

Baptism by Water and Spirit

This tract has been created to introduce those who are searching for truth set forth in God's word, and not based on the traditions of men and pagan religions.

This booklet is to present the reader with the true understanding of Baptism. The first question we will ask is "How important is Baptism?" Well we have the answer from our High Priest and Saviour Jesus the Christ.

John 3:3, 5

3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

5 Jesus answered, 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.

Our very entry into God's Kingdom is dependent on Baptism. Does there seem to be any exceptions to this statement? There is only one exception, and that is the thief on the cross. Jesus himself made that exception, so for the knowing Christian they must make their commitment by Baptism. How many types of Baptisms are there? The Apostle Paul tells us in his letter to the Ephesians "Ephesians 4:5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism". There is only one baptism we can confirm that from scriptures?

Acts 19:1-5

1 ¶ And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,

2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye Believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

No Christian would speak against John the Baptist, as he is the forerunner for Jesus, and we would think that if any man's baptism would hold up it would be John the Baptist, but we see it did not. One must be baptized in Jesus' name fully submerged and hands lay on to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The following is the definition of Strong's #907 baptizo.

907 βαπτίζω baptizo bap-tid'-zo from a derivative of 911; TDNT-1:529,92; verbAV-baptize (76), wash 2, baptist 1, baptized + 2258 1; 801) to dip repeatedly, to immerse, to submerge (of vessels sunk)

2) to cleanse by dipping or submerging, to wash, to make clean with water, to wash one's self, bathe 3) to overwhelm Not to be confused with 911, bapto. The clearest example that shows the meaning of baptizo is a text from the Greek poet and physician Nicander, who lived about 200 B.C. It is a recipe for making pickles and is helpful because it uses both words. Nicander says that in order to make a pickle, the vegetable should first be 'dipped' (bapto) into boiling water and then 'baptised' (baptizo) in the vinegar solution. Both verbs concern the immersing of vegetables in a solution. But the first is temporary. The second, the act of baptising the vegetable, produces a permanent change.

John 3:23

23 And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.

If sprinkling was accepted John would not have had to have these people travel to where there was much water. We can see that one must be submerged to be baptized and not sprinkled. We also now know from Paul's discussion with John's disciples that they had to be baptized in Jesus name now for the last one, lying on of hands, we find our proof with Philip

Acts 8:12-17

12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

14 ¶ Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:

16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)

17 Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

We have not asked you to believe anything we have said only what the Holy scriptures have revealed to all of us.

Let us take a quick review; Jesus says we must be born of the water and the spirit to enter the Kingdom of God. Paul says one Lord, one Faith, one baptism. That baptism consists of being fully submerged in water, baptized in the name of Jesus and hands laid on to receive the Holy Spirit. Now you might ask what Jesus meant in

Matthew 28:19

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:

The real question that should be asked is why didn't any of Jesus' Apostles do it? They only baptized in Jesus' name. The reason is that Jesus says to go and baptize in the name this is singular so what name is given all authority over God the Father's creation?

John 3:35

35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.

John 5:22, 23

22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son:

23 That all [men] should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

All things are done in the name of Jesus.

Philippians 2:10

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

Colossians 3:17

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

We believe that the above scriptures more than prove whatever is done in the Church is to be done in Jesus name, and that most definitely includes baptism. Now for the true understanding of baptism the churches have made baptism into a totally symbolic event, and although the dying is symbolic the death of the old person is actual in the eyes of God. This is what grace is, the churches speak about God's grace. They explain what it affects "forgiveness of sins", but they don't explain the depth of how God has granted this forgiveness now. They will say it's Jesus death and that is correct, but there is more. The mystery that Nicodemus a ruler of the Jews did not understand, is that God the Father through the sacrifice of his only begotten son's death made possible for all who enter into baptism by the teachings of God's Holy word the Bible, is counted as dead to their old self and are a new creature. Now let's see if the scripture support what has been written.

Romans 6:3, 4

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

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.

Paul in his letter to the Romans is speaking in the present; this is not a statement of future events we are buried with him.

Colossians 2:12, 13

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 together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

Paul once again is speaking of our present state if we are walking in the newness of the spirit through the one baptism spoken of in the scripture then the old person is dead.

Colossians 3:1-3

1 ¶ If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

Well Paul cannot be any clearer in verse 3 "For ye are dead and your life is hid with Christ in God" it may be a symbolic death but if God says it's real then it is accepted.

1 Peter 3:21

21 ¶ The like figure whereunto [even] baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

Our act in baptism is our commitment to God that we believe in his son Jesus the Christ, and the grace that God the Father has extended to all mankind through Jesus sacrifice is forgiveness of our sins. We must walk in that newness Paul spoke of, and Peter refers to as a good conscience towards God.

Ephesians 2:5, 6

5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

Paul once again makes it clear that we are in a full state of grace which is a saving power of God through Jesus to all mankind now. The death or burial in Baptism is symbolic as far as the physical flesh. We don't physically die, but God has accepted a spiritual act of dying and because of the sacrifice of his son Jesus the Christ he has attributed it to real death of that old person. We are a new person serving our God and Jesus' God, our Father and Jesus' Father in the newness of our water and spirit baptism.

John 20:17

17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

Romans 6:4

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.

1 Corinthians 5:7

7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

2 Corinthians 5:17

17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Ephesians 4:24

24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Colossians 3:10

10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:

If you have entered into baptism not understanding fully the gift of full forgiveness being that you are to be truly a new person, and believed it is all symbolic. Then you have been sold short on the true gift from God our father in heaven, and his son Jesus the Christ. Know that if you walk after his commandments in full obedience to his Biblical calling, and not the traditions and teachings of men, that you can have the same assuredness as did Paul of your state of salvation.

2 Timothy 4:7, 8

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Let us pray that we can all make this statement before our eyes close in final sleep before Jesus returns.

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