

# the WORD on *B*aptism

Understand Biblical Baptism for yourself,  
take a look at what the New Testament has to say about Baptism.

## who?

1. Who Should be Baptized?

**Matthew 28:18-20**

a. This passage gives detailed instructions of what the disciples are to do when Jesus returns to heaven. What does Jesus say to do?

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b. According to Matthew 28:19, what must a person be before they are baptized? Is Matthew 28:19 only a command to be baptized or is it also a command to baptize others?

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c. Is Matthew 28:19 only a command to be baptized or is it also a command to baptize others?

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d. In **Acts 10:47-48**, who did Peter say should be baptized?

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## when?

Believer's Baptism

1. How soon after they believed were the following people baptized?
- 3,000 people in **Acts 2:41** \_\_\_\_\_
  - Ethiopian official - **Acts 8:35-38** \_\_\_\_\_
  - Paul - **Acts 9:17-19** \_\_\_\_\_
  - Philippian jailer - **Acts 16:32-33** \_\_\_\_\_

\*All of these people were baptized after they made a personal faith commitment to Jesus Christ.

2. What about Infant Baptism?

Some Churches will baptize babies, dedicating them to God. There is no command or example anywhere in the Bible for the baptizing of babies but we do see many examples of dedicating a child to God

If you were baptized as an infant or young child this was very meaningful for your family and loved ones but according to the bible each person must choose to be baptized as a believer out of obedience to Christ.

Note: Some believe infant or child baptism makes them a Christian and secures a place in heaven, which is not a biblical view.

How can we know that baptizing a baby will not help save their soul?

**Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 10:9**

## how?

*The meaning of the word baptism (Greek - baptizo) is to dip or immerse. In the New Testament times the Greek speaking people frequently used the word to refer to "baptizing" their clothes in dye or "baptizing" a cup in dishwater. The meaning of the word shows that baptism is intended to be by full immersion.*

1. Was Jesus baptized by immersion? **Mark 1:9-10** \_\_\_\_\_
2. In **Acts 8:38-39**, in what way was the Ethiopian official baptized? \_\_\_\_\_

## Where?

1. Where was the Ethiopian official baptized? **Acts 8:26, 36-38** \_\_\_\_\_

*"Baptize them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit"*

2. Where did John the Baptist baptize?
  - a. **Matthew 3:5-6** \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. **John 3:23** \_\_\_\_\_
3. Is Baptism supposed to be a private or public event?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## why?

1. Being baptized does *not* help obtain eternal salvation.
  - a. Can we be saved by any righteous acts which we do?  
**Titus 3:5** \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. What must be done to receive salvation? **Romans 10:9-10**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Baptism is obedience to the command of Christ. **Matthew 28:19-20**

3. Water baptism is a symbol of a believer's spiritual baptism (placing) into Christ. Since we have been spiritually placed (baptized) into Christ, what two events in Christ's life have also happened to us? **Col. 2:12**

- a. \_\_\_\_\_
- b. \_\_\_\_\_

*When a believer goes under the water, it symbolizes that his old life is dead and buried with Christ, when he comes up out of the water it symbolizes that he has been raised to a new life.*

**Dig Deeper: also see Romans 6:1-10**

4. Baptism is a public testimony identifying a believer with Christ. In New Testament times slaves were often baptized after they were sold. This showed the community that the slave now belonged to a new master. In the same way a believer is declaring to everyone that he now belongs to Christ, by being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. (See **Acts 10:48**)

## Thought Questions

1. For baptism to be Scriptural, when should it be done? \_\_\_\_\_
2. For baptism to be Scriptural, how should it be done? \_\_\_\_\_
3. According to the Scripture, should a Christian put off being baptized? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Why should a Christian be baptized? \_\_\_\_\_

**Challenge:** If you have personally believed in Christ, as Savior and Lord, **God wants you to get baptized.**

Out of obedience and a desire to publicly identify with Christ, pursue getting Baptized soon!

## Memorize and think about:

*Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.*

*John 14:21*