

**WHY DO BAPTISTS REBAPTIZE?
ACTS 19:1-7 / 2-18-18 / AM**

I. WHY DO SOME BAPTIST CHURCHES ALWAYS REBAPTIZE NON BAPTISTS WHO JOIN THEIR CHURCH?

- A. Some Baptist churches always require those coming from other denominations to be rebaptized based on four requirements.
1. First, there must be a “proper candidate.”.... Someone who accepted Christ as their Savior and Lord.
 2. Second, there must be a “proper form”..... Immersion only.
 3. Third, there must be a “proper purpose”....Symbol not sacrament.
 4. Fourth, there must be a “proper administrator” ...Only a church that meets the first three requirements.
- B. Why do these Baptist churches so strongly adhere to rebaptizing other Christians joining their church?
1. Hundreds of years of following this tradition may be part of the reason but not the only reason.
 2. We should remember that early Baptists paid dear prices when they left the official Church of England, the Anglican Church, in the 16th century.
 3. Perhaps Acts 19: 1-7 is an example.

II. WHY DO OTHER BAPTIST CHURCHES “NOT” REBAPTIZE EVERYONE WHO JOINS THEIR CHURCH FROM ANOTHER DENOMINATION?

- A. I don’t pretend to know all the reasons, but here are a reasons some churches don’t rebaptize everyone.
1. First, the BF&M has no mention of the rebaptism issue.
 2. Second, the Bylaws of some churches do not require rebaptism.
 3. Third, why would a Baptist church accept the fact that someone was saved in a church from another denomination but not accept their baptism?
 4. Fourth, if baptism isn’t a requirement for salvation why do Baptists then require it for church membership?

5. Fifth, even if a person comes from a denomination that believes baptism is a requirement for salvation but that individual says they do not believe that themselves, why rebaptize them?
- B. So what do I believe?
1. I personally believe it should be decided on a "case by case" basis and not some hard and fast never changing rule.
 2. I also believe the pastor should have the freedom and responsibility to make this case by case decision.