

BAPTISM

DEAD TO SIN AND ALIVE TO CHRIST

WHY SHOULD WE STUDY ABOUT BAPTISM? WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

"It is a paradox that the world is full of baptized non-Christians and unbaptized Christians"

- John Mac Aurther

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- "Rightly dividing the World" 2 Tim:2:15
- "You may approve the things that are excellent" Phill 1:10
 - Approve* → "distinguish between the things which differ"*
- Lords' commandment Mat 28:20

I. The baptism of John

- Baptism was practiced by Jews.
- 3 things observed when a person accepts Judaism
 - Milah (Circumcision)
 - Tabilah (Baptism) Rabbi declares the person as a newborn as he comes out of water
 - Corban (Sacrifice) The blood of the animal is sprinkled on him.
- John the Baptist is introduced after 400 yrs of silence
- John was a fore-runner to Jesus Christ
- Mat 3: 3-5: John invited the Israelites to repent and turn away from their wicked ways.
- Baptism was given to those who were genuinely repented (vs7)
- Others were rebuked and instructed to turn from their ways and bear fruits worthy of repentance (vs 8)

- Matthew 3: 5 9
- Mark I:2 8
- Luke 3:3 19
- John I:23 28

2. The baptism of Jesus

- Jesus Christ was sinless, He knew no sin, There was no sin in Him
 - Heb 4: 15, 2 Cor: 5: 21, 1 Pet 2: 22
- No requirement for the baptism of repentance
- I. To reveal himself to Israel John 3:31,33
- II. To identify Himself with the sinners
 - Mat 3:15 "fulfill all righteousness" —
 - righteousness → conform to the standard (the will of God)
 - Pslm 40:6-8, Heb 10:5-7, Ish 53: 12, Heb 2: 17
- III. To proclaim the beginning of His earthly ministry Luke 3:23

- Matthew 3: 13 17
- Mark I:9 II
- Luke 3:21 22
- John 1:29 33

3. Christ's baptism unto Death

- "distress" (vs 50) reveals the experience He has to undergo
- Luke 12:49,50
- Mark 10:38
- Matthew 20: 22, 23
- Points to the cross where He would be immersed under the flood of God's wrath.
- A baptism that only Jesus Christ can undergo.

4. Baptism of the Holy Spirit

One-time event. (Acts 2:3-4)

- Acts 1:5
- 1 Cor 12:13
- Mentioned as future event in gospels Mat 3:11, Mark 1:18, Luke 3:16, John 1:33, Acts 1:45
- Mentioned as historical event Acts 11:16
- Doctrine I Cor 12:13
- When a person accepts Jesus Christ, he partakes in the baptism of Holy Spirit.
- He enters the universal Church

5. The baptism of believers in water

- Commandment to be obeyed by all believers
- Public profession of believer's repentance and acceptance of Jesus Christ as his Saviour
- Identification with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ

6. The baptism of fire

- Wrong interpretations
 - Purification followed by the baptism
 - Happened at the day of Pentecost Acts 2: 3-4 ("as of fire" not about fire)
- An event that should happen in the future
- Baptism of Holy Spirit happened on the day of Pentecost.

Mat 3: 11

Luke 3: 16

7. The baptism of fire (cont..)

- John the Baptist address two types of crowd
 - Repented
 - Un repented
- Both the places incident of "wheat and chaff" is mentioned
- Jesus Christ omits the baptism of fire when He speaks in Acts 1:4,5