

BAPTISM

IS IT IN THE PLAN OF SALVATION?

Why Be Baptized?

1. THE BIBLE SAYS SO!

JOHN 3:5 - "Except a man be born of the water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God." Most Bible commentaries agree that water here refers to baptism.

** See, Matthew-Henry, Adam Clark, Hist. Christian Church, Walker, Catholic Encycl., Oxford Dict. of Church, Interpreters Dict. of Bible., Temples Bible Dict.**

MARK 16:16 - "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Notice how Jesus places baptism in conjunction with salvation.

1 PETER 3:21 - "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us." Also see Acts 10:6 and 48.

2. IT REMITS SIN

HEBREWS 9:22 - The application of the blood of Christ is necessary to remit sin. What then is the Biblical way to receive remission of sin? The answer to this question will also be the only way to get the Savior's blood applied.

LUKE 24:47 - "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name..." (Jesus)

ACTS 2:38 - "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins..." The blood of Jesus is applied only through water baptism in the name of Jesus. Also see 1 John 5:8 and Acts 22:16

3. BAPTIZED INTO CHURCH

Every New Testament church was formed by those whom were baptized into the faith after believing and repenting. Gal 3:27 and 1 Cor 12:13

1. **CHURCH AT JERUSALEM - 3000 added by baptism after receiving the word. Acts 2:41**
2. **CHURCH AT SAMARIA - Believed and were baptized, men & women. Acts - 8:12-16**
3. **CHURCH AT CAESAREA - Peter commanded them to be baptized. Acts 10:48**
4. **CHURCH AT PHILIPPI - Lydia & the Phillipian jailer baptized Acts 16:14-33**

5. **CHURCH AT CORINTH - Paul preached. They believed and were baptized. Acts 18:8**
 6. **CHURCH AT EPHESUS - Paul rebaptizes those improperly baptized. Acts 19:1-6**
 7. **CHURCH AT GALATIA - Believed Paul and baptized into Christ. Gal 3:27**
 8. **CHURCH AT COLOSSE - They were buried with Christ in baptism. Col 2:12**
 9. **CHURCH AT ROME - They died to sin, then buried in baptism. Romans 6:1-4**
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BAPTISM

1. IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, SON & HOLY GHOST

- or -

2. IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

Which of These Were Practiced By the Apostles in the Early Church?

The Jews, "Then 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).

The Samaritans. "They were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 8:16).

The Gentiles. "And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord" (Acts 10:48). (The earliest Greek manuscripts that we have say, "In the name of Jesus Christ," as do most versions today.)

The disciples of John (re-baptized). "They were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 19:5).

The Apostle Paul. "Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16).

Moreover, the Epistles contain a number of references or allusions to baptism in Jesus' name. See Romans 6:3-4; I Corinthians 1:13; 6:11; Galatians 3:27 ; Colossians 2:12; James 2:7.

Matthew 28:19 was a command by Jesus to baptize in the NAME. The Apostles did not repeat the word of the command, but they did obey it as seen in the scriptures above. Since Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are titles of the manifestations of the Almighty Spirit and His body, the Apostles understood His SAVING NAME to be JESUS. Can any dare say that the Apostles disobeyed the Lord, or failed to baptize properly? THE NAME OF THE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST IS LORD JESUS CHRIST. The actions of the Apostles in the Book of Acts prove this to be true.

BAPTISM

IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

HOW DID THE EARLY CHURCH INTERPRET CHRIST'S COMMAND IN MATTHEW 28:19? ACTS 2:38, 8:16, 10:48, and 19:5 are four Biblical references that answer this question. If the Biblical record is not enough, please examine the findings of the educated, scholars, and historians.

Britannica Encyclopedia - 11th Edition, Volume 3, page 365 - Baptism was changed from the name of Jesus to words Father, Son & Holy Ghost in 2nd Century.

Canney Encyclopedia of Religion - page 53 - The early church baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus until the second century.

Hastings Encyclopedia of Religion - Volume 2 - Christian baptism was administered using the words, "in the name of Jesus." page 377. Baptism was always in the name of Jesus until time of Justin Martyr, page 389

Catholic Encyclopedia - Volume 2, page 435 - Here the authors acknowledged that the baptismal formula was changed by their church.

Schaff - Herzog Religious Encyclopedia - Volume 1, page 435 - The New Testament knows only the baptism in the name of Jesus.

Hastings Dictionary of the Bible - page 88 - It must be acknowledged that the three fold name of Matthew 28:19 does not appear to have been used by the primitive church, but rather in the name of Jesus or Lord Jesus.

IS IT AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY THAT THE NAME OF JESUS BE SPOKEN OR CALLED OVER A CANDIDATE FOR WATER BAPTISM WHEN HE IS BEING BAPTIZED? For the answer to this question, please read Acts 15:17 and James 2:7 [Greek Linear].

First Century Christians INVOKED OR CALLED the name of Jesus over believers in water baptism. If, as some say, "the name of Jesus means the authority of Jesus", then so much more should the NAME, rather than the titles, be called over an individual in baptism. Read Matthew 28:18, Acts 4:12 and Colossians 2:9.

Jude 3 is an exhortation to "CONTEND FOR THE FAITH ONCE DELIVERED TO THE SAINTS." See Galatians 1:8-9 also.

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