

Salvation Class

“A STUDY OF BAPTISM”

The noun “baptism,” along with the corresponding verb, “baptize,” come directly from Greek into English with only a slight spelling modification. The verb (baptizo—seventy-seven times in the New Testament), when used literally, denotes to immerse, dip, or submerge. When the word is employed metaphorically, it suggests the idea of being overwhelmed. There are several senses the term can take in the New Testament, depending upon the context.

It is used with reference to the overwhelming suffering Christ would endure at Calvary

Luke 12:50 But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is accomplished!

“Baptism” describes the extraordinary measure of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, received by the apostles on Pentecost

Acts 1:5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with different tongues, as the Spirit was giving them the ability to speak out.

and later by the first Gentiles (Cornelius) to whom the gospel was extended.

Acts 11:15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning. 16 And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’

The most common use of “baptism” has to do with an immersion in water as an act of spiritual obedience that, in form, reflects the burial and resurrection of Jesus

Romans 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too may walk in newness of life.

Colossians 2:12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Ephesians 4:5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

Baptism was first administered by John the Baptizer

Matthew 3:6 and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, as they confessed their sins

Then by Jesus’ disciples - **John 4:1** So then, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that He was making and baptizing more disciples than John 2 (although Jesus Himself was not baptizing; rather, His disciples were)

Finally it was authorized under the “great commission”

(Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16).

The baptism of the Christian age embodies: immersion in water

Acts 8:38 And he ordered that the chariot stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing.

Colossians 2:12 having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.

Baptism is for the person who has both the ability and willingness to believe the gospel message and repent of sin... (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38).

The purpose of baptism is to access the saving blood of Christ

Under the old covenant the Jews sacrificed animals.

Hebrews 9:14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

1 Peter 3:21 Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

And to receive the forgiveness of sins and enter into a relationship with Jesus Christ

Acts 22:16 Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins by calling on His name.’

Galatians 3:26 For you are all sons and daughters of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

Any “baptism” that does not conform to the pattern set forth in the New Testament is not the “one baptism” of divine sanction.

Acts 19:1 Now it happened that while Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples 2 He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said to him, “On the contrary, we have not even heard if there is a Holy Spirit.” 3 And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” And they said, “Into John’s baptism.” 4 Paul said, “John baptized with a baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” 5 When they heard this, they were baptized [a]in the name of the Lord Jesus.