

were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus." So these men were re-baptized to take on the name of Jesus. Let's look quickly at the other occurrences of baptism:

Acts 2:38 & 41- **"In the name of Jesus Christ"**

Acts 8:16- **"In the name of the Lord Jesus"**

Acts 10:48- **"In the name of the Lord"**

Acts 19:5- **"In the name of the Lord Jesus"**

Acts 22:16- **"In the name of the Lord"**

What if you've already been baptized in another formula? Isn't that enough? No! We must follow the Bible to be saved! 'Father, Son, and Holy Ghost' was never used as a formula by the early church. This trinitarian formula came about through a catholic man named Tertullian around 200 AD. He coined the phrase, 'trinity', although it was never used in the Bible. In fact, there is no record of any 'trinity' in the Word of God! Tertullian was a cultist delving in the ancient art of 'Mithra'. He was not a Christian by the Bible concept, and took it upon himself to inject his thinking that God was 'one in substance, but three persons' into the Christian church. True Christians have always acknowledged, as did Israel, that the, **"Lord is one Lord, and his name one."** (Zech. 14:9). Below is some documentation from secular sources concerning baptism.

Encyclopedia Britannica 11th Edition vol.3

"The baptismal formula was changed from the name of Jesus Christ, to the words, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost by the Catholic church in the 2nd century."

Encyclopedia Britannica vol. 3 page 82

"Everywhere in the oldest sources it states that Baptism took place in the name of Jesus Christ."

New International Encyclopedia vol. 22

"The term 'trinity' was originated by Tertullian, a Catholic church father."

Friend, why would you follow a pagan baptismal formula instead of God's true plan? Being baptized in Jesus name means to be married to Him, as a bride takes the name of her husband in marriage. Are you ashamed of Him? Romans 1:16 says: **"For I am not ashamed of the gospel (The plan of salvation) of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth."**

Why not obey the Word of God, and be baptized in Jesus' name today?

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What You Need To Know About

Baptism

By Bro. Wayne Coleman

In Acts, chapter 8, we find Philip talking to an Ethiopian eunuch about the word of God. In verse 35, he reveals to the eunuch the meaning of the scroll of Isaiah he had been reading, and, **"Began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus."** Notice verse 36: **"And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the Eunuch said, See here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?"**

There was an urgency in this man to immediately find a place of baptism after hearing the gospel preached. Philip preached Jesus unto him. What did he preach? As you will recall, Philip was one of the original 12 disciples, and present on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Ghost was poured out on 120 believers in the upper room (Acts 2:1-4).

He was also among those who heard the message preached by Peter to the Jews round about (Acts 2:38-39). In this message, Peter told them to: *"Repent, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."* Would Philip the evangelist preach anything other than the gospel message? What was this message? **Repent, be baptized in water in the name of Jesus Christ, and receive the Holy Ghost.** The message Philip preached to this eunuch was a three part plan of salvation! How else would this eunuch know to ask to be baptized?

Jesus called and instructed His disciples. A disciple is one who is under teaching or training. Later, He sent them out as Apostles. An Apostle is one who is sent to teach and establish. Would these Apostles that Jesus had personally trained, go and teach something contrary to what He taught them? Of course not!

After Jesus' resurrection, He met with His disciples on a mountain. In Matthew 28:18-19, we read: *"And Jesus came and spake unto them saying, All power is given unto me in Heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."* Did Jesus tell them to recognize three different people when baptizing? No! Notice the beginning of verse 18;

"All power is given unto me, in heaven and in earth." Given to who? Jesus! If all power is given to Jesus, then there's none left over for anyone else! If you believe, as many do, in three separate gods, then you have two powerless entities left over, which; in essence; disqualifies them from godhood status! Friend, it's really quite easy to discern. Jesus is the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; because there is only One God manifested three ways to His people. (1 Timothy 3:16) (For more reading on this, "1,2,3 How Many Gods?" tract # HG-002). Jesus knew there would be no misunderstanding on this issue amongst His disciples because they realized who He was. When Thomas saw Jesus for the first time after His resurrection, he receives Him by saying, *"My Lord and my God."* (John 20:28). Was there anyone standing beside Jesus when Thomas said this? No! So Thomas acknowledged Jesus as both Lord and God.

As I mentioned earlier, there was an urgency to being baptized. The Ethiopian eunuch wanted immediate baptism. He had heard the plan of salvation preached and knew he must be baptized.

Saul of Tarsus, upon receiving his sight, *"arose, and was baptized."* (Acts 9:18). Some teach that baptism has nothing to do with salvation. Would you rather stake your life

and salvation upon a theory or fact? The fact is, that Jesus said in John 3:5, *"Except a man be **born of water** and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."* Through the salvation experience, we represent Christ's death (repentance), burial (baptism), and resurrection (receiving Holy Ghost).

Is it any wonder that Galatians 3:27 tells us: *"For as many of you as have been baptized unto Christ have put on Christ."* We must be baptized! The Greek word for baptism is 'baptismo', which means to immerse with water. We must be born of the water! Mark 16:16 says: *"He that believeth, and is baptized shall be saved."*

If all this is true, what record does the Bible give of baptism?

We know that John the baptist baptized many people with water. It is not recorded the wording, if any, that John used, however we know that his baptism was of repentance (Acts 19:4).

In Acts 19, we find Paul with some disciples at Ephesus, and in verse 3 he asks them, *"Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism."* Verse 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."* Verse 5 tells us that, *"When they heard this, they*