

BAPTISM

Int.

1. Aim: To show what the Bible teaches about the subject of baptism.
2. Mark 16:16 "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."
3. Plan of Salvation: Hear, Believe, Repent, Confess, Baptism = Salvation
4. There is a lot of confusion and many questions in the religious world on the subject of Baptism. We will consider four:
 - a. How many baptisms are there?
 - b. What is the method of baptism?
 - c. Why should everyone be baptized?
 - d. What are the results of baptism?
5. We will discuss these things about baptism as taught in the Bible.

Discussion

I. HOW MANY BAPTISMS ARE THERE?

- A. In Ephesians 4:5 we read that there is only "one" baptism. But there are six baptisms mentioned in the Bible. There is no controversy over 2 of these:
 1. Baptism of Suffering - Mark 10:35-40 - it is used figuratively to describe the sufferings and death of Christ.
 2. The Red Sea baptism - 1 Cor. 10:1-2 They were covered over by the sea and the cloud
 3. But there are 4 other baptisms that are discussed.

B. Baptism of John - Matt. 3:1-6

1. Used by John the Baptist in order to prepare the nations for the coming of the Messiah.
2. Was replaced by baptism instituted by Christ in the great commission
3. Some were re-baptized who had been under the baptism of John - Acts 19:1-5

C. Baptism of the Holy Spirit - Acts 2:17-21

1. Used to give special miraculous powers to the apostles
2. These powers were used to confirm that what was being taught was from God.
Mark 16:20
3. These powers ceased when the Bible was completed - 1 Cor. 13:8

D. Baptism of Fire - Matt. 3:11

1. Christ would administer it
2. The element is fire and the purpose is punishment
3. It is spoken of as in the future. So it will begin at the close of this world and will last forever.

E. Baptism of the great commission - Matt. 28:18-20 Mark 16:15-16

1. Acts 2:38 - day of Pentecost - day the church started
2. Instituted by Christ and taught by the disciples
3. This Baptism was in water
4. It was to last until the end of the world - Matt. 28:20
5. John's baptism was gone. The Holy Spirit baptism was gone. The baptism of fire is yet in the future. That leaves just one, the baptism of the great commission.
6. This is the baptism of Ephesians 4:5 which was being practiced at that time.

7. This one baptism will last until the end of the world. Then will come the baptism of fire.

II. WHAT IS THE METHOD OF BAPTISM?

- A. The Bible calls baptism a burial or immersion
 1. Col. 2:12 "Buried with him in baptism"
 2. Rom. 6:4 "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death:"
- B. Notice the characteristics of baptism which indicate it is a burial.
 1. Requires Water
 - a. Acts 10:47, "Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized. . ."
 - b. Acts 8:36, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?"
 2. Requires Much Water - John 3:23
 3. Requires Going Down Into & Coming Up Out Of Water
 - a. Acts 8:38-39
 - b. Why would they go down into the water unless it was a burial or immersion?
 - c. Could not go down into a cup or a bowl !
- C. The word for baptism means:
 1. To immerse, to submerge, to make whelmed, fully wet [Greek definition]
 2. English dictionary defines it as sprinkling, pouring or immersion, because that is the way the word is used today.
 3. But the Bible definition is what we use because Bible baptism is immersion.
- D. Baptism of Jesus illustrates - Matt. 3:16 and Mark 1:9-10
 1. When Christ was baptized He went up out of the water.
 2. He had to be down in the water to come up out of it. He was immersed.

III. WHY SHOULD EVERYONE BE BAPTIZED ?

A. Because God commanded it ! How did he command it ?

B. Through the Great Commission

1. Matt. 28:19-20 "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."
2. Mark 16:15-16 "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."

C. Through Inspired men

1. Peter on Pentecost - Acts 2:38 "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."
2. Ananias to Saul - Acts 22:16 "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

D. Through examples

1. Peter and Cornelius - Acts 10:47-48 "47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days."

2. Philip and the Eunuch - Acts 8:36-38 "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? 37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. 38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him."

E. God commands us to be baptized !

IV. THE RESULTS OF BAPTISM

A. Allows us to enter the Kingdom of God - the church

1. John 3:1-5 - Christ told Nicodemus that he must be born again in order to see the kingdom of God.
2. Acts 2:47 - God added to the church daily those who were being saved.

B. Baptism is the means of our getting into Christ.

1. Gal 3:27 "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ."
2. I Cor. 12:13 "For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - whether Jew or Greek, whether slaves or free, and have all been made to drink into one Spirit."
3. Rom. 6:3 "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ were baptized into His death."

C. Our sins are forgiven when we are baptized

1. Luke 24:47 "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

2. Acts 22:16 "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."
3. Acts 2:38 "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."

D. Romans 6:1-8

1. The question in verse one is: Should we continue to live in sin so that we will receive the grace of God? The answer is NO! God Forbid!
2. Because we have died to sin and been baptized into Jesus Christ. We have died to sin.
3. Baptism is that burial into his death and just as Christ was resurrected we are raised from the grave of baptism to walk a new life
4. Our old man of sin is dead and we are no longer a slave to sin
5. But instead we are living for Christ.

E. Baptism results in forgiveness !

CONCLUSION

1. We have discussed these questions:
 - a. How many baptisms are there? - Only one - baptism of the Great commission
 - b. What is the method of baptism? - It is immersion - a burial
 - c. Why should everyone be baptized? - God has commanded it
 - d. What are the results of baptism? - Forgiveness of our sin
2. 1 Timothy 2:4 "Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." - It is God's desire that you obey Him and be Saved.

3. Jesus died and shed his blood to purchase the church. - Acts 20:28
4. When we obey the gospel and are baptized for the remission of our sins then the Lord will add us to His church. Acts 2:47 "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved."
5. Acts 2:41 "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls."
6. Baptism bring joy to the person, their family, brothers and sisters in Christ, and Joy to God.
 - a. Acts 8:39 "And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing."
 - b. Are you ready to be baptized ?

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