

The Mystery of Baptism

Pt. 1

Introduction

Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,



Hebrews 6:1-3 (NIV)

1 Therefore, let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God,

2 instruction about cleansing rites, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

3 And God permitting, we will do so.

Elementary Teachings // Foundations

- (1) Repentance
- (2) Faith
- (3) Baptism
- (4) Laying on of hands
- (5) Resurrection of the dead
- (6) Eternal judgment.

Acts 2:40-42 (NIV)

40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”

41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

The Fellowship of the Believers

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Foundations

- (1) Salvation
- (2) Baptism
- (3) Teachings
- (4) Fellowship with the body of Christ and fellowship with the holy spirit
- (5) Breaking of bread
- (6) Prayer

Preaching vs Teaching

- **Matthew 11:1 (NIV)** - After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to **teach** and **preach** in the towns of Galilee.
- **Luke 20:1 (NLT)** - One day as Jesus was **teaching** the people and **preaching** the Good News in the Temple, the leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the elders came up to him.
- **Acts 5:42 (NLT)** - And every day, in the Temple and from house to house, they continued to **teach** and **preach** this message: "Jesus is the Messiah."

Preaching vs Teaching

- **Acts 15:35 (KJV)** - Paul also and Barnabas continued in Antioch, **teaching** and **preaching** the word of the Lord, with many others also.
- **1 Timothy 5:17 (NIV)** - The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and **teaching**.
- **2 Timothy 4:2 (NLT)** - **Preach** the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with **good teaching**.

Preaching vs Teaching

- Preaching is proclamation. Teaching is education.
- Preaching is announcing. Teaching is instructing.
- Preaching is making a declaration. Teaching is making a disciple (Matthew 28:19-20)

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:16-20 (NIV)

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.

17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

The Great Commission

1) Baptism is a part of the great commission.

Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

2) Baptism is necessary.

- Everything Jesus Christ said and did was necessary. Jesus Christ was baptized, therefore, as His disciples, we ought to get baptized.
- Baptism is certainly an aspect and expression of salvation.

However, receiving Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven.

The Great Commission

3) “Disciples” were commission by Christ to baptize.

Therefore, water baptism should be done by a “disciple”.

Matthew 28:16 (NIV)

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.

John 4:1-3 (NIV)

1 Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John—

2 although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples.

3 So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee.

The Great Commission

1 Corinthians 1:13-16 (NIV)

14 I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius,

15 so no one can say that you were baptized in my name.

16 (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.)

The Great Commission

4) According to the great commission, disciples of Christ should be baptized.

Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

15 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

5) Baptism is a lifestyle, not a onetime event.

Romans 6:1-6 (NIV) - Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ

1 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?

2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.

6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—

7 because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

The Great Commission

6) According to the Great Commission, baptism is immersion into the knowledge and understanding of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

- Disciples must be immersed into all 3 and relate with all 3.
- Disciples must be knowledgeable about eternal life.

Definition of eternal life

John 17:3 (NIV)

3 Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

The Mystery of Baptism

Pt. 2

Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,



Discern the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ

Ephesians 2:13-16 (NLT)

13 But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ.

14 For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us.

15 He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups.

16 Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death.

Baptizo / Baptisma

- The word baptism and baptize are both transliterated words (not translated) which means
 - Baptizo (Greek word) – Baptize (Verb)
 - Baptisma (Greek word) – Baptism (Noun)

NB:

- Transliteration is the process of transferring a word from the alphabet of one language to another.
- Unlike a translation, which tells you the meaning of a word that's written in another language, a transliteration only gives you an idea of how the word is pronounced, by putting it in a familiar alphabet.

It means...

- “to dip completely”
- “to immerse”
- “to plunge”
- “to sink”
- “to submerge”

NB:

- The word baptize (baptizo) is frequently used in the dyeing industry.

Types of Baptism identified in Scripture

- 1) Baptism into the body of Christ.
- 2) Baptism into water.
- 3) Baptism into the Holy Spirit.
- 4) Baptism into fire.

(1) Baptism into the Body of Christ

1 Corinthians 12:12-13 (NKJV)

12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ.

13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

The Body of Christ

Where do we find the phrase in scripture?

- 1 Corinthians 12:27 (NIV)

27 Now you are the Body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

- Ephesians 4:11-12 (NIV)

11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,

12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.

The Body of Christ

What is the body of Christ?

- Colossians 1:18, 24 (NKJV)

18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

24 I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,

- Ephesians 1:22-23 (NKJV)

22 And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church,

23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Church

- Greek word - “ekklesia”
 - “a called-out assembly”

The Body of Christ - Church

Who is the head of the Body of Christ (Church)?

- Colossians 1:18, 24 (NKJV)

18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

24 I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,

- Ephesians 1:22-23 (NKJV)

22 And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church,

23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

How many bodies of Christ are there?

- Ephesians 4:4 (NKJV)

4 *There is one body* and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling

- Colossians 3:15 (NKJV)

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in *one body*; and be thankful.

- 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 (NIV)

12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.

13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form *one body*—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

Who is in the body of Christ (the church)?

The saved

- Ephesians 5:30 (NKJV)

30 For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

- 1 Corinthians 12:12–13, 27 (NKJV)

12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ.

13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

What it means to belong to the body of Christ

Romans 7:4 (NKJV)

4 Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

Therefore, to belong to the body of Christ (church), means

- (1) to die to the law and its requirements.
- (2) to belong to Christ Jesus who was raised from the dead
- (3) to bear fruit in accordance with grace.

When did the body of Christ (the church) start?

On the cross – Christ's death on the cross

- Ephesians 2:15-16 NKJV

15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *that is*, the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man *from* the two, *thus* making peace,

16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in **one body through the cross**, thereby putting to death the enmity.

Baptism into the body of Christ - 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

1) We are baptized into the body of Christ by one Spirit - The Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:12-14 (NIV)

12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.

13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

14 Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

2) We are one body. We belong to the same body, and we have different functions.

1 Corinthians 12:15-20 (NIV)

15 Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body.

16 And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body.

17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be?

18 But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.

19 If they were all one part, where would the body be?

20 As it is, there are many parts, but **one body.**

3) Baptism into the body of Christ helps us recognize how much we need each other.

1 Corinthians 12:21 (NIV)

21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!”

4) When we are fully immersed (baptized) into the body there will be no trace of division.

1 Corinthians 12:21-25 (NIV)

21 It would be wrong for the eye to say to the hand, “I don’t need you,” and equally wrong if the head said to the foot, “I don’t need you.”

22 In fact, the weaker our parts, the more vital and essential they are.

23 The body parts we think are less honorable we treat with greater respect. And the body parts that need to be covered in public we treat with propriety and clothe them.

24 But some of our body parts don’t require as much attention. Instead, God has mingled the body parts together, giving greater honor to the “lesser” members who lacked it.

25 *He has done this intentionally* so that every member would look after the others with mutual concern, and so that there will be no division in the body.

5) Baptism into the body of Christ helps us live selfless lifestyles.

1 Corinthians 12:26 (NIV)

26 In that way, whatever happens to one member happens to all. If one suffers, everyone suffers. If one is honored, everyone rejoices.

- Everybody has something, nobody has everything
- Diversity in the body is not just acceptable but essential
- Don't feel excluded because you don't have the gifts that others have
- Don't exclude anyone because you don't think that he/she is qualified
- God bestows honor on the less glamorous members of the body

Concluding thoughts:

Baptism into the body of Christ is therefore,

- Immersion into a living, functional and undivided organism (the body of Christ).
- Christ is the head of this body. “The saved” make up the many parts of the body, yet, are led by the head of the body.
- Immersion into this body is only possible through the help of the Holy Spirit. We cannot get immersed by our own doing.
- God designed it this way for the purpose of unity among us and avoidance of self-glorification

Concluding thoughts

- Therefore, as part of the body of Christ, we ought to remain
 - ❑ obedient (yielding to His direction)
 - ❑ active (identifying our part and its use) &
 - ❑ functional (carrying out specific activities, unique to our part).
- By so doing, we compliment the other parts of the body; enabling them to also function at their optimum capacity.

Note:

- Do so ungrudgingly, uncompromisingly, void of jealousy and a heart of gratitude!

Concluding thoughts

- Leave no room for
- Idleness
- Dormancy
- Inability to identify (where you belong; your gift; your usefulness in the body)

We have been called out of the world for the purpose of belonging
“to Him and in Him.”

Amen!!!

The Mystery of Baptism

Pt. 3

Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,



Discern the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ

Ephesians 2:13-16 (NLT)

13 But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ.

14 For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us.

15 He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups.

16 Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death.

Noteworthy about Matthew 28:19

New International Version

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them **in the** name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

American Standard Version

Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them **into the** name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit:

English Revised Version

Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them **into the** name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost:

Noteworthy about Matthew 28:19

Literal Standard Version

having gone, then, disciple all the nations, immersing them into the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

Weymouth New Testament

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations; baptize them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit;

Young's Literal Translation

having gone, then, disciple all the nations, (baptizing them -- to the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

Strong's Concordance

- **eis:** to or into (indicating the point reached or entered, of place, time, fig. purpose, result)
- **Original Word:** εἰς
Part of Speech: Preposition
Transliteration: eis
Phonetic Spelling: (ice)
- **Definition:** to or into (indicating the point reached or entered, of place, time, purpose, result)
- **Usage:** into, in, unto, to, upon, towards, for, among.

- In summary, this phrase means that the one who is baptized becomes
 - the possession of,
 - comes under the protection of,
 - is under the control of,
 - establishes a vital union with,
 - passes into the new ownership of, and
 - enters into a fellowship with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Types of Baptism identified in Scripture

1) Baptism into the body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:13 (NIV)

13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

2) Baptism into water.

Matthew 3:11 (NIV)

11 “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Types of Baptism identified in Scripture

3) Baptism into the Holy Spirit.

4) Baptism into fire.

(2) Baptism into water.

Part 1

Matthew 12:16-17 (NIV)

16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

(1) Water baptism is a demonstration of our obedience, faith and love to Jesus Christ.

(2) Water baptism is a symbol to identify with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:3-5 (NIV)

3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.

(3) Water baptism is public declaration of our promise not to continue walking in sin. I will not be a slave to any other lifestyle.

Read Romans 6

(4) Water baptism is a practical demonstration of our spiritual reality and a personal testimony that we have passed from the old life of sin to the new life in Christ Jesus.

Other examples of our practical demonstration of our spiritual reality includes partaking of the Lord's Supper, and anointing the sick.

[1] Water Baptism is by Immersion

- John 3:23 (NIV)

23 Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were coming and being baptized.

- Matthew 3:6 (NIV)

6 Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

- Mark 1:5 (NIV)

5 The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

[1] Water Baptism is by Immersion

- Matthew 3:16 (NIV)

16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

- Acts 8:36-40 (NKJV)

36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?"

37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

39 Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.

40 But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea.

[2] Water baptism should be done only for those who have confessed / repented and believed

- Water baptism is a baptism of repentance. It does not produce repentance, rather a symbol that repentance has taken place.

Matthew 3:5 (NIV)

5 People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan.

6 Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

- John's Baptism did not produce new birth

Matthew 11:11 (NIV)

11 Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

[2] Water baptism should be done only for those who have confessed / repented and believed

- Acts 8:12 (NIV)

12 But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

- Acts 18:8 (NIV)

8 Crispus, the synagogue leader, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul believed and were baptized.

[2] Water baptism should be done only for those who have confessed / repented and believed

Acts 16:30-33 (NIV)

- **30** He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”
- **31** They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”
- **32** Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house.
- **33** At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized.

[2] Water baptism should be done only for those who have confessed / believed

Acts 16:11-15 (NIV)

- **13** On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.
- **14** One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message.
- **15** When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

[3] Water Baptism is not the pathway to salvation

Luke 23:39–43 (NIV)

- **39** One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”
- **40** But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence?”
- **41** We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”
- **42** Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”
- **43** Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in **paradise.**”

[4] Water baptism should be done by a disciple (Jesus Christ), preferably.

- Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

- John 4:1-2 (NIV)

1 Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John—

2 although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples.

[4] Water baptism should be done by a disciple (Jesus Christ), preferably.

- Acts 8:36–38 (NKJV) - Philip

36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, “See, *here is* water. What hinders me from being baptized?”

37 Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”

38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

[4] Water baptism should be done by a disciple (Jesus Christ), preferably.

- Acts 10:34-48 (NKJV) - Peter

46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered,

47 “Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we *have*?”

48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.

[4] Water baptism should be done by a disciple (Jesus Christ), preferably.

- Acts 9:10-19 (NKJV) - Ananias

17 And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

18 Immediately there fell from his eyes *something* like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized.

[4] Water baptism should be done by a disciple (Jesus Christ), preferably.

- 1 Corinthians 1:13–17(NKJV) – Paul

- **13** Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul?
- **14** I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius,
- **15** so no one can say that you were baptized in my name.
- **16** (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.)

[5] Teachings on Water baptism should not be lengthy

- Acts 2:38-41 (NIV)

38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."

41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

[5] Teachings on Water baptism should not be lengthy

Cornelius and his family (Acts 10:23-48 NIV)

44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.

45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles.

46 For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said,

47 "Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have."

48 So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

[5] Teachings on Water baptism should not be lengthy

The Jailer (Act 16:25-40 NIV)

27 The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped.

28 But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"

29 The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas.

[5] Teachings on Water baptism should not be lengthy

The Jailer (Act 16:25-40 NIV)

30 He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

31 They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."

32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house.

33 At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized.

34 The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

[5] Teachings on Water baptism should not be lengthy

Acts 2:40-41 (NIV)

40 And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.”

41 So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

[5] Teachings on Water baptism should not be lengthy

The Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:26-40 NKJV)

36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, *here is* water. What hinders me from being baptized?"

37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

The Mystery of Baptism

Pt. 4

Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,



(2) The Significance of “Water” in Water Baptism.

Part 2

Discern and Partake of the Body & Blood of Jesus Christ

- John 1:1 (NKJV)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

- John 1:14a (MSG)

14 The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood...

Effects of flesh and blood in the neighborhood...

To the church

- Ephesians 5:26 (NIV)

26 to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word,

To the disciples

- John 15:3 (NIV)

3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

To the believers

- John 17:17 (NIV)

17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

Baptism into water.

- Is immersion into water.
- By a person who understands both the physical and spiritual significance of water baptism.

Question:

- Would our approach towards water baptism change and will the impact of water baptism in our lives change if we understood the spiritual symbolism of water, from scriptures?

Physical Properties of water

- Transparent; Tasteless; Odorless; Colorless therefore, it can cleanse effectively.
- **Universal solvent** – That means it dissolves almost anything.
- **Capable of penetrating** – That means it can sip into the hard-to-reach areas of any substance immersed in it.

Physical Properties of water and spiritual implication

- **Universal solvent** – Spiritually, it dissolves the stains of life which we have acquired throughout our journey until then.

Example

The things that...

- Counseling could not stop or take out.
- Self efforts could not change.
- Served as strongholds and left their mark (painful reminders).
- Destructive memories have fostered.

Physical Properties of water and spiritual implication

- Ezekiel 36:25-27 (KJV)

25 Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, **(1)** and from all your idols, **(2)** will I cleanse you. **(3)**

26 A new heart also will I give you, **(4)** and a new spirit will I put within you **(5)** and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, **(6)** and ye shall keep my judgments, **(7)** and do them. **(8)**

Physical Properties of water and spiritual implication

- **Capable of penetrating** – When we are immersed in water, it gives water permission to sip into the hard to reach areas of our lives.

Physical Properties of water and spiritual implication

- Hebrews 4:12 (KJV)

12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Jesus Christ is water according to scriptures

Ephesians 5:25-26

- English Standard Version

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

- Weymouth New Testament

Married men, love your wives, as Christ also loved the Church and gave Himself up to death for her; in order to make her holy, cleansing her with the baptismal water by the word,

Therefore,

- Water baptism, though physical has a very deep spiritual implication when we begin regarding the “water” of baptism, beyond “physical water”.
- The impact of the “water of the word” can be best felt when we are fully immersed.

The water of baptism removes more than physical dirt

- 1 Peter 3:21 (NIV)

²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

- John 15:3 (NIV)

³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

Therefore,

- When we are immersed into the “water” of baptism we should expect the **spiritual properties and symbolism of water** to work in our behalf.

Matthew 3:16 (NIV)

16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

The Mystery of Baptism

Pt. 5

Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,



Types of Baptism	The Baptizer	The Medium	The Purpose
1) Baptism into the Body of Christ 1 Cor 12:12-14	Holy Spirit	Body of Christ	Salvation Jn 16:8-11
2) Baptism into Water Matt 12:16-17	Disciple Matt 3:6	Water	Repentance Matt 3:11
3) Baptism into the Holy Spirit Matt 3:11	Jesus Christ Matt 3:11	Holy Spirit	Service
4)			

(3) Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 3:11 (NIV)

11 “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Matthew 3:11 (NIV)

11 “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

The Greek word and meaning

The Greek word “en”

Meaning: in, on, at, by, with

The Holy Spirit “within”

(1) Romans 8:9 (AMPC)

9 But you are not living the life of the flesh, you are living the life of the Spirit, if the [Holy] Spirit of God [really] dwells within you [directs and controls you]. But if anyone does not possess the [Holy] Spirit of Christ, he is none of His [he does not belong to Christ, is not truly a child of God].

The Holy Spirit “within”

(2) Ephesians 1:13-14 (AMP)

13 In Him, you also, when you heard the word of truth, the good news of your salvation, and [as a result] believed in Him, were stamped with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit [the One promised by Christ] as owned *and* protected [by God].

14 The Spirit is the guarantee [the first installment, the pledge, a foretaste] of our inheritance until the redemption of *God's own* [purchased] possession [His believers], to the praise of His glory.

Holy Spirit Baptism

(1) Matthew 3:16-17 (NIV)

16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

- The Holy Spirit came upon Jesus Christ after water baptism
- The Holy Spirit stayed upon Him.
- Jesus received the approval of the Father.

All these happened after water baptism; when the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus Christ and prior to service.

Holy Spirit Baptism

(2)a) Acts 1:4-5 (NIV)

- 4** On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.
- 5** For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

Holy Spirit Baptism

(2)b) Acts 2:1-4 (NIV)

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

4 All of them were **filled** with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Holy Spirit Baptism

(3) Luke 24:49 (NIV)

49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been **clothed** with power from on high.”

(4) John 20:20-22 (NIV)

20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

21 Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

22 And with that he breathed **on them** and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

Therefore,

- After receiving salvation, the Holy Spirit comes “within”. However, we still need to receive the Holy Spirit “upon” in order to effectively serve.
- The Holy Spirit “upon” gives us supernatural enablement to do more and to fulfil God’s assignment through us.
- The Holy Spirit upon will be evident through the fruit of the spirit and the gifts of the spirit. We need both the fruit and the gift to serve effectively.

What happens when we are **not** immersed into the Holy Spirit

Peter's Example

Matthew 26:33-35 (NKJV)

1) We could easily deny Jesus

33 Peter answered and said to Him, “Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.”

34 Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.”

35 Peter said to Him, “Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!” And so said all the disciples.

Record of Peter's denial - Matthew 26:69-75

69 Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said.

70 But he **denied it** before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said.

71 Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth."

72 He **denied it again**, with an oath: "I don't know the man!"

73 After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away."

74 Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, **"I don't know the man!"** Immediately a rooster crowed.

75 Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

What happens when we are **not** immersed into the Holy Spirit

John 18:10-11 (NKJV)

2) We function by might

10 Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus.

11 So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?"

What happens when we are **not** immersed into the Holy Spirit

John 21:1-3 (NKJV)

3) The tendency to return to where you have been called out from, is possible.

1 Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way:

2 Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together.

3 “I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

What happens when **we are** immersed into the Holy Spirit

1) Effective witness

Acts 1:8 (KJV)

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come **upon** you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

What happens when **we are** immersed into the Holy Spirit

Jesus' Example

2) Our steps are ordered by the Holy Spirit. He carries us through, even in our wilderness seasons.

Matthew 4:1 (NIV)

1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

What happens when **we are** immersed into the Holy Spirit

Peter's Example

3) Peter's shadow healed

Acts 5:15-16 (NIV)

15 As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by.

16 Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed.

What happens when **we are** immersed into the Holy Spirit

Jesus and Paul's Examples

4)a) Hem of Garment - Luke 8: 43-46 (AMPC)

43 And a woman who had suffered from a flow of blood for twelve years *and had spent all her living upon physicians*, and could not be healed by anyone,

44 Came up behind Him and touched **the fringe of His garment**, and immediately her flow of blood ceased.

45 And Jesus said, Who is it **who touched Me**? When all were denying it, Peter *and those who were with him* said, Master, the multitudes surround You *and* press You on every side!

46 But Jesus said, Someone did **touch Me**; for I perceived that [healing] power has gone forth from Me.

What happens when **we are** immersed into the Holy Spirit

Jesus and Paul's Examples

4)b) Handkerchief

Acts 19:11-12 (NIV)

11 God did extraordinary miracles through Paul,

12 so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them.

What happens when **we are** immersed into the Holy Spirit

5) Demonstration of power

Peter and John	Healed a lame beggar (Acts 3)	Creative miracle
Peter	Peter's miraculous escape from prison (Acts 12)	Miracle
Paul and Silas	Miraculous release from prison (Acts 16)	Miracle
Paul and Eutychus	Raised from the dead (Acts 20)	Miracle

The Mystery of Baptism

Pt. 6

Matthew 28:19 (NIV)

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,



(4) Baptism into Fire

Matthew 3:11-12 (NIV)

11 “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

12 His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

- pur: fire
- **Original Word:** πῦρ, πυρός, τό
Part of Speech: Noun, Neuter
Transliteration: pur
Phonetic Spelling: (poor)
Definition: fire
Usage: fire; the heat of the sun, lightning; fig: strife, trials; the eternal fire.

Excerpt from www.biblehub.com

- *4442 pýr – fire.* In Scripture, fire is often used figuratively – like with the "fire of God" which *transforms* all it touches into light and *likeness with itself*.
- *God's Spirit*, like a holy fire, enlightens and purifies so that believers can share more and more *in His likeness*. Indeed the *fire of God* brings the *uninterrupted* privilege of being *transformed* which happens by experiencing *faith from Him*. Our lives can become true *offerings* to Him as we obey this imparted faith from God by His power.
- [This is illustrated by *God's fire burning continuously* at the entrance of the Tabernacle where the priests made sweet-savor offerings. Compare Lev 6:12,13 with 1 Pet 2:5,9.]

- Excerpt from www.biblehub.com

- Does gold have dross?

The tiny burning particles coming out of the molten gold are called **dross**.

☐ Dross is defined as the mass of solid impurities floating on a molten metal. The dross must be removed so that the molten metal is pure.

- How is dross removed from gold?

Put the crucible in a furnace. Heat to 1,100 degrees Celsius. Dross will rise to the surface. Periodically remove the crucible from the furnace and skim the impurities off the surface of the molten gold.

Fire Baptism

- Is God burning something out of our lives to grow us up (maturity) and/or to clean us up (purity).
- Is for maturity or for purity so that we become more like him.
- God will turn on the heat so that the impurities will rise-up to the surface and be exposed so that we get a chance to deal with them.

Note

- We may never know what is (buried) in us unless we face certain challenges.

Scriptures

a) 1 Peter 1:6–7 (NIV)

6 So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while.

7 These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

Scriptures

b) Isaiah 48:10 (NIV)

10 See, I have refined you, though not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.

c) Proverbs 17:3 (NIV)

3 The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but the LORD tests the heart.

Jesus' Example

Matthew 3:16-17 (NIV)

16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Matthew 4:1-2 (NIV)

1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.

The Temptation of Jesus Christ in the wilderness

Read

❖ Luke 4:1-13

❖ Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus' Example

Luke 22:42 (NIV)

42 “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.”

Lessons from Jesus' Fire Baptism

- It happened before ministry indicating that it is part of our walk in the kingdom as kingdom citizens.
- We cannot effectively serve and function in the kingdom with so much baggage (impurities) and lack of maturity. So, the Lord must refine us again and again.
- Fire baptism builds character, trust and reliability on God alone.

Lessons from Jesus' Fire Baptism

- Fire baptism insists that we reflect the nature of God.
- We are guaranteed that the Lord Himself will be with us in the fire.

Lessons from Jesus' Fire Baptism

- Jesus Christ was blameless, yet a victim of fire baptism. Fire baptism is not necessarily reserved for the guilty/sinner.
- The outcome of fire baptism (when we endure) is that we come out with power and fame.

Luke 4:14 (NIV)

14 Jesus returned to Galilee in the **power** of the Spirit, and **news** about him spread through the whole countryside.

More Scriptures

- Job 1
- Job 2
- Daniel 3:19-25

Types of Baptism	The Baptizer	The Medium	The Purpose
1) Baptism into the Body of Christ 1 Cor 12:12-14	Holy Spirit	Body of Christ	Salvation Jn 16:8-11
2) Baptism into Water Matt 12:16-17	Disciple Matt 3:6	Water	Repentance Matt 3:11
3) Baptism into the Holy Spirit Matt 3:11	Jesus Christ Matt 3:11	Holy Spirit	Service
4) Baptism into Fire Matt 3:11	The Father	Suffering/Trials	Purification/ Maturity