

CONNECTING WITH GOD LESSON 4

WATER BAPTISM

Read-

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

I Peter 3:21 ²¹ *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:*

DEFINITION

BAPTIZO - _____.

MUST WE BE BAPTIZED?

John 3:1-6 ¹ *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.* ³ *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?* 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.* ⁶ *That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.*

HOW MUST WE BE BAPTIZED?

MODE: _____.

Acts 8 The Ethiopian eunuch said “*Here is water*”, indicating much water. Philip and he went down into the water and came up out of the water. Signifying that they went and stood in the water.

John 3:23 When John the Baptist baptized in Aenon, he did so because “*there was much water there*”. Much water was required because he dipped or immersed or buried them in the water.

WHY MUST WE BE BAPTIZED?

There are many scriptural reasons for baptism, let's look at the six listed below:

1. _____.

Jesus said that repentance and remission of sin should be preached in his name beginning at Jerusalem (**Luke 24:47**). There is a difference in forgiveness of sin and remission of sin. We are **forgiven at repentance**. Our sins are **remitted (washed away) at water baptism**.

At Jerusalem in Acts 2:38, Peter said “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost”.

2. _____.

Acts 22:16 - Paul was commanded by Ananias, “*arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord*”.

I Corinthians 6:11 ¹¹ *And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.*

3. _____.

John 3:5 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.*

Titus 3:5 ⁵ *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*

4. _____.

I Peter 3:21 ²¹ *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:*

Hebrews 9:14 ¹⁴ *How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*

5. _____.

Romans 6:3-4 ³ *Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

Colossians 2:12 ¹² *Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.*

6. _____.

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

Romans 13:14 ¹⁴ *But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof.*

II Timothy 2:19 ¹⁹ *“... , Let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.”*

James 2:7 ⁷ *Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?*

Acts 4:12 ¹² *Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

WHEN SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

Immediately upon repenting of your sins you should be baptized to wash away your sins.

Acts 2:38 ³⁸ *“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized ...”*

Matthew 3:5-6 ⁶ *Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, 8 And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.*

WHAT NAME SHOULD BE CALLED OVER YOU IN BAPTISM?

A lot of people ask, **“Does the name even matter?”** As we shall see in this portion of the lesson, the name is very important. Pay attention to the formula of baptism and the direction Jesus gives the Apostles.

In **Matthew 28:19** Jesus said to baptize in the **NAME** of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

¹⁹ *Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost;*

In **Acts 2.38** Peter tells us to be baptized in the **NAME** of Jesus Christ.

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.*

Is this a contradiction? Careful observation of both of these verses will reveal that neither Father, Son, or Holy Ghost are names. These are descriptive titles and roles of the one God.

1. _____ to preach repentance and remission of sins in His NAME beginning at Jerusalem

Luke 24:47 ⁴⁷ And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

2. _____ in **Luke 24:47** is found in **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."

3. _____.

Acts 2:41 ⁴¹ Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

How? As Peter had just told them in **Acts 2:38 - in the name of Jesus!**

4. _____.

Acts 8:12-16 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. ¹³ Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done. ¹⁴ Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: ¹⁵ Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: ¹⁶ (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

5. _____.

Acts 10:44-48 ⁴⁴ While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. ⁴⁵ And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. ⁴⁶ For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, ⁴⁷ Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? ⁴⁸ And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

6. _____.

Acts 19:1-6 ¹ And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, ² He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. ³ 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. ⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

7. _____.

Acts 4:12 ¹² Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

8. _____.

Corinthians 6:11 ¹¹ *And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.*

9. _____.

Colossians 3:17 ¹⁷ *And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.*

WHAT DOES HISTORY SAY ABOUT BAPTISM?

Often the question is asked, ***“Why do so many baptize in the titles Father, Son, and Holy Ghost if it is not scriptural?”*** As the church grew older, not only did false teachers rise up but many sincere individuals misunderstood the teachings of the scripture. From just this setting, many wrong ideas developed.

When the council of Nicea met in 325 A.D. the trinitarian formula for baptism was adopted. From this time forward, the trinity was embraced and the trinitarian baptismal formula gained prominence. It was immediately after this council that the Catholic church began to be the influence in Christian circles, and even the political world. For the next 1200 years the Catholic church was without rival. Then in 1517 Martin Luther began what was later to be known as the Protestant Reformation. Luther and others kept the trinitarian formula but, began to break away from the other traditional beliefs of the Catholic church. Many of these groups still use **Matthew 28:19** *(19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:)* as a basis for baptism.

Robert M. Grant, in his book **“Gods and the One God”** (Philadelphia, The Westminster Press, 1986), page 53, said, *“At first, baptisms took place in the name of the Lord Jesus, later in the name of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit...”*

Page 150, *“Christian baptism... in the book of Acts, is in the name of Jesus.”*

Page 164, *“To be baptized in or into the name of Jesus means turning away from other names.”*

Page 167, *“Do the baptismal formulas and creeds set forth a doctrine of the Trinity? Those we have thus far described do not.”*

HOW IMPORTANT IS BAPTISM?

From the scriptural definition of baptism, anyone who will not submit to the cleansing of baptism in the name of Jesus Christ has no remission of sins and cannot be saved from that sin.

1. **Mark 16:16** ¹⁶ *He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.*

2. **I Peter 3:21** ²¹ *“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us...”*

3. **Ephesians 4:5** ⁵ *One Lord, one faith, one baptism,*