

Lesson 9 Water Baptism

Water baptism is a Christian practice for all believers to be immersed in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The water baptism symbolizes burial with our Lord, baptized into His death, and are raised into new life in Christ.

The need for Water Baptism:

Matthew 3:15-16 | Jesus modeled it.

¹⁵ Jesus answered... “For thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness” ¹⁶ When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

Acts 2:38 | Apostles practiced it.

³⁸ Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Matthew 28:18 | Jesus commanded it in the great commission.

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 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.”

Romans 6:3-4 | It symbolizes death to our old life and rising to our new life.

³ Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴ Therefore, we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Faith in Jesus and repentance from sin are the requirements for baptism.

Is water baptism required for salvation?

- The answer is NO! We are saved by grace through faith! Baptism immediately follows our salvation, but it's not required for salvation. The criminal on the cross was not baptized yet he joined Jesus in paradise. If we can be baptized, we should take that opportunity to show our obedience to the Lord and gratitude for our salvation.

Can infants be baptized?

- The answer is NO! “Baby dedication” and baptism are two separate things. Jesus was baptized as an adult. As an infant, He was dedicated in the temple! Baptism is for people who believe and repent. Infants don't believe, and they don't repent!

Can you be baptized by someone sprinkling water on you?

- The answer is NO! Baptism comes from the Greek word “immersion”. The very idea of baptism means total immersion into water - not just a few drops on your face.
- The Bible says, “Jesus came out of the water” (Matthew 3:16). That means He was fully immersed in the water! However, exceptions can be made for those who are totally incapable of entering a pool of water.