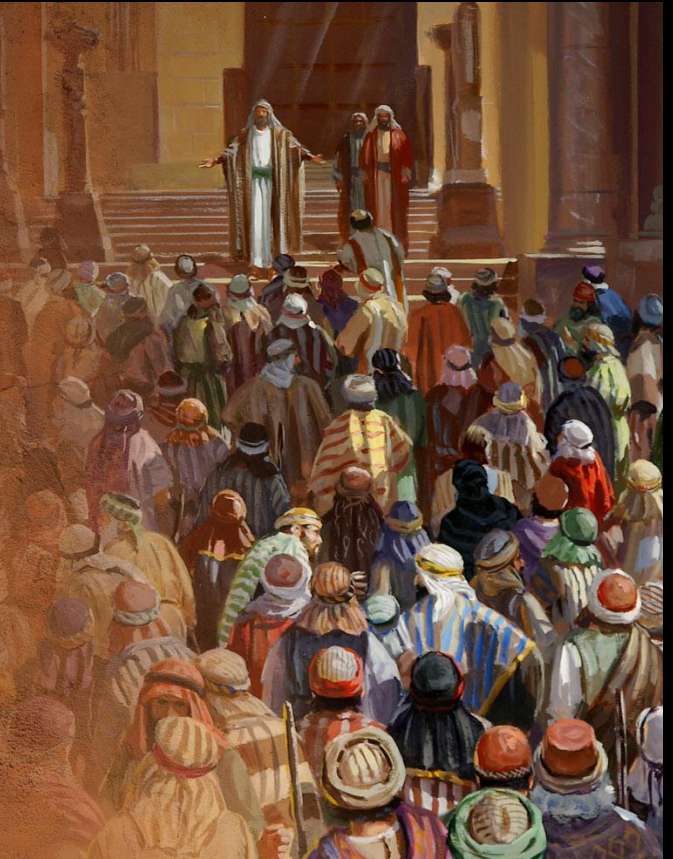
“Then Peter said to them,  
‘Repent, and let every one  
of you be baptized in the  
name of Jesus Christ for  
the remission of sins and  
you shall receive the gift  
of the Holy Spirit.





Acts 2:38, 39

For the promise is to you  
and to your children, and  
to all who are afar off, as  
many as the Lord our God  
will call.””





**When God calls you  
to baptism and you  
are cleansed, He  
promises you the  
gift of the spirit to  
empower your life.**





## What happens when we are baptized?

1. Every sin is forgiven. – **Acts 2:38**

2. The Spirit is given to us.

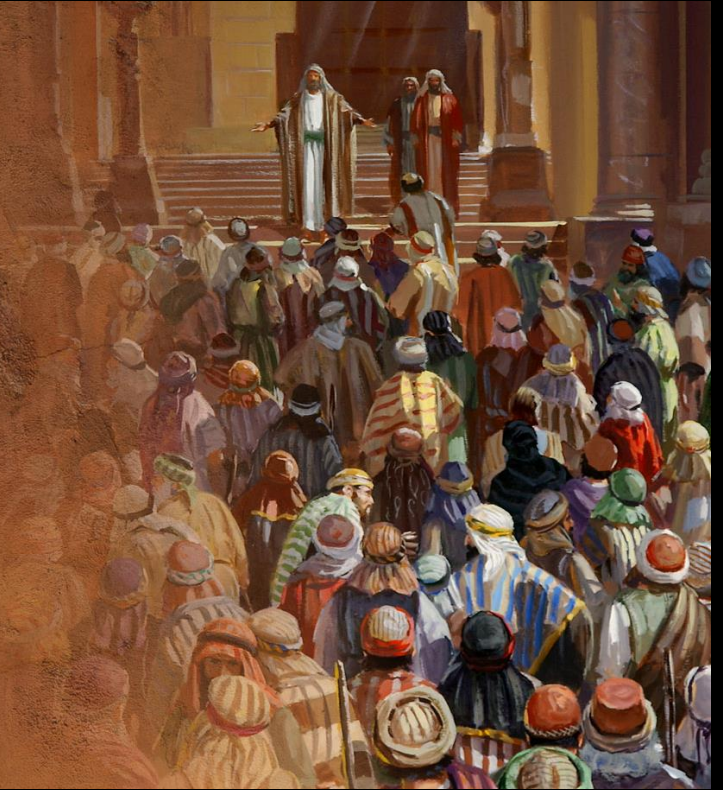
– **Mark 1:10, Acts 2:38, 39**

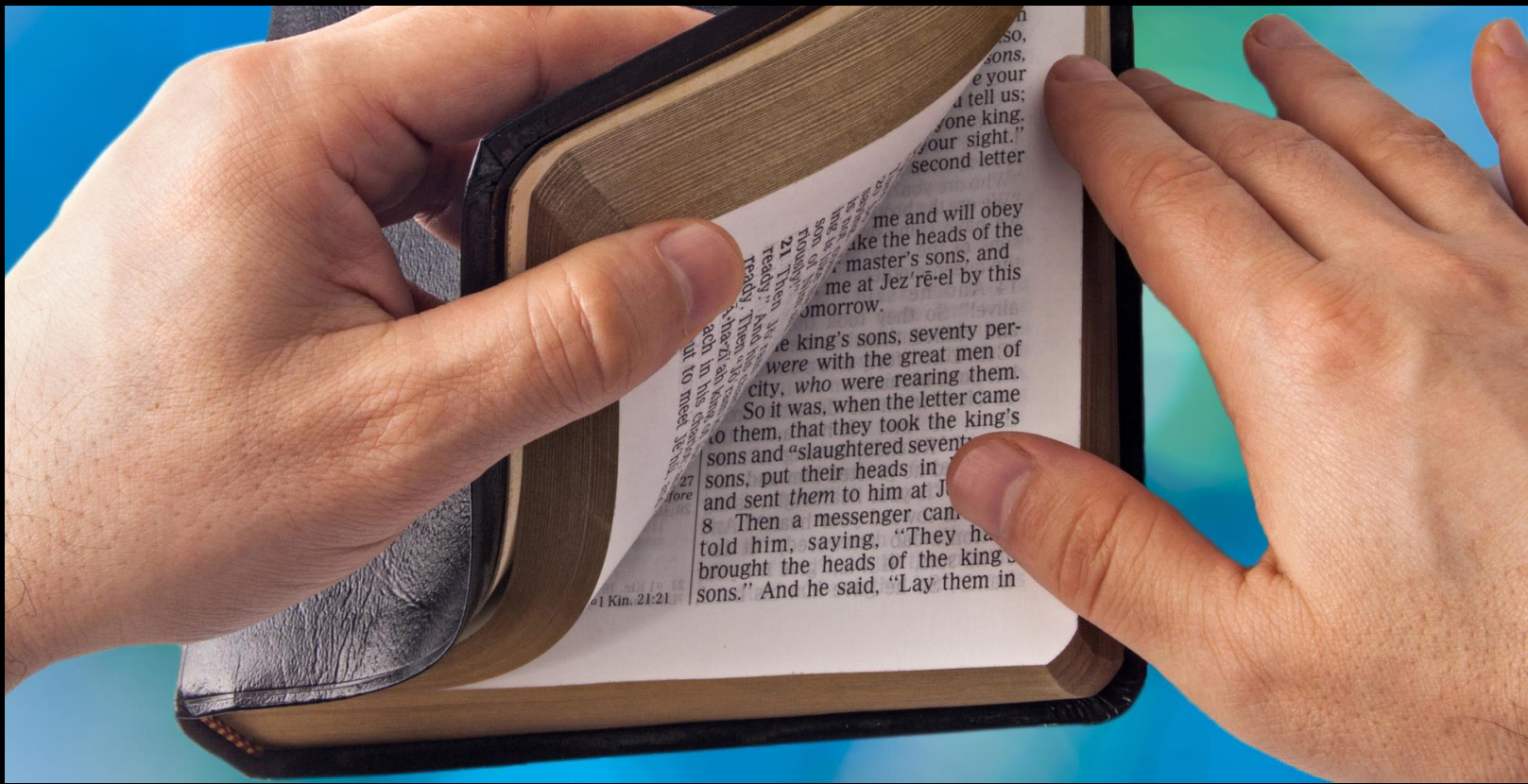
3. We are adopted into God's family.



## Acts 2:41

“Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.”





1 Kin. 21:21

me and will obey  
like the heads of the  
master's sons, and  
me at Jez'rè-el by this  
tomorrow.

the king's sons, seventy per-  
were with the great men of  
city, who were rearing them.  
So it was, when the letter came  
to them, that they took the king's  
sons and "slaughtered seventy  
sons, put their heads in  
and sent them to him at J  
8 Then a messenger came  
told him, saying, "They have  
brought the heads of the king's  
sons." And he said, "Lay them in



Acts 2:42

“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.”

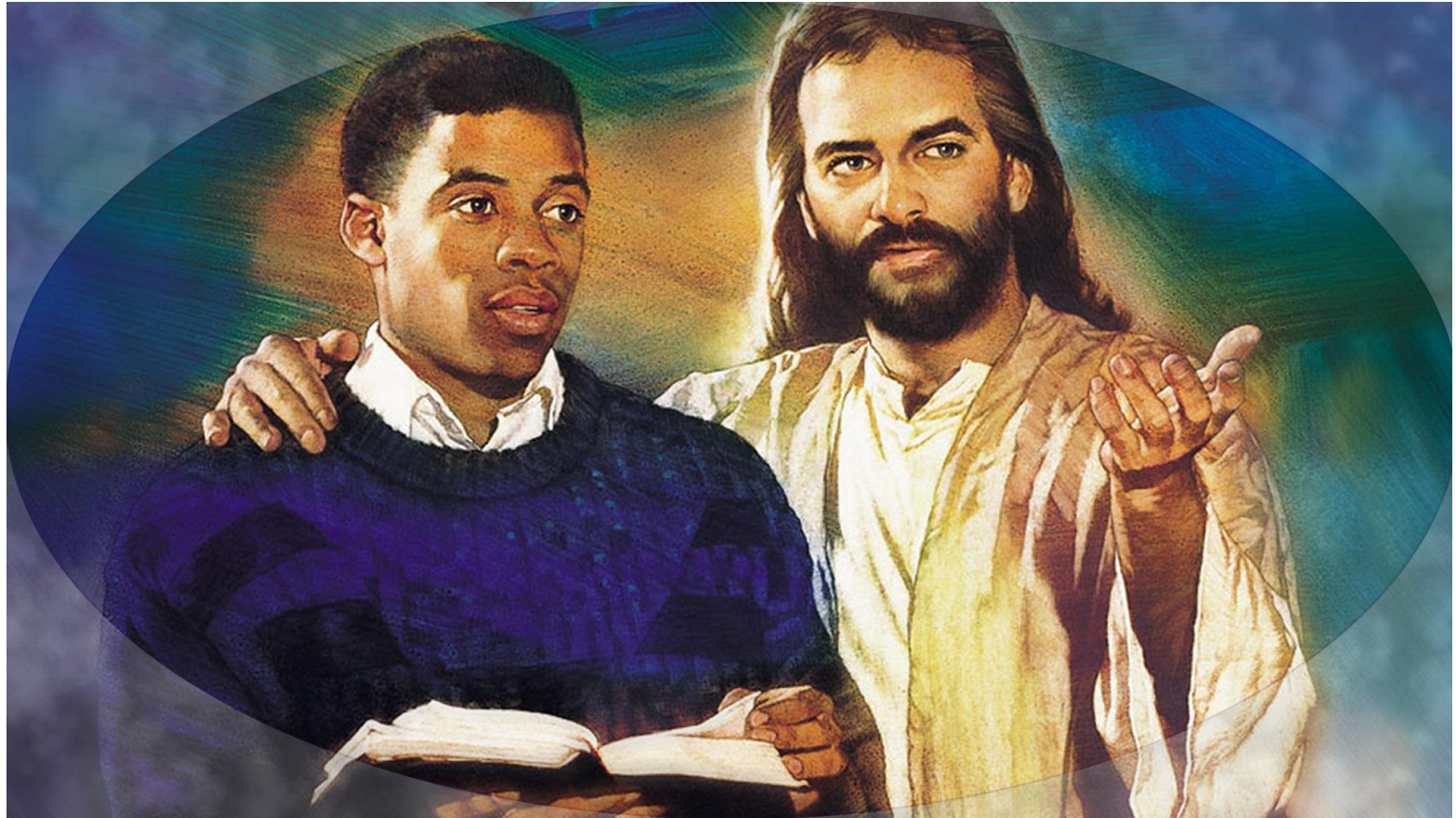




Acts 2:47

“...And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.”





**What steps should a  
person take before  
being baptized?**

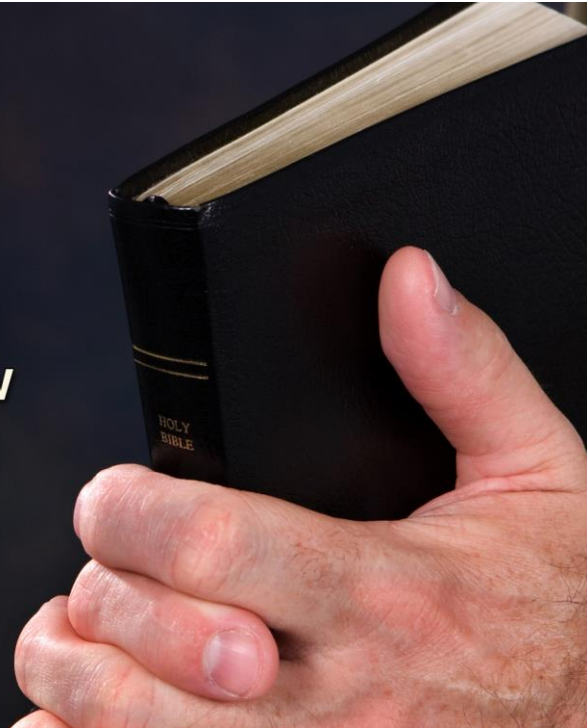




## Steps to baptism

### 1. Repent

—a genuine sorrow  
for sin



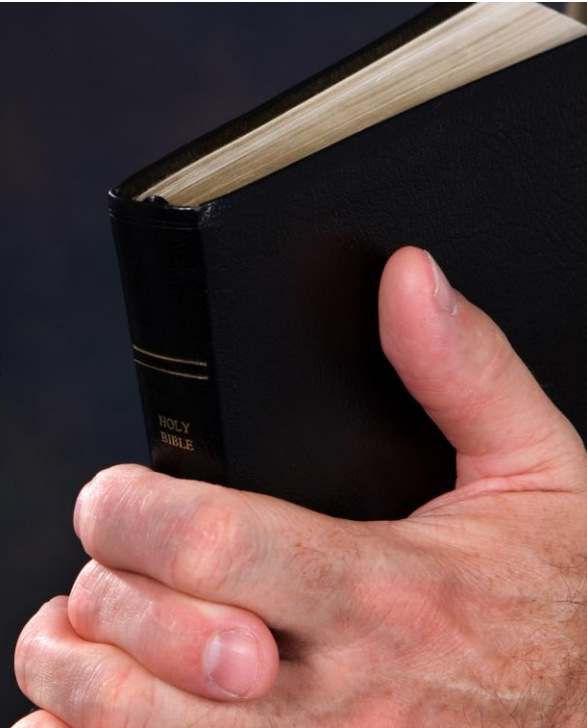
**Repentance is being  
sorry enough for my  
sins that I am willing to  
turn away from them.**



## Steps to baptism

### 2. Believe

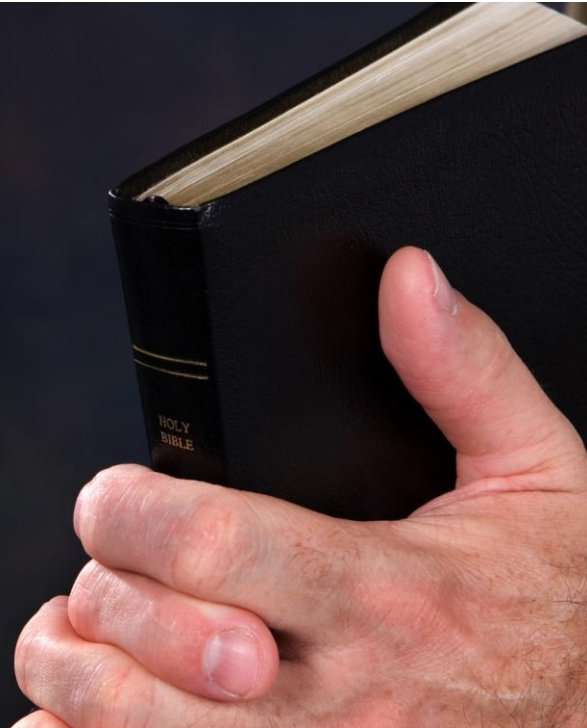
—an acceptance of  
Jesus as both  
Savior and Lord



## Steps to baptism

### 3. Learn

—instruction in  
the essentials of  
Biblical faith.







**There is an instance in the Bible  
when people were re-baptized.**



Acts 19:2-5

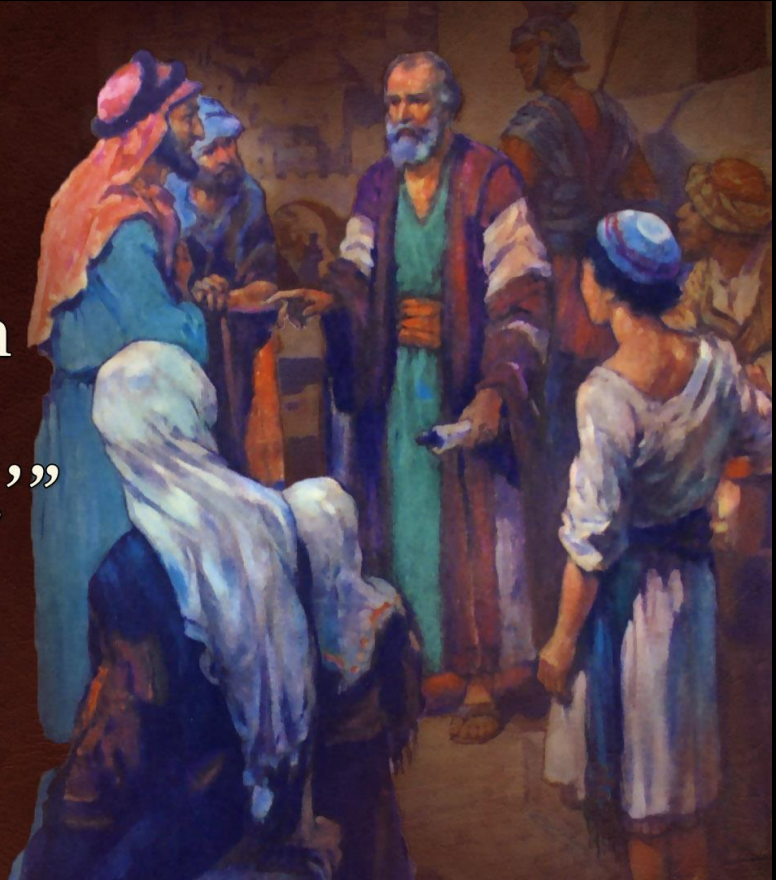
“He said to them,  
‘Did you receive the  
Holy Spirit when  
you believed?’





## Acts 19:2-5

So they said to him,  
‘We have not so much  
as heard whether  
there is a Holy Spirit.’”







**An individual may desire to be  
re-baptized if—**

- 1. They once were baptized and departed from Christ, but now long to return.**

**An individual may desire to be re-baptized if—**

- 1. They once were baptized and departed from Christ, but now long to return.**
- 2. They are committed Christians who have discovered the truth of God's Word, and desire to be part of His commandment keeping people.**

**How important  
is baptism?**





## John 3:5

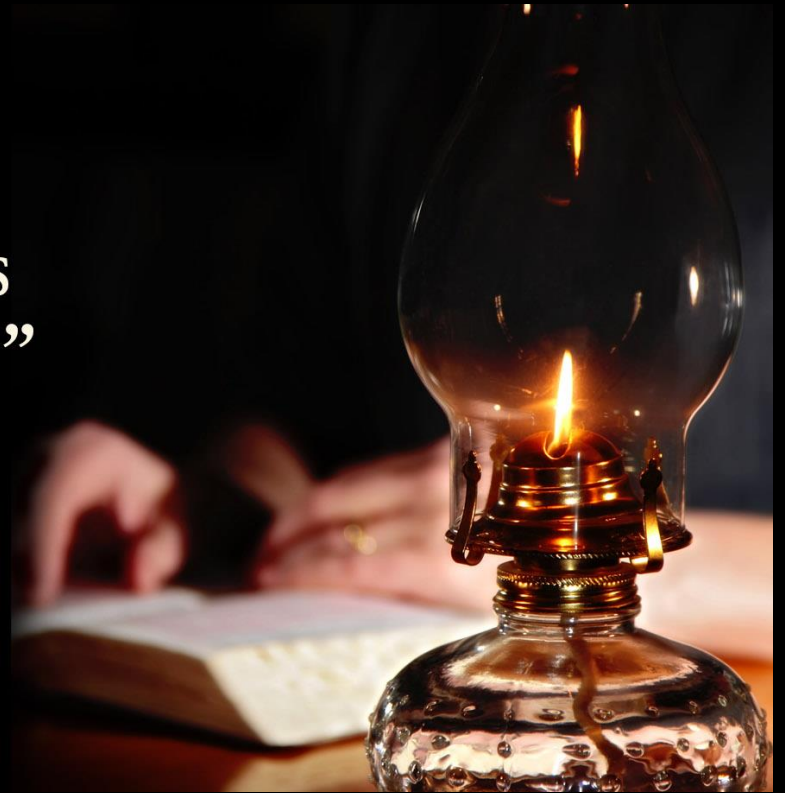
“Jesus answered, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.’”





Mark 16:16

“He who believes and is  
baptized will be saved;”





## 2 Corinthians 6:2

“Behold, now is the  
accepted time;  
behold, now is the  
day of salvation.”





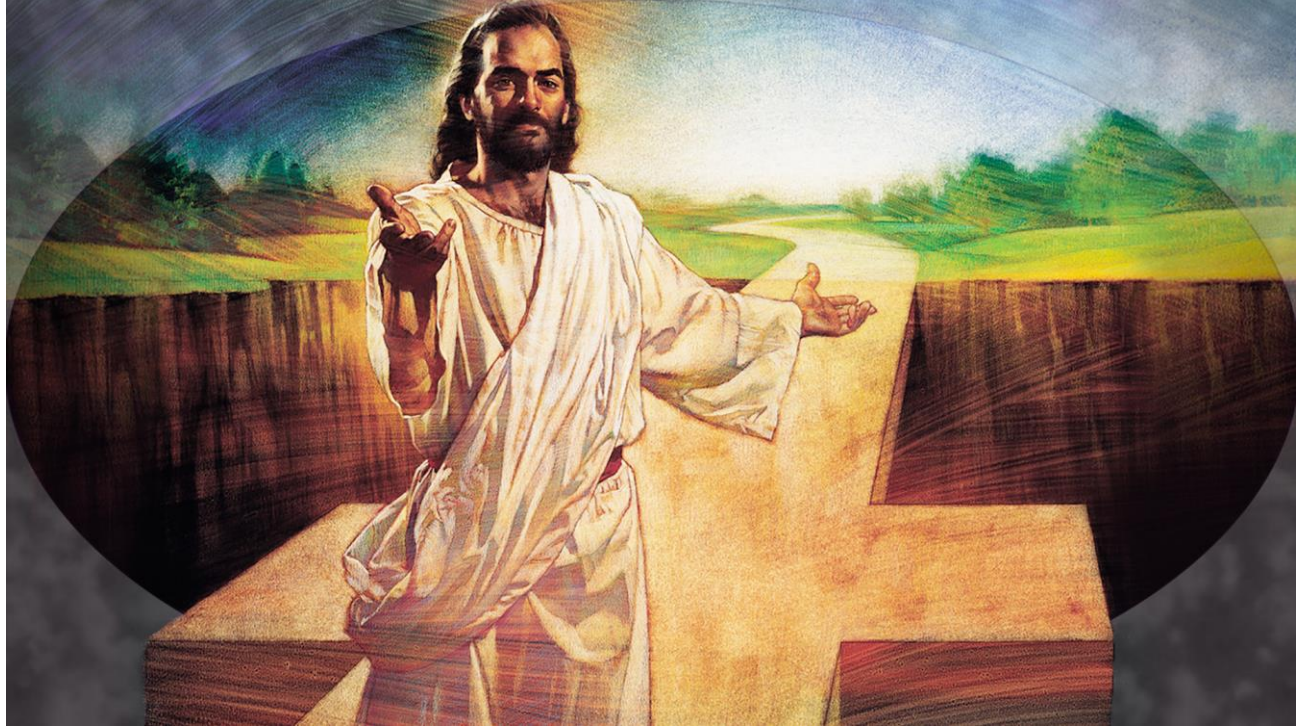
Acts 22:16

“And now why are you waiting?  
Arise and be baptized, and wash  
away your sins, calling on the  
name of the Lord.””









■ Tomorrow's topic:

# The Truth About Death

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