



# Water Baptism!

## **Baptism**

### **in the name of the 'Father', the 'Son' and the 'Holy Ghost'!**

The English word "Baptism" is derived indirectly through Latin from the neuter Greek concept noun "baptisma" The New Testament derived from the masculine Greek noun baptisimos (βαπτισμός), usage of the Septuagint. The verb baptizō (βαπτίζω) The Greek verb baptō (βάπτω), "dip", the verb baptizō is immersion. It is a fact that he chose permanent and deep river water for Baptism! Both the preposition 'in' (the Jordan) and the basic meaning of the verb 'baptize' indicates immersion. In v. 16, Matthew speaks of Yeshua 'coming up out of the water'. Phillip and the Eunuch also went down and came up out of water (Acts 8:38–39). Baptism is likened unto a burial in Romans 6:3. "Dip" is translated from baptō (βάπτω).

### **What is the Baptism?**

The Bible compares baptism to burial. (Romans 6:4; Colossians 2: 12) Water baptism symbolizes a person's dying to his past course of life and beginning a new one as a Christian dedicated to God. Baptism and the steps that lead up to it are God's arrangement for a person to gain a clean conscience based on his faith in the sacrifice of Yeshua Christ. (1 Peter 3: 21) Thus, Yeshua taught that his disciples must get baptized.—Matthew 28:19, 20.

### **Following Christ:**

In order to understand the reason for being water baptised, it is important to carefully consider what the Bible says about it? Yeshua himself was baptised. He was not a sinner, yet he humbled himself in obedience to identify with us and gave us an example to follow.

### **An Act of Obedience:**

Water baptism is an act of faith and obedience to the commands of Christ.

*18 And Yeshua came and spake unto them, saying! All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 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 always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. e."*

*Matthew 28:19-20*

### **A Public Declaration:**

Baptism declares that you are a follower of Yeshua Christ. It is a public confession of your faith in, and commitment to, Yeshua Christ. It is the next step after salvation through repentance and faith and is an important foundation for the Christian life. Then he said,

*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.*

*17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover".*

*Mark 16: 15-17, KJV*

### **What is the meaning and significance of Baptism?**

**A Move from Death to Life:** Baptism is a symbol of Christ's burial and resurrection.

Our entrance into the water during baptism identifies us with Christ's death on the cross, His burial in the tomb, and His resurrection from the dead. *"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*



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*together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; 14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;” Colossians 2:12-14 KJV. “17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” 2 Corinthians 5:17, KJV. “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.” Romans 6:4. KJV, “8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Yeshua unto good works, which God, hath before ordained that we should walk in them.” Ephesians 2:8,9 KJV,*

## **A Sanctified Life:**

In baptism, the believer has witness of the Almighty God placed upon them, ‘Father’, ‘Son’ & ‘Holy Ghost’. The Gospels tell us to baptize believers, into the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost”, Matthew 28:19.

## **An Original family:**

Baptism confirms our position ‘in Christ’ and affirms the blessings of the Father on us as his children. Baptism also connects us to the ‘body of Christ’, his people in the earth. In baptism there is a real sense of being joined with other believers, not just participating in an individual act of our own spiritual journey. “12 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also, is Christ. 13 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.” 1 Corinthians 12:12-13.

## **How are we to be Baptised?**

As per the example shown by Yeshua – Baptism should be done by being immersed in water. The word “baptise” comes from the Greek word “baptise” which means “to immerse or dip under water”. “And Yeshua, when he was baptized, went up straightway out 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. Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion under water. The book of Acts shows us that this was the norm for every believer. “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. 39 And when they were come up out of the water, the “**Spirit of the Lord**” caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.” Acts 8:38,39.

## **Who should be baptised?**

Every person who has made the decision to believe in Christ. When Paul writes to the believers in Rome, he assumes that all of them have been baptized (Romans 6). The one requirement for baptism is belief in Christ! “38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yeshua Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. 40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. 41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.” Acts 2: 39-42 KJV. “12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Yeshua Christ, they were baptized, both men and women” Acts 8:12 KJV. We believe in baptizing children when they are old enough to understand



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what it means and make a personal declaration of belief. (Usually, the age of 12 years old is sometimes a good benchmark.). Baptism is an outward act that symbolizes the inward occurrence of coming to and accepting Christ.

## When are we to be Baptised?

Believers in the New Testament were baptised in the same day. As soon as a person decides to believe in Christ, he can be, and is encouraged to be baptised. *“Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls..” Acts 2:41. “Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Yeshua. As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. Why shouldn’t I be baptized?” And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.” Acts 8:35-39.* Baptism is to be done in the name of the “Father”, and of the Son, and of the “Holy Ghost” This makes it a “Christian” baptism. It is through this ordinance that a person is admitted into the fellowship of the assembly of God. When we are saved, we must be “baptized” to join into the Body of Christ, which is the “Assembly of God”. First Corinthians 12:13 says, *“We were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body, whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.”* Baptism by water is a “rebuilding” of the baptism by the Spirit of the LORD. The Christian baptism is the means by which a person makes a public profession of faith and discipleship. In the waters of baptism, a person says, “I confess faith in Christ; Yeshua has cleansed my soul from sin, and I now have a new life of sanctification.”

Christian baptism illustrates, in dramatic style, **the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.**

At the same time, it also illustrates our death to sin and new life in Christ. As the sinner confesses the Lord Yeshua, he dies to sin (Romans 6:11, KJV) and is raised to a brand-new life (Colossians 2:12, KJV). Being submerged in the water represents death to sin, and emerging from the water represents the cleansed, holy life that follows salvation. Romans 6:4, KJV. Puts it this way: *“We were therefore buried with him (Christ) through baptism, into death in order that, just as Christ was raised, from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”* Very purely, baptism is an outward testimony of the inward change, in a believer’s life. Christian baptism is an act of obedience to the Lord after salvation; although baptism is closely associated with salvation. It is not a requirement to be saved. The Bible shows in many places that the order of events is:

- 1) Baptism is when a person believes in the Lord Yeshua and
- 2) He is baptized. This sequence is seen in Acts 2:41,
- 3) “Those who accepted Peter’s message they were baptized” (Acts 16:14–15).

A new believer in Yeshua Christ should desire to be baptized as soon as possible. In Acts 8 Philip speaks “the good news about Yeshua” to the Ethiopian “Eunuch”, and, “as they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, ‘Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?’ Look verses on Acts 8: 35–36. Right away, they stopped the chariot, and Philip baptized the man. Baptism illustrates a believer’s identification with Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection. Everywhere the gospel is preached, and people are drawn to faith in Christ, they are to be baptized.

## What is the proper mode of baptism?

It comes from a Greek word which means “to submerge in water.” the proper mode of baptism should be an immersion into the deep water! Therefore, baptism by sprinkling or by pouring is an oxymoron, something that is self-contradictory and is a huge cult and a deception by the devil. Baptism, by its inherent definition, must be an act of immersion in water. Baptism illustrates a believer’s identification with Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection. *“Or don’t you know that all of*



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*us who were baptized into Christ Yeshua were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life*" (Romans 6:3-4 KJV). The action of being immersed in the water pictures dying and being buried with Christ. The action of coming out of the water illustrates the resurrection of Christ. As a result, baptism by immersion is the only method of baptism which illustrates being buried with Christ and being raised with Him. Baptism given to an infant and sprinkling and/or pouring came into practice as a result of unbiblical practices. Baptism by immersion, while it is the most Biblical mode of identifying with Christ, is not a prerequisite for salvation. It is rather an act of obedience! It is the public proclamation of faith in Christ and identification with Him. Baptism is a picture of our leaving our old life and becoming a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17). Baptism by immersion is the only mode that fully illustrates this radical change.

### **"Yes, Is baptism necessary for salvation?"**

The belief that baptism is necessary for salvation is also known as "baptismal regeneration." It is our contention that baptism is an important step of obedience for a Christian. But many are steadfastly rejecting baptism as being required for salvation. While, we strongly believe that each and every Christian should be water baptized by immersion. Baptism illustrates a believer's identification with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. *Romans 6:3-4 declares, "Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Yeshua were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."* This action of being immersed in the water illustrates dying and being buried with Christ. The action of coming out of the water pictures Christ's resurrection. Actually, that is called the born-again christian! Requiring anything in addition to faith in Yeshua Christ for salvation is a work-based salvation. To add anything to the gospel is to say that Yeshua Christ, 'death on the cross was not sufficient to purchase our salvation. To say that baptism is necessary for salvation is to say we must add our own good works and obedience to Christ's death in order to make it sufficient for salvation. Yeshua' death alone paid for our sins (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21). Yeshua' payment for our sins is appropriated to our "account" by faith alone (John 3:16; Acts 16:31; Ephesians 2:8-9). Therefore, baptism is an important step of obedience after salvation but cannot be a requirement for salvation. However, since the Bible so clearly tells us that salvation is received by faith alone (John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5 KJV), there must be a different interpretation of those verses. Scripture does not contradict Scripture. So, in the minds of the apostles and early disciples, the idea of an un-baptized believer was unheard of. When a person claimed to believe in Christ, yet was ashamed to proclaim his faith in public, it indicated that he did not have true faith. So, when Paul gives a detailed outline of what he considers the Full Gospel (1 Corinthians 15:1-8), why does he neglect to mention baptism? So is baptism a requirement for salvation, how could any presentation of the gospel lack a mention of baptism? Baptism is the symbol of what has already occurred in the heart and life of one who has trusted Christ as Savior (Romans 6:3-5; Galatians 3:27; Colossians 2:12). Baptism is an important step of obedience that every Christian should take in life. Baptism in one part is a requirement for salvation and is based on the sufficiency of the death and resurrection of Yeshua Christ.

### **How and when is the origin of baptism?**

First, it must be understood that baptism is an outward proclamation of an inward conversion.



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In other words, baptism is a ceremonial act undertaken after a person accepts Yeshua Christ as his or her Lord and Savior. This is usually done in the presence of the church body as a public proclamation of one's faith. Concerning the origin of baptism, Christian theologians suggest that although Christian baptism may have been widely used by John the Baptist, baptism itself did not originate with Christians or, for that matter, with John. Jews practiced baptism as a traditional act of purification and the initiation of converts to Judaism long before the coming of the Messiah. Although the act described in these Old Testament passages was not specifically called "baptism," it does highlight how important and holy is ceremonial (and practical) cleansing is to God. **John's "baptism of repentance"** (Luke 3:3; Acts 19:4) followed this paradigm of cleansing, although the final cleansing from sin is only available through Christ, and John's baptism was the foreshadowing of that. The significance of baptism as a New Testament ceremony is that, as believers in Yeshua Christ, we are baptized into His death (Romans 6:3) and raised to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4 KJV). The Lord taught the significance of baptism to the extent that He Himself was baptized by John the Baptist at the start of His ministry "*9 And it came to pass in those days, that Yeshua came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan*". (Mark 1:9). The origin of baptism as taught by Christ our Messiah says those that are believing on the full Gospel should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" Therefore repentance is not in the water, but it shall start with a change of heart and then followed by taking the baptism. For that the Holy Ghost said through the Apostle Peter: *19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; Acts. 3: 19, KJV. Repent and Convert first and then to take Baptism. How to repent 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yeshua Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. 40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.* So, in the original baptism first step is to repent and convert from the untoward generation. It means after the baptism believers should make a sincere decision to live a life separated from this world: and live in accordance with the Doctrine of Christ as whatever is given in the New Testament!

### **We have only one Baptism!**

(Ephesians 4:5) Ephesians 4:4-6 says, "*There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*" Since we cannot make a different "baptism" other than what is referred to in the New Testament, it can be a bit confusing when we read about "one baptism." The word baptize always means "to submerge or immerse." So, when baptism is discussed, it involves a person being totally submerged into something with God! Baptism implies being "all in." It also implies that a change has taken place. Baptized people are changed people. When Paul wrote to the Ephesian believers about "one baptism," he was reminding them that, regardless of their background or nationality, they all served the same Lord, shared the same faith, and had experienced the same baptism. He could be referring to water baptism; i.e., all believers have the same testimony of salvation and have been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Or he could be referring to Holy Ghost and fire, baptism; i.e., all believers have been placed into the Body of Christ through the Power of God and under the guidance of the Holy Ghost. Either way, the emphasis is on unity among Christians. Here it mentions One Baptism for the purpose of joining to the Body of Christ. So, the Holy Ghost will start the work in order to unify believers whosoever has repented and converted and provides assurance that they are children of God (Romans 8:16; Ephesians 1:13-14).



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By reminding the church (Assembly of God), that they all had a similar testimony and that they were all partakers in the same Holy Ghost, Paul encouraged them to work together for the cause of Christ so that the message of redemption would continue to spread throughout the world (Matthew 28:19). There are some differences of opinion among believers may be concerning the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire. Some Christians believe Holy Ghost baptism is identical to being baptized into Christ and that it occurs at the moment of salvation, even if the believer is unconscious of it. Other Christians believe that Holy Ghost baptism is to be equated with the filling of the Spirits! So, the Holy Ghost Baptism was promised by John the Baptist, who said that Yeshua "will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire" (Luke 3:16). No one understood what John meant until after Yeshua had ascended back into heaven (Acts 1:9). Yeshua had promised the disciples that He would send "the Comforter" which is the Holy Ghost (John 14:26; 15:26; Luke 24:49). His followers were to wait in Jerusalem until the "promise from the Father" came (Acts 1:4). That promise came in Acts Chapter. 2. The Holy Ghost was poured out on the disciples, and they were never the same again. They were bold in their witness, empowered to perform miracles, willing to endure persecution, and all but one died a martyr's death. The Assembly of God had begun. Throughout the book of Acts, that baptism by the Holy Ghost was repeated as people came to know Yeshua, both Jews and Gentiles, and served to unify the church as the Jewish believers realized that the Holy Ghost was poured out on their Gentile brothers as well and all are part of one body So, the water baptism is one. The Holy Ghost and fire baptism these are spiritual. Therefore, the Holy Ghost announced in to Ephesians Ch. 4, Baptism is one that should be as per Matthew Ch. 28.

### **Yeshua Christ AS THE SAVIOUR,**

After repentance and believing in Yeshua Christ AS THE SAVIOUR, and that God send him, and by which those who believe in him can be forever reconciled to God. The purpose of baptism is to give visual testimony of our commitment to Christ. It is the first step of discipleship (Matthew 28: 18-20, Acts 8:26-39). It is like a marriage ring. We put on a wedding ring as a symbol of our commitment and devotion. In the same way baptism is a picture of devotion and commitment to Christ. A wedding ring reminds us and tells others that we belong to someone special. In the same way, baptism reminds us and others that we are devoted to Christ and belong to Him. Salvation is by divine grace through faith alone (Romans 3:22, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30; 4:5; Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 2:8-9; Philippians 3:9, etc.). Yes, water baptism is necessary for salvation, we also expect to find it stressed whenever the saving gospel of Yeshua is presented in Scripture. Christ said but to preach the gospel and whosoever is believing give to them the baptism. Romans 6:3-4 KJV.

1. First, baptism is a picture of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. As we stand in the water, we are representing Christ on the cross. As we are dipped underwater, we illustrate the burial of Christ. As we come out of the water, we demonstrate the resurrection of Christ.
2. Second, baptism is a personal testimony to us of the washing away of our sins. As we go under the water, we reconfirm that our sins are forgiven and as we come out of the water we are resurrected to live a new life in Christ.
3. Third, baptism represents our personal identification with Christ. Paul declared in Romans 6:3-4 "We were buried with Christ in baptism and we are raised to walk in a New life & as forgiven followers of Christ empowered by the Spirit of God.