



WATER BAPTISM



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Water Baptism

The word “Baptism” comes from the Greek word “Baptizo”, which means to be immersed. But what does it mean to be baptized?

It is a Public Confession of Your Faith in Jesus

Water baptism is a public confession, in the presence of your family of faith, that you are a follower of Jesus.

In other words, it is an external act (water baptism) of an internal reality (your decision to follow Christ).

- WATER BAPTISM WAS **INSTITUTED BY JESUS.**

Jesus Himself was baptized in the Jordan River (Matthew 3:13). He then commanded all who followed Him to go and make disciples, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)

- WATER BAPTISM WAS **PRACTICED BY THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH.**

The apostle Peter told the First Century followers: *“Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit...”*
Acts 2:38

- WATER BAPTISM IS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE **REPENTED OF THEIR SINS** AND HAVE NOW BEEN BORN AGAIN.

Throughout the Book of Acts, every time people accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior, they were immediately baptized in water.

“Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.”
Acts 2:41

Acts 8:12; Acts 18:8; Acts 22:16

It is an Act of Obedience

As a believer in Christ, you must obey His commandments in every area of your life. Jesus said in John 14:15, “If you love me, obey my commandments”. One of the first steps of obedience is being baptized in water.



Mark 16:16 — *“Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be condemned.”*



Acts 2:38 — *“Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*



Matthew 28:19-20 *“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit...”*

It is a Symbolic Act

Water Baptism symbolizes the following in the life of every believer:

- WATER BAPTISM SYMBOLIZES THE BURIAL OF OUR **OLD SINFUL NATURE.**

Romans 6:3-10; Genesis 8 y 9; 1 Corinthians 10:1-2

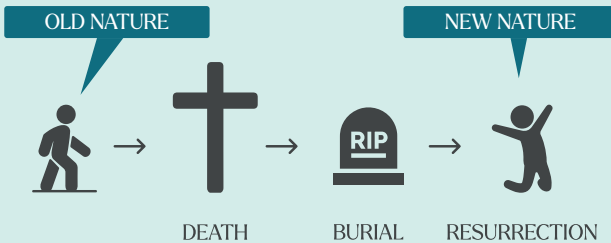


“Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives”. Romans 6:3-4

- WATER BAPTISM SYMBOLIZES OUR DESIRE TO IDENTIFY WITH THE **DEATH, BURIAL, AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST.**

Romans 6:3-6, John 3:22

Being baptized identifies you with the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, signifying your death to self, burying your past, and rising to live a new life by the power of God’s grace.



- WATER BAPTISM SYMBOLIZES OUR DECISION TO **OBEY CHRIST.**

John 15:14; John 2:5; Mathew 12:50



“And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. If someone claims, “I know God,” but doesn’t obey God’s commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. But those who obey God’s word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him.”

1 John 2:3-5 (NLT)



Frequently Asked Questions

¿Cuándo debo ser bautizado en agua?

Once you have started your new relationship with Jesus, you should make every effort to be baptized as soon as possible.



“What are you waiting for? Get up and be baptized. Have your sins washed away by calling on the name of the Lord”.
Acts 22:16

What if I was baptized before?

This depends on whether you were a Christian at the time of baptism. If you were a Christian, there is no reason to be baptized again. However, some believers who have been away from God for a time wish to be baptized as a symbol of their desire to reconcile their life once again with Jesus.

What about Sprinkling?

This practice of being “sprinkled” or “splashed” with water does not accurately reflect what Jesus told His followers to do. The biblical definition of baptism shows that full immersion was the method of water baptism instituted by Jesus.

What about infant baptism?

The Bible does not record any instances of infant baptism. Since a baby cannot repent and have faith as described above, there is no benefit to the child who is baptized. Once the child reaches the age where they can make a decision of faith in Jesus and repentance of their sins, then baptism can take place with significant meaning.

What if young children want to be baptized?

Because the Bible teaches that it should be a personal decision of faith after making a personal decision to follow Christ, we ask young children to wait until they understand salvation by faith before being baptized. We suggest twelve years of age as an appropriate age.

Is water baptism required?

The thief who hung on the cross next to Jesus is evidence that salvation is assured without being baptized in water. His conversion took place while he was dying, and Jesus promised that day he would be in heaven, even though he had no opportunity to be baptized. We receive salvation freely by faith and not by our own efforts. However, we should desire to be baptized because Jesus commanded that we follow Him in this important act of obedience. If you refuse to be baptized, you are being disobedient, and this can hinder your relationship with Jesus.

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CHURCH