

# How were you baptized?

The bible says in Mark 16 vs 16 '*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned*'. We can safely conclude that baptism is necessary and essential for salvation. How then should one be baptized, seeing that there are several ways people are being baptized. There are many ways and forms of baptisms by various denominations, some sprinkle water on converts, some pass them over the flag. Others immerse them three or seven times backwards or once forward and then backwards. Some insist it must be done in a flowing river. Others do not believe it matters at all to be baptized, some believe in infant baptism while others do it to adults only. There also differences on words recited upon baptism. Some recite the name of the church founder, others the Name of Lord JESUS, while others say '*in the Name of the Father, in the name of the Son and in the name of the Holy Spirit*'. Since baptism is necessary we need to find the truth of the matter. Every sincere Christian should believe that our God is not the author of confusion, for there is a bible answer to every bible question. Therefore there must be one way that people are supposed to be baptized. According to Ephesians 4 vs 4-5 '*There is one body, one spirit, even as you are called in one hope of your calling: **ONE LORD, ONE FAITH, ONE BAPTISM***'.

Baptism started in the new testament with John rightfully known as the Baptist. The bible tells us that '*John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, there was MUCH WATER THERE*'. John 3 vs 23 The Lord Jesus Christ as recorded in Mathew 3 vs 16 '*And Jesus, when he was baptized went straightway **OUT OF THE WATER***'.

In Acts 8 vs 38 when Philip was baptizing the eunuch we read, '*... and they went down INTO THE WATER both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him*'.

So we can see clearly by these scriptures that **BAPTISM is by IMMERSION** in water and that sprinkling, passing under the flag and all other forms of baptism are not scriptural.

Infants are not baptized as they cannot make their own decisions, they are only dedicated as baptism requires someone to repent first. However when they reach the age of accountability they can be baptized, if they have fully repented. Baptism also represents Christ's burial and resurrection which means when one is baptized they should be immersed once backwards in water. The word '**BAPTISE**' comes from the Greek word '**BAPTIZO**' which means **IMMERSE**. That's the scriptural way to baptize.

## **NAMES USED FOR BAPTISM**

It should be easy for us to get which NAME one should be baptized in, seeing we are NOT the first people to be baptized and God made sure that such important things are recorded; Acts 2 vs 38 says, '*Repent and be baptized in the NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST for the remission of your sins*'. In Acts 10 vs 48, the gentiles who first received the gospel were commanded to be baptized in the name of the **LORD**. Acts 4 vs 12 also tells us that there is no other NAME under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Paul says in Colossians 3 vs 17 '*And whatsoever you do in word or deed, do in the NAME OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST*'. Since baptism is one of many deeds we are supposed to do it in the name of the LORD JESUS.

You might be asking about Mathew 28 vs 19. I did not omit it because it's a record of a direct command by our Lord. It reads 'Go ye therefore, and teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost'.

Would it be possible for the apostles to be led astray from direct command of the Lord to baptize according to Mathew 28 vs 19 and then find themselves in willful disobedience? They knew what the name was and there is not one place in the scriptures where they baptized in any other way except in the name of the **LORD JESUS CHRIST**. Common sense would tell that the Book of Acts is the church in action and the way they baptized then, that is the way to baptize.

Notice Mathew 28 vs 19 does not say in the NAMES of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost but it

says in the **NAME (ONE NAME)** of the Father, which is also the Name of the Son and also the Name of the Holy Ghost. Now Father is not a name neither is Son a name nor the Holy Ghost. They are many fathers but each one with a particular name, there are also many sons each with a particular name. Therefore Father, Son and Holy Ghost are just **TITLES** to a particular Name. If we just take the Bible without inspiration or revelation, we can say that the bible contradicts itself but let us closely and *'rightly divide the word of truth'* 2 Timothy 2 vs 15.

The NAME is JESUS CHRIST as revealed to Peter and all the other disciples. You might say I would rather follow the words of Jesus Christ in Mathew 28 vs 19, but the same Jesus REVEALED to the apostles the NAME they were supposed to use in baptism as demonstrated by Peter in Acts 2vs38, *"Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the **NAME OF JESUS CHRIST...**"*

Also when Cornelius and rest had received the Holy Ghost, in Acts 10 vs 47-48 Peter said, *"Can any man forbid water, that these should be baptized which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptised in the Name of the Lord."* Phillip also after Samaria had received the Gospel were baptised in the Name of Jesus Christ in Acts 8vs16 *"...only they were baptized in the **name of the Lord Jesus.**"*

Paul after meeting Appollos an eloquent man and mighty in scriptures asked him how, he and his friends were baptised, and were taught the correct baptism, Acts 19 vs 5 *"When they heard this, they were baptised in the Name of the Lord Jesus."* These brethren had been baptised by John the Baptist, a great prophet in the sight of God, who also baptised our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. But on hearing the **TRUTH**, they **OBEYED** and were **RE-BAPTISED** in the Name of the **LORD JESUS CHRIST** and they received the **HOLY GHOST**. To refuse baptism in the Name of Jesus is to deny the Truth. Baptism in titles or other forms of Baptism is unscriptural and willful disobedience especially after the truth has been taught. Others do not see the importance of Baptism as they claim, that the thief at the cross went to Paradise without it. The opportunity was not available for him to be baptised, but Jesus himself had to compel John in Mathew 3 vs 15 to baptize Him saying, *"Suffer it to be so now, for thus it become us to fulfill all righteousness."*

If you were baptised in any other way other than in the **name of the Lord Jesus Christ**, the Bible commands you to be **RE-BAPTISED** in the correct Christian Baptism as was done to Appollos and his friends.

We hope this has been a blessing to you. For more information about this truth there are many taped sermons preached by the End Time Messenger on cassette and in book form that can be available to you freely on request.

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