

BAPTISM: NECESSARY FOR SALVATION?

When did baptism originate?

Mark 1⁴ John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. ⁵Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

Matthew 3¹ In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" ³Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him ⁴and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁵I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ⁶His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." ⁷Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. ⁸And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" ⁹But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. ¹⁰When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He ¹¹saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. ¹²And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Why did Jesus get baptized?

What is baptism? What does it represent?

What religious groups teach that baptism is necessary for salvation?

- Roman Catholic Church
- Church of Christ
- Russian and Greek Orthodox
- Mormons
- Apostolics – Jesus Only and United Pentecostals
- Some Lutherans
- Others?

Romans 6⁴ Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, 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.

What is the basis of this teaching?

- *The important (controversial verses)...*

1 Peter 3:21

(NIV) In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also--not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand--with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

(NKJV) in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. ²¹There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

Acts 2:38

(NKJV) ³⁸Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for (*eis*) the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Greek word: "*eis*"

- 1) *or*
- 2) *because of*
- 3) *on the basis of*
- 4) *on account of*

John 3:5

(NKJV) ⁵Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Acts 22:16

¹⁶And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'

Why did Paul hardly ever baptize anybody if it is necessary for salvation?

- 1 Corinthians 1¹² Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵lest anyone should say that I had baptized in my own name. ¹⁶Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.
- Romans 5¹ Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have ¹peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

The un-baptized: Old testament folks (David, Moses, Isaiah, etc.); thief crucified with Jesus

When should I get baptized?

Do I need to be immersed or is sprinkling good enough?

- *Baptizo* is Greek for "to immerse"

How old should I be when I get baptized (I was sprinkled as a baby)?

I was baptized Church of Christ (Roman Catholic, etc.), do I need to be re-baptized?

If I get baptized at 1st Baptist, does that mean I'm being baptized into the Baptist faith?

Baptism

- 1) Occurs after salvation (coming into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ).
- 2) Does not spiritually cleanse of our sins. Jesus accomplished this through His death on the cross.
- 3) Is a public profession of our faith in Jesus Christ. It pictures His death, burial, and resurrection.