

TOPICAL SERMON: DOES BAPTISM SAVE YOU?

[2] The title of the sermon: "DOES BAPTISM SAVE YOU?"

A Detailed Bible Study Of Baptism

- Today, we're going to study baptism in detail. We're going to answer this question once and for all.
- When you leave today, there should be no question about baptism saving you.
- So, the answer to the question depends on what type of baptism you're speaking about.
- There are different types of baptisms within the Bible.
- The Bible isn't constantly talking about WATER BAPTISM as some people immediately think.

[3] John 3:5 *Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

- Some people who don't understand the true Gospel of Jesus Christ will immediately think that Jesus is talking about water baptism in this verse.
- Now look at the words closely. Does this say one must be baptized in water to be saved?
- Is that what this Scripture says? No, it's not.

"Except a man be born of water AND of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

- You must be "BORN" of water. If you're living right now, you've been born of the water.
- But now, you must be born of the Spirit to make it to heaven.
- But let's read more in John Chapter 3 because Jesus explains this to us very well.

[4] John 3:1-2 *There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: 2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.*

[5] John 3:3-4 *Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. 4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?*

- A man must be born again. That means the man has already been born once.
- If you're alive, you've already been born ONCE. Jesus is saying you must be BORN AGAIN.
- You're born of the water the first time you're born. To enter heaven, you must be born again.

Notice the exact context of the Scriptures.

- Nicodemus asks Jesus, "Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb and be born?"
- The first time you're born, you're coming out of your mother's womb.
- You're born of water because you're in a sack of water within your mother's womb.
- Her water breaks and the baby is going to be born. This is what the Bible is talking about. BORN OF WATER.
- Why do people attempt to twist this and say this is talking about being baptized in water?

[6] John 3:5 *Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

- The first time you are born you are born of water.
- If you've never been alive in your mother's womb, you can't go to heaven.
- You haven't been born of the water. You were never alive so you can't go to heaven.
- The second requirement is being BORN AGAIN. This means you must be born of the Spirit.

[7] John 3:6 *That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.*

- If you're alive in the flesh, this is called being born of the water. Jesus says so right there.
- He's explaining to us exactly what He means. You must be alive in order to go to heaven.
- If you were NEVER alive in your mother's womb, then you aren't going to heaven.
- You must be born of the flesh. This has nothing to do with water baptism. NOTHING.
- That which is born of the Spirit is spirit. What does that mean? Jesus explain this to us as well.

[8] John 3:15-16 *That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

[9] John 3:17-18 *For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*

- Being born of the Spirit happens once you believe "ON" the Lord Jesus Christ who is the Son of God.
- Jesus tells Nicodemus exactly what He means by born of the water and born of the Spirit.
- You must be born of the flesh and born of the Spirit.
- You must be alive and you must believe on Jesus Christ. That's EXACTLY what Jesus just taught us.
- Baptism isn't included there but people somehow attempt to twist these VERY CLEAR Scriptures.
- What do they do? They say, "You must be born of water and of the Spirit. SEE!!! You must be baptized."
- This just tells me they aren't hearing and understanding what Jesus Christ is teaching.

[10] John 11:26 *And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?*

- This matches exactly with what Jesus taught Nicodemus in John Chapter 3.
- He's now teaching Martha the same thing. You must be alive, and you must believe on Jesus Christ.
- You must be born of water or flesh and then be born of the Spirit by believing on Jesus Christ.
- THEN, you will receive the gift of everlasting life. Those are the terms that Jesus Christ set for us.
- When you receive the gift of everlasting life, you will never die.
- Water baptism has nothing to do with receiving the gift of everlasting life. NOTHING. No relation at all.

So, again, why do people take some Scripture and automatically think that it means water baptism.

- John Chapter 3 is just one example.
- I hope you clearly see that John Chapter 3 has nothing to do with water baptism.
- There is not one Scripture within the Bible that says you must be baptized in water to be saved.
- Not one. Doesn't exist. Some people will take a few Scriptures and attempt to use them as proof.

- There are hundreds of Scriptures that say believing on Jesus saves you.

There are hundreds of Scriptures that say faith saves you.

- There are hundreds of Scriptures that say trusting in the Lord saves you.
- People want to twist a few Scriptures and ignore hundreds upon hundreds of clear Scriptures.
- It makes absolutely zero sense at all to do this. Why twist a few Scriptures and ignore hundreds?
- Why ignore, what is to me, the clearest Scripture on how to be saved within the entire Bible?

[11] John 6:47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

- Why would anyone want to ignore this Scripture? Baptism isn't listed there. Jesus didn't forget to list it.
- Jesus gives one very simple requirement to be saved right there.
- "He that believeth on me hath everlasting life." That's putting 100% of your trust in Jesus Christ.
- How am I going to be saved? It's all Jesus Christ or it's nothing. He ALONE is the only one who can save.
- It's so silly to put your trust on some work that you think you have to do to be saved.
- "If I'm baptized in water, I will be saved." No, the Bible doesn't say that anywhere.
- If you first believe on Jesus Christ AND you are then baptized, you're saved because you believed on Jesus.

[12] Mark 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

- If you believe on Jesus Christ, you're saved.
- If you believe on Jesus and are baptized in water, you're saved.
- If you're baptized in water but never believe on Jesus ALONE, you're going to hell.
- "But he that believeth not shall be damned." This is very simple to understand.

Water Baptism Doesn't Save You At All?

Water baptism doesn't save you AT ALL. So, we're going to look a little closer at the Scriptures today.

- What we've talked about so far is just a quick introduction to this sermon, "Does Baptism Save You?"
- We're going to understand the definition of baptism first.
- We're going to look at the point in which water baptism began in the Bible.
- We're going to understand why Jesus Christ was baptized. Why was Jesus baptized?
- We're going to see how many people Jesus Christ baptized Himself.
- We'll see how important it was for the Apostle Paul to get people baptized.
- And all of this will come together perfectly for you today if you'll hear the Scriptures and believe them.

What is baptism? What does it mean? In order to understand baptism, what do you think we need to do?

- We need to look to the Scriptures. When I studied for this sermon, I went directly to the Scriptures.
- I didn't just go and find what everyone else says because you'll just be confused.
- You'll find a Calvinist opinion over there, a Catholic opinion there, a Methodist opinion there.
- You'll find a Church of Christ opinion here, a Baptist opinion there, a Mormon opinion here.
- A Jehovah's False Witness opinion there. A Seventh Day Adventist will tell you something else.
- And so on and so on and so on. You'll be thrown around with every wind of false doctrine from all those.

[13] Ephesians 4:13-14 *Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: 14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;*

[14] Ephesians 4:15-16 *But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*

- God is love. God is truth. Every word of God is true so let’s go to His words and find truth.
- If you listen to God’s words today, you won’t be thrown around with false doctrine any more.
- You’re going to understand baptism fully and see how it fits perfectly within the entire Bible.
- When I searched the Scriptures for baptism, I found the following words. And this is all of them.

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1. Baptism
2. Baptisms
3. Baptist
4. Baptist’s
5. Baptize
6. Baptized
7. Baptizes
8. Baptizeth
9. Baptizing

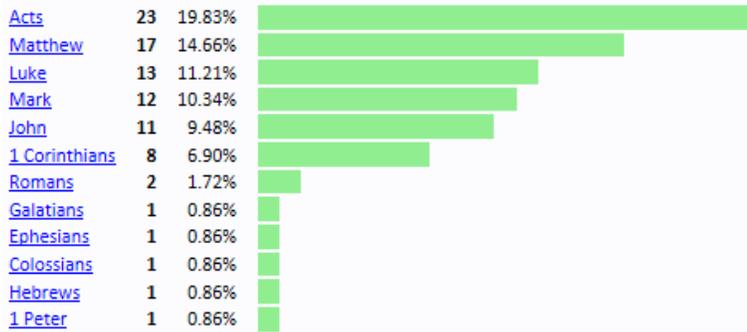
- So, we have 9 different forms of the word baptism that we’ll be looking at today.
- There are 116 matches for these 9 words in 91 different verses within the Bible.
- Here’s a chart showing where all of these words are located.

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| | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Genesis (0) | Ecclesiastes (0) | Matthew (17) | 1 Peter (1) |
| Exodus (0) | Song of Solomon (0) | Mark (12) | 2 Peter (0) |
| Leviticus (0) | Isaiah (0) | Luke (13) | 1 John (0) |
| Numbers (0) | Jeremiah (0) | John (11) | 2 John (0) |
| Deuteronomy (0) | Lamentations (0) | Acts (23) | 3 John (0) |
| Joshua (0) | Ezekiel (0) | Romans (2) | Jude (0) |
| Judges (0) | Daniel (0) | 1 Corinthians (8) | Revelation (0) |
| Ruth (0) | Hosea (0) | 2 Corinthians (0) | |
| 1 Samuel (0) | Joel (0) | Galatians (1) | |
| 2 Samuel (0) | Amos (0) | Ephesians (1) | |
| 1 Kings (0) | Obadiah (0) | Philippians (0) | |
| 2 Kings (0) | Jonah (0) | Colossians (1) | |
| 1 Chronicles (0) | Micah (0) | 1 Thessalonians (0) | |
| 2 Chronicles (0) | Nahum (0) | 2 Thessalonians (0) | |
| Ezra (0) | Habakkuk (0) | 1 Timothy (0) | |
| Nehemiah (0) | Zephaniah (0) | 2 Timothy (0) | |
| Esther (0) | Haggai (0) | Titus (0) | |
| Job (0) | Zechariah (0) | Philemon (0) | |
| Psalms (0) | Malachi (0) | Hebrews (1) | |
| Proverbs (0) | | James (0) | |

- I'll let you take a look at this for a second and tell me where the first use of one of these words is located.
- Do you see any uses of the word baptism in the Old Testament? No, you don't. Not one occurrence.
- The first time we see baptism is in the Gospel of Matthew. This tells us something.
- We'll see what is by the end of this sermon. Where are the most occurrences? The Book of Acts.
- Let's look at a chart that shows the most occurrences in order by book of the Bible.

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- Notice that there are only 12 out of 66 books of the Bible that have the word baptism.
- All occurrences of the word baptism are within the New Testament.
- People didn't get baptized in the Old Testament, but yet there are many people in heaven right now that lived before Jesus came to earth at His first coming.
- Notice some other things there in this chart. 1/5 of all baptism occurrences are in the Book of Acts.
- 23 of 91 verses are there in Acts. 17 in Matthew, 13 in Luke, 12 in Mark, 11 in John, 8 in 1 Corinthians.
- 2 in Romans, and 1 each in Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, Hebrews, and 1 Peter.

I went through all of the 116 matches in the 91 verses. It's not that difficult as there aren't that many.

- I'm not going to read all 91 verses to you today, but you can know that I went through all of them.
- I'm not skipping over something and attempting to twist the Scriptures to match a false doctrine.
- When I do things, I do them fully and thoroughly. I don't pick and choose verses. I want them all.
- As we go through some of these Scriptures today, you're going to learn proper and true doctrine.
- Forget all of the lies that you've learned in churches and let's focus on God's word and what He says.
- Let's look at the first instance of baptism in the Bible.

[18] Matthew 3:1-2 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

- There's the first use of the word BAPTIST, and this is referring to John the Baptist.
- Why was he called "THE BAPTIST?" He was baptizing people.
- Do you know who baptized the very first person? John the Baptist.

Did you know Jesus wasn't the first to be baptized by John the Baptist?

- It's important to know these things. Most people don't think about these things or teach these things.
- Most preachers would never do a study like this through the Bible on baptism. But we will.
- It's too boring for most people. They don't want to hear it.
- But I do because God always teaches me something when I study the Bible like this. ALWAYS.

We see that John the Baptist comes preaching in the wilderness of Judaea. What is he preaching?

- Notice that he's preaching before he is baptizing anyone. Notice that. He's a preacher of righteousness.
- He's preaching the right things. What is he preaching? "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."
- If someone repents and wants to be baptized, John the Baptist would then baptize them.
- Was John the Baptist preaching to repent of your sins and be baptized and then you would be saved?
- This is what some people think John the Baptist was preaching, but he wasn't.
- I know that he wasn't because he would have been a false preacher, and he's not a false preacher.
- What was John the Baptist preaching when he says, "REPENT YE." Well, the Bible tells us.

[19] Acts 19:3-5 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. 4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

- This is Paul preaching and teaching these people right here. They were baptized by John the Baptist.
- This means they were baptized before Jesus died on the cross and was in His glorified body.
- The indwelling of the Holy Spirit was not yet given when they were baptized by John the Baptist.
- But notice that verse 4 tells us EXACTLY what John the Baptist was preaching.

John the Baptist was baptizing with the baptism of repentance. And what does that mean exactly?

- Well verse 4 gives you the exact preaching from John the Baptist and it's very simple.
- And it matches the entire Bible from front to back, cover to cover, Genesis to Revelation, every word agrees with John the Baptist's preaching.
- "Believe on Him which should come after John the Baptist, that is, believe on Christ Jesus."

When John the Baptist says, "Repent ye," he's preaching to change your mind and believe on Christ Jesus.

- When they repented, they were saved and received everlasting life. And this isn't repenting of sin.
- It's not the same thing. Repentance for salvation is believing on Jesus Christ.
- It's saying, "I understand that repenting of sin doesn't save me but putting all my trust in Jesus does."
- Repentance for salvation is saying, "I understand water baptism doesn't save me but believing ON Jesus Christ alone does save me."
- "Jesus I trust you ALONE for salvation. I trust you because I know you died for my sins."
- "Jesus, I believe on you and know that nothing else can save me but you alone. I trust you to save me."

Repentance For Salvation = Believing ON Jesus Christ

That's repentance for salvation. "BELIEVE ON CHRIST JESUS." That's what John the Baptist preached.

- And Jesus Himself calls John the Baptist a preacher of righteousness. He's preaching the right things.
- So, let's go back to Matthew Chapter 3, the first occurrences of baptism in the Bible, and see more.

[20] Matthew 3:5-6 Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, 6 And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.

- All these people come out of Jerusalem, Judaea, and all the region about Jordan to be baptized by John.

- These were the first people to be baptized. And they heard his preaching first.
- They believed what John was preaching. They believed on Christ Jesus, and they were baptized.
- They hadn't seen Christ Jesus yet. They didn't know who He was or when He was coming.
- John the Baptist was preaching that Jesus would come after him.

They were baptized of him in Jordan verse 6 says right there. John baptized all these people before Jesus Christ.

- What can you say you're doing when you believe on Jesus Christ as your Savior?
- You're confessing that you're a sinner. Does it say that confessed all of their sins out loud to everyone?
- No, the Bible never says that's required for salvation.
- But, if you want to be saved, what are you being saved from? Death and hell, but why?
- Why do you need to be saved from hell? It's because you're a sinner. You've done wrong.
- You understand that you should be going to hell because of your sins.
- But you want to be saved from your sins. Right?
- When they come to John the Baptist to be saved, they're confessing their sins.

When you understand that you're a sinner and one sin condemns you to hell, you need a Savior for those sins.

- That's when you need Christ Jesus to forgive you of all your sin.
- People who think they have no sin don't need a Savior. Right? Why would you need to be saved?
- And most people in this world today don't believe they need a Savior.
- They believe they are good on their own. Or, they think they need Jesus plus themselves and good works.
- They are just like the Pharisees. John wouldn't baptize people who didn't believe on Jesus Christ.
- The Pharisees didn't need a Savior. They thought they were good people. Look at the very next verse.

[21] Matthew 3:7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

- Notice that John the Baptist wasn't very nice to the Pharisees. They were children of the devil.
- They thought they were good people. They didn't need a Savior such as Jesus.

[22] Matthew 3:8 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:

- Some people say, "What does that mean?" John the Baptist is telling them to bring forth fruits meet for repentance.
- Notice the colon at the end of the verse. Repentance is a change of mind to believing "ON" Christ Jesus.
- Well, the Bible tells us what it means to bring forth fruits meet for repentance.

[23] Matthew 3:9 And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

- They believe they're good just because they are physical children of Abraham.
- That's what they're thinking to themselves. And John knows this.
- And he's telling them to change their mind about that. Notice what he says next.

[24] Matthew 3:10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

- He's telling them to CUT THAT TREE where they believe that they're good just because they are physical descendants of Abraham.
- Get rid of that belief tree, cut it down, throw it into the fire, and start over with the tree of Jesus Christ.
- Start with a good tree with good fruit. Jesus Christ is THE ROOT of the good tree with good fruit.
- There is no other tree with good fruit except the one who has Jesus Christ as THE ROOT of the tree.

Get rid of all the other beliefs in your false religion, cut them off, burn them up, purge yourselves.

- Stop believing in other things. He doesn't say to go do some good works and come back.
- He doesn't say to repent of all your sin and everything you've done wrong.
- He's saying to change your beliefs and believe on Jesus Christ.
- THEN, he will baptize them because of repentance or believing on Jesus Christ.

[25] Matthew 3:11-12 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: 12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

- We see John the Baptist tell them that someone is coming after him that is THE ONE to believe on.
- Jesus Christ is coming here soon after John the Baptist, and it's actually very soon.
- We'll see Jesus come in the very next verse, but notice that Jesus will baptize with the Holy Ghost.
- AND WITH FIRE. There are different baptisms. This is important Scripture to understand.

The Bible Tells Us There Are Different Baptisms

We clearly see here that there are different baptisms.

- There's water baptism like John the Baptist was doing.
- There's a Holy Ghost baptism which Jesus Christ does.
- There's a fire baptism which Jesus Christ does. Is that not what the Scripture says right there?
- Jesus takes the fan in his hand. What's that mean?

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- There's a fan or a tool that is used to separate the wheat from the chaff.
- Jesus will baptize the ones who believe on Him with the Holy Ghost.
- Jesus will baptize the ones who won't believe on Him with fire in hell.
- This is what the Scriptures are teaching us. I'm not adding anything. I'm not removing anything.

So, baptism must have different definitions than just water baptism like we in churches like to think.

- We see the word "baptism" or "baptize" and we immediately think of water baptism.
- Just like with false preachers that see "repent" and immediately think it means "repent of your sin."
- Baptism doesn't always mean water baptism as we just saw in the Scriptures.
- So, what does baptism mean? It's easy to understand. It's full immersion in something.
- Or fully engulfed in something. Or something completely surrounding you.
- That's what baptism means. Water baptism means you go completely under the water.
- Water is fully surrounding you when you're baptized in water.

[27] John 3:23 *And John also was baptizing in AEnon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.*

- If you want a Biblical baptism in water, you need to do it like John the Baptist did it.
- He didn't sprinkle water on someone. You don't need MUCH WATER to do that.
- He was baptizing in AEnon near to Salim because there was MUCH WATER there.

How can denominations who claim to be Christian come up with all these other things?

- You must believe on the Lord Jesus Christ FIRST before you are baptized.
- Yet, they sprinkle water and put babies under the water who can't believe on Jesus Christ yet.
- Water baptism the Bible way is full immersion within the water.
- It's going into the water fully. Down in the water and completely surrounded by water.

Baptism with the Holy Ghost means you're fully engulfed in the Holy Ghost.

- Acts Chapter 2 shows the Holy Ghost filling the whole house where they were sitting.
- The Holy Ghost filled them. They were all filled with the Holy Ghost. That's a baptism of the Holy Ghost.
- What about the indwelling of the Holy Spirit? Is that a baptism of the Holy Spirit? Yes it is.
- The Holy Spirit surrounds your soul and seals your soul from sin. He's filling you on the inside in your soul.

With that said, do you need to be baptized to go to heaven?

- Now you should know enough to ask, "Well, which baptism are you talking about?"
- Most people are going to be talking about water baptism because it's the most popular subject.
- If you're talking about the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, then the answer is yes.
- You must be baptized with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit to be saved.
- And you only receive the indwelling of the Holy Spirit by believing on Jesus Christ.

[28] Ephesians 1:13-14 *In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.*

- Then we see a baptism of fire.
- Some people think that it means the cloven tongues of fire in Acts Chapter 2.
- I believe it's clearly teaching us in Matthew Chapter 3 that baptism by fire is talking about hell.
- He's going to baptize them with fire. FULL IMMERSION IN FIRE. That sounds like hell to me.
- He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

[29] 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 *And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;*

- IN FLAMING FIRE and everlasting destruction. This is hell. Baptized in fire is full immersion in hell.
- You're not getting out of there. You will be surrounded by fire and flames. Baptism by fire.
- Please see and learn the truth about baptism today. Let's continue in Matthew Chapter 3.

[30] Matthew 3:13 *Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.*

- After John the Baptist has been preaching and baptizing others, THEN cometh Jesus.
- And Jesus didn't come to water baptize anyone. Jesus came to John to be baptized of him.
- Doesn't that tell you something? Jesus didn't come to water baptize ANYONE.
- But what did Jesus come to this world to do? Let the Scriptures answer.

[31] 1 Timothy 1:15 *This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.*

- Jesus Christ came to this world to save sinners, but did Jesus Christ water baptize ANYONE?
- Who did Jesus Christ baptize with water? Is there anyone in the Bible that He baptized Himself?

[32] John 4:1-2 *When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John, 2 (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)*

- If you stopped in verse 1 like many people do, you would believe that Jesus Himself baptized people.
- "Had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John."
- "Though Jesus Himself baptized not, but His disciples."
- So Jesus came to save sinners but He didn't baptize anyone Himself with His own hands.
- Jesus never dunked anyone under the water with His own hands. Do you see that?
- But He came to save sinners. This should tell you that water baptism doesn't save you from sin.
- Jesus asks John the Baptist to baptize Him. Why is that? Let's read.

[33] Matthew 3:14-15 *But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? 15 And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.*

- Jesus tells John the Baptist that He needs Him to baptize Him to fulfill all righteousness.
- What does that mean? Does this mean that Jesus needed to be baptized to become righteous?
- I'm sure some false preachers would preach something like that blasphemy. I'm sure they have.
- Water baptism didn't save Jesus Christ because He's never sinned. He didn't need to be baptized.

Why Was Jesus Baptized?

So, why was Jesus Christ baptized? Well, the answer is right there. "Suffer it be so now."

- "For thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness." What is all righteousness?
- God's words, His law, His commandments. Jesus came to fulfill the law, which is all righteousness.
- Jesus being baptized is fulfilling the Scriptures, God's words, His law, and His commands.
- So, let's see what happens next.

[34] Matthew 3:16-17 *And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: 17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*

- Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist and Jesus wasn't the first baptized.
- Notice that Jesus went down into the water and went up straightway out of the water.
- JESUS HIMSELF went all the way down into the water fully. That's why it's called baptism.
- What do we see? The heavens open and the Spirit of God, like a dove, lights upon Him.

His Father in heaven speaks and says, "THIS IS MY BELOVED SON. I am pleased with Him."

- Why is He pleased with Jesus Christ? Because He's fulfilling the Scriptures.
- He's following His Father's commandments by being baptized right here.
- There are many Scriptures in the Bible that are pointing to the baptism of Jesus Christ.
- Jesus came to fulfill the law and to fulfill all of those Scriptures. He's fulfilling righteousness.
- He's fulfilling God's word. This pleases God the Father.

[35] 1 Peter 3:18-19 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: 19 By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison;

[36] 1 Peter 3:20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

- So notice what we're talking about here. The Bible is talking about Noah and the ark.
- The entire earth was baptized with water. The earth was encompassed with water.
- Everyone died except for Noah, his wife, his 3 sons, and their wives. The flesh of 8 people were saved.
- Right? This is what 1 Peter Chapter 3 is talking about. Now watch this next Scripture.
- False preachers and false "Christians" will use this next Scripture to say that you must be baptized in water to be saved.

[37] 1 Peter 3:21-22 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: 22 Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

- If we were saved by water baptism, this Scripture wouldn't make any sense. Actually read what it says.
- People will read the first part that says, "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us."
- And they'll go, "See, baptism doth also now save us." They ignored all the other words.
- It says, "The LIKE FIGURE whereunto baptism doth also now save us." What like figure? Noah and the ark.
- That's a picture of the baptism of Jesus Christ. Jesus came to fulfill those Scriptures.

The parentheses say, "NOT THE PUTTING AWAY OF THE FILTH OF THE FLESH."

- In other words, it's not turning from all your sin or repenting of all your sin. Duh. Read the Scriptures.
- How are we saved? This Scripture they try to use to say water baptism saves you tells us the opposite.
- These Scriptures are here as stumbling blocks for all the people who won't listen to His words.
- Let's read the Scripture without the parentheses which only adds to the point God is making here.

"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us by the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

- The baptism of Jesus is a picture of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- Jesus was resurrected from the dead, and yes, that is part of what saves us.

- If He never arose from the dead, we wouldn't be saved today because He would be dead.
- THE SAVIOR isn't dead. He was dead, but now His is alive.
- When Jesus went under the water, this is a picture of His death and His burial.
- When He comes up out of the water, this is a picture or like figure of His resurrection.

Jesus didn't actually die when He went under the water. He didn't.

- Jesus wasn't actually buried in a tomb and His soul didn't go to hell when He was baptized.
- Jesus didn't actually resurrect from the dead once He arose out of the water.
- This is all foreshadowing or prophecy of what's to come.
- God always has a reason for all of these things within the Bible.

The ark is a like figure of this baptism. There's one ark and one door just like Jesus Christ.

- Jesus Christ is "THE DOOR" to everlasting life. Your SOUL can only be saved through Him.
- Anyone who receives everlasting life must be saved through Jesus Christ, THE DOOR.
- During the flood, any FLESH that was going to be saved had to enter through that ark door.
- This was just a picture of salvation. The dove went down upon the ark.
- The Holy Ghost descended upon Jesus like a dove. All of these Scriptures are being fulfilled by Jesus.
- That's why God is pleased with His Son.

The Bible talks about the children of Israel being baptized unto Moses. I want you to see this today.

- There's not many preachers out there today teaching any of these things.
- So we thank God today that He's teaching us all these things we need to know and understand.
- The Bible comes together more and more as we study and compare Scriptures.

[38] 1 Corinthians 10:1-3 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat;

- Notice verse 2 says that all were baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea.
- When did this happen? Moses led them out of Egypt and out of bondage.
- Just like us when we're saved and baptized into Jesus Christ. We're fully immersed in Jesus Christ.
- But notice they come up out of Egypt and going through the cloud and Red Sea is a picture of baptism.
- They passed right through the Red Sea. God surrounded them, fully immersed them, protected them.

What happened next after this? God gives Moses the Old Testament.

- All of these children of Israel were baptized into the Old Testament law.
- They were to follow those laws. The Old Testament or Old Covenant was perfect in every way.
- God's law is perfect, but they couldn't follow all of God's law. They broke His laws in every way.
- Just as we break God's laws in every way and every day. Watch what the very next verse says.

[39] 1 Corinthians 10:4-5 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. 5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

- They broke the Old Covenant. When Jesus Christ comes to be baptized, He establishes the new covenant.
- The Old Covenant is perfect and always will be, but the people couldn't keep that covenant.

- And that's why Jesus came, and that's why we are to be baptized into the NEW COVENANT.
- Just as the children of Israel were baptized into the law of Moses, we are to be baptized to Jesus Christ.
- They were to be fully immersed in the law and do the law. We are to be fully immersed in Jesus Christ.
- Jesus came to fulfill many of the laws for us. The sabbath day is fulfilled by Jesus Christ.
- The animal sacrifices are fulfilled by Jesus Christ. Thank God. Those sacrifices take a lot of work.

[40] Hebrews 8:6-7 *But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. 7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second.*

[41] Hebrews 8:8 *For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:*

[42] Hebrews 8:9 *Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord.*

[43] Hebrews 8:10-11 *For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: 11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.*

[44] Hebrews 8:12-13 *For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. 13 In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.*

- This is why Jesus came and this is why Jesus was baptized. He came to set in order the New Covenant.
- This is a better covenant. When we believe on Him, we are now saved and baptized in the Holy Ghost.
- What does this do for us? The Holy Ghost teaches us. I didn't come up with all this on my own.
- God is teaching me these things. He's writing His laws in my heart. He's putting His laws in my mind.

Faith In God Establishes The Law = Faith Leads To You Following The Law

This is why it kills me when women don't want to tell their children the truth about FAITH IN GOD saving you.

- Once you believe on Jesus Christ, you have everlasting life and can never lose it. This is God's way.
- Women want to say, "You want me to tell my children they're saved and can never go to hell now?"
- "I'm not teaching them that. They won't do anything I say if I teach them that."
- They think their way is better than God's way. When you believe on Jesus, God sends you His Holy Spirit.
- And then, this Spirit of God is within you and guiding you and teaching you.

The only way to ESTABLISH God's law within someone's heart is for them to believe on Jesus Christ.

- Without that, those children will never do good as they grow up. Why? Because you lied to them.
- You thought your way was better than God's way. And it's not. God gave us His new covenant.
- We believe on Jesus Christ, and He sends us "THE HELPER." To do what? To show us the right ways.
- To give us the fear of God. To teach us all things. Without His Spirit, we're lost.

- The story of Jonah is a picture of the baptism of Jesus Christ.

[45] Matthew 12:39-40 *But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: 40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.*

- Jonah spent 3 days and 3 nights in the whale's belly. Jesus Christ spent 3 days and 3 nights in hell.
- What's at the heart of the earth? HELL. But the soul of Jesus Christ was not left in hell.
- Listen to this. When Jesus Christ died, HE FULLY DIED. His body not only died but His soul died.
- He was baptized FULLY INTO DEATH. Some people say He went to paradise. He didn't.
- That's not being fully dead. Jesus Christ died the Bible says over and over again.
- Did God the Father die? No. Did the Holy Ghost die? No. Did the Son of God die? Yes.

His soul went to hell as a burnt offering for our sins.

- If we have any sin counted to our soul, what's the penalty of that sin? We go to hell.
- So if Jesus takes all our sin onto Himself, where did He go? His soul went to hell.
- His body was fully buried in the tomb. His soul fully went to hell as a burnt offering.
- HE WAS DEAD. There's no question about that because the Bible tells us this over and over again.

[46] Revelation 1:18 *I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.*

- Jesus says, "I WAS DEAD. But I am He that liveth. And I am alive forevermore." THANK GOD!!!
- Jesus has the keys of hell and of death. He reigns over death and hell. HE IS "THE KING."
- Jonah was fully engulfed by that whale which is a like figure of the death and burial of Jesus Christ.
- Jonah came up out of that whale. This is a picture of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

[47] Matthew 12:41 *The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas is here.*

- What do you think Jonah was preaching to the men of Nineveh? Was Jonah a prophet of God?
- Yes he was, and was a picture of Jesus Christ. Was Jonah even close to Jesus? No, but he was a like figure.
- They repented at the preaching of Jonas. What was he preaching?

[48] Acts 10:43 *To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.*

- You better believe on the Savior that God will send for you. REPENT. That's what he was preaching.
- ALL THE PROPHETS KNEW THE TRUTH. They knew they couldn't be saved by the law. They broke it always.
- Do you think Jonah broke God's law? OF COURSE!!! That's why he ended up in the whale.
- He was stubborn. Even after that he was stubborn. But God saved Jonah because he believed.
- But thank God a greater than Jonah came and died for us. All of these things point to Jesus Christ.
- He came to be baptized to fulfill the Scriptures. He came to establish the new covenant.
- He came to make everything MUCH CLEARER for us in the New Testament. Thank God.

Jesus was fully immersed in His death, burial, and resurrection. When we're baptized, we're saying we're saved.

- And we know that we aren't saved through water baptism. We're saved through Jesus Christ.
- We're saved through HIS DEATH, HIS BURIAL, AND HIS RESURRECTION. Not our baptism.
- How silly is that? Do you really think you're being saved by being dunked under the water?
- No, the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ is what saves you. You must believe on His work.
- Not yours. It's laughable that people who act like they're Christians believe water baptism saves them.
- It plays no part AT ALL in salvation. Jesus Christ ALONE plays 100% in salvation. Not us.
- We simply change our mind and believe on Jesus.

We don't actually die when we're baptized. We aren't actually buried in a tomb.

- We don't actually arise from the dead.
- BUT, water baptism is a like figure of HIS death, burial, and resurrection. Do you see this?
- Jesus didn't actually die, was buried, and resurrected when He was baptized by John the Baptist.
- After all this, do you still believe that water baptism saves you?
- I could pull up hundreds of Scriptures that say FAITH ALONE saves you without water baptism.

The Thief On The Cross Wasn't Baptized But People Were Already Being Baptized Prior To That

The thief on the cross next to Jesus is another example.

- John the Baptist started baptizing people before that thief was on the cross.
- Jesus and His disciples (not Jesus Himself) were baptizing people before the thief was on the cross.
- But Jesus sure didn't care that the thief wasn't baptized. That thief believed on Jesus.
- And he was saved in a moment just as you can be saved in a moment by changing your mind.
- TRUST IN JESUS ALONE to be saved, and you will be saved right now.
- Once you believe on Jesus Christ, THEN you need to be baptized immediately.

[49] 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.

- Repent COMMA and then be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ because you've already received remission of sins.
- And when you repent you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. What do all the Scriptures tell us?
- BELIEVE ON JESUS CHRIST. This is repentance for salvation. Once you do, you are forgiven of all your sins.
- You receive the indwelling of the Holy Ghost. THEN, you "SHOULD" be baptized very soon.

[50] 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.

- They received the words and believed on Jesus Christ. THEN, they were baptized.

[51] Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

- Don't get the order wrong. You must believe on Jesus Christ ALONE and then you should be baptized.
- This is the first step of obeying Jesus Christ. You'll see this order of events all throughout the Book of Acts.
- They believed and then they were baptized. Water baptism doesn't save us at all.
- You're already saved before you're baptized IF you do it the right way and in the right order.

[52] 1 Corinthians 1:17 For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

- If that Scripture right there isn't enough to prove water baptism doesn't save you, then I can't help you.
- You must believe the word of God and stop believing all these doctrines of men and women.
- Jesus gives us HIS DOCTRINE, true doctrine, within the Bible.
- Paul was sent to preach the Gospel of JESUS CHRIST because that saves people.
- Jesus Christ HIMSELF did not send Paul to baptize people. Jesus didn't baptize people Himself either.
- What other proof do you need besides everything else we've went over today.

[53] Galatians 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

- Some people will say, "SEE!!! You must be baptized in water to be baptized into Christ."
- Hey, read the rest of the Scriptures. Let's go back one verse and read it all together.
- Water baptism is a work and the entire book of Galatians teaches us against a works based salvation.

[54] Galatians 3:22-24 But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. 23 But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. 24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

[55] Galatians 3:25-28 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. 26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

- Faith in Christ Jesus doesn't include any works like water baptism.
- Once you believe on Jesus Christ, you are FULLY IMMERSSED IN JESUS CHRIST.
- You know 100% for sure that there is NOTHING ELSE that will save you. NOTHING BUT JESUS.
- That's being BAPTIZED into Jesus Christ. You have PUT ON CHRIST. He is YOUR SAVIOR.
- Not you. Not your work of water baptism. Nothing else but Jesus Christ.

You Must Be Baptized Into Jesus Christ = You Must Be Fully Immersed In Jesus Christ = Not of Works and Not of Yourselves

So, I'm going to end there. We didn't go through all the Scriptures concerning baptism.

- But you got a really good overview of baptisms within the Bible.
- Now when you're reading the Bible and you see baptism, I hope you don't automatically think it means water baptism.

- We aren't all one through water baptism. We're all one through Jesus Christ.

Abraham wasn't baptized but He is there in JESUS CHRIST. He's that father of all those who believe.

- Guaranteed that Abraham is in Christ Jesus.
- Moses wasn't water baptized but he was baptized IN JESUS CHRIST. Wake up people.
- Joshua wasn't baptized in water. Jeremiah wasn't. Esther wasn't. Ruth wasn't. Sarah wasn't.
- Jonah wasn't water baptized. David wasn't. Water baptism is not required to be IN JESUS CHRIST.
- All that's required is your belief on Jesus, your faith in Jesus, your trust in Jesus.
- And it takes 100% JESUS CHRIST to be saved.
- Don't add anything else to it or you aren't fully immersed in Jesus Christ.
- OR, you aren't BAPTIZED IN JESUS CHRIST. Does this make sense now? I sure hope so.

So, if you've been saved and haven't been baptized in water, NOW IS THE TIME. Just tell me.

- And we'll get the water ready. Once the water is ready, "SEE THERE IS WATER."
- "What's stopping you from being baptized?" You're saying I understand now and I believe.
- "If thou believest with all thine heart that Jesus is the Christ, you may be baptized today."
- You're saying, "I want to follow Jesus Christ and OBEY HIS WORDS." No one else but Jesus.

Let's pray.