

Why We Baptize in the Name of Jesus Christ

Baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ is the only authorized baptism for today. Some people might say, "We baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost but one must realize however, that when Jesus made this statement in Matthew 28:19 he was speaking to his own disciples (Apostolic preachers; see Matthew 28:17 - 18) who knew him and clearly understood his directions. The disciples understood they were not to baptize future followers in the three descriptive position names or titles of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. They knew the name of the one who instructed them to observe (abide by) all things whatsoever he had commanded. These disciples also had knowledge of the one legally connected to each of the titles by position - the Lord Jesus Christ!

In Ephesians 4:5 Paul, who fought against the Apostolic believers and the Lord before accepting truth and becoming an apostle (Acts 9:1-22), wrote there is One Lord (ruler), One faith (Apostolic teachings held to be true, and belief in the Lord as revealed in the scriptures), One baptism (water and the Spirit baptisms together which constitute a complete birth).

In Colossians 3:17 Paul wrote, And whatsoever ye do in word (doctrine - which covers scriptural teachings, and preaching) or deed (action or labor in the vineyard), do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Acts 2:36 clearly explains the position of authority that the LORD placed Jesus in, Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord (ruler, Jehovah) and Christ (anointed one, Messiah, Son).

Jesus boldly stated in John 5:43 that, I am come in my Father's name... The Father's name is LORD. He further declared in John 14:26 that the Father would send the Holy Ghost in Jesus' name: But the Comforter (intercessor, consoler, advocate), which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name,...

In Matthew 28:18 Jesus boldly stated that all power in heaven and earth was given unto him (acquired through death). This power made it legal for Him to bind every one entering the body of Christ, the church, to know and enter through his name (Matthew 16:15-19).

Before Jesus' ascension he directed the apostles on what to teach and how to baptize in Matthew 28:19: Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. In order to be effective representative for Christ the apostles had to enroll disciples and teach: Advertise, introduce, and present the Lord Jesus Christ in truth, right principles, and scriptures to disciples without revealed witness knowledge to ensure their eligibility to become Jesus' name witnesses.

In John 3:3 Jesus said to a soul wanting to know truth, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. In John 3:5 Jesus went on to say, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

In Luke 24:45 Jesus opened his apostles' understanding to the scriptures, in verse 46 spoke of his death and resurrection, and in verses 47-48 said, And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witness of these things.

Notice that Jesus clearly informed the apostles that, as witnesses with knowledge testimonies, they must teach and preach according to his instructions! in other words, the apostles were given the authority to enroll disciples for the Lord Jesus Christ only in all nations. through the apostles' clear teaching and preaching all future disciples would comprehend and accept one plan of salvation.

What is the one plan of salvation? It is repentance, then water baptism (by

total body immersion) in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and Holy Ghost baptism (speaking in tongues as the Spirit of God gives utterance)! The 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. (Acts 2:38).