

Making the Case for Baptism

Baptism can be a controversial topic, even among people who claim to believe in Jesus and follow the Bible. There is a great deal of disagreement and varying opinion on baptism as one goes from religious body to religious body. This creates confusion. Our desire is to combat this confusion and know God's will on this subject as well as every other. We're devoting this study to shining the light of scripture on 5 common questions pertaining to baptism.

I. Are Sprinkling and Pouring _____ Forms of Baptism?

- A. God has used the word "Baptism" (Eph. 4:5; 1 Pet. 3:21; Matt. 28:19).
 - 1. Greek word BAPTIZO means _____
 - 2. It's accurate to substitute the word "immerse" for the word "baptism" in our English Bibles.
- B. Apply "Immersion" to this question.
- C. Baptism is a _____ (Rom. 6:3-4).

II. Is _____ Baptism Approved by God?

- A. Are infants directed to be baptized in the New Testament? No. Who was directed to be baptized?
 - 1. _____ (Acts 22:16).
 - 2. _____ (Mk. 16:15-16).
 - 3. _____ (Acts 2:38).
- B. Where would people get the idea that babies should be "baptized"? A false conclusion is drawn from some of the conversion accounts in Acts. Such as Acts 16:30-34.

III. Is Baptism In Order To Enter A _____?

- A. Baptism is to join yourself, be united with, _____ (Gal. 3:26-27).
- B. Baptism should be an answer to sectarian _____ (1 Cor. 1:10-13; 12:12-14).

IV. Is Baptism _____ To Salvation or Is It An Outward _____ of An Inward Salvation?

- A. Baptism is essential to salvation (1 Peter 3:21).
- B. Many teach Faith-Only salvation. Then baptism is a sign.
 - 1. "Faith alone" only appears in James 2:24 to refute a Faith-only concept.
 - 2. "Faith alone" doctrine is an umbrella including repentance, confession, and even a response: the Sinner's Prayer. But does not include baptism!?
- C. The order of Mark 16:16.
 - 1. Truth: Believes – _____ – Saved
 - 2. Faith-only Error: Believes – _____ – Baptized
- D. Think on these commands: Acts 2:38; 22:16.

V. If Baptism Is Essential, Doesn't That Void God's _____?

- A. _____ didn't believe baptism voided God's Grace (Acts 15:11).
 - 1. What did Peter tell the Jews? Be saved (Acts 2:40). How? Be baptized (Acts 2:38).
 - 2. What did Peter tell the Gentiles? Be saved (Acts 11:14). How? Be baptized (Acts 10:48).
- B. _____ didn't believe baptism voided God's Grace.
 - 1. When Paul first preached at Ephesus he instructed baptism (Acts 19:4-5). He later told them they were saved by grace through faith (Eph. 2:8-9).
 - 2. Romans 6:1-4. Grace and baptism aren't hostile at all.
- C. _____ didn't believe baptism voided God's Grace.
 - 1. He is the embodiment of Grace and Truth (John 1:17).
 - 2. He _____ baptism (Mark 16:16).