

Foundation Building Blocks

FBB1-5-3-02 Principles of the Doctrine of Christ – Doctrine of Baptisms Part A

Baptize: (Greek 907 - as used in *Mark 16:16*, *John 1:33*) βαπτίζω baptizō; from a derivative of 911; to **immerse**, **submerge**; to make whelmed (i.e. **fully wet**); used only (in the New Testament) of ceremonial **ablution**, especially (technically) of the ordinance of Christian baptism: - Baptist, **baptize**, **wash**.

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

John 1:33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to **baptize** with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which **baptizeth** with the Holy Ghost.

Baptism: (Greek 909 - as used in *Hebrews 6:2*) βαπτισμός baptismos; from 907; **ablution** (ceremonial or Christian): - **baptism**, washing.

Hebrews 6:1-2 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, 2 **Of the doctrine of baptisms**, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

There were various examples and uses of baptism in the Biblical Times:

- Baptism of Gentile converts to Judaism¹
- Certain Jewish sects practiced baptism as a symbol of purification¹
- John the Baptist used baptism of repentance for the remission of sins (Mark 1:4)
- Jesus used baptism during His early ministry (John 4:1-2)
- Baptism is commissioned by Christ as part of salvation (Mark 16:16)
- Apostles baptized believers in Jesus' name for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38-41)

¹ Alexander, Pat BA, 1987, Christian Worship in the New Testament. *The Lion Encyclopedia of the Bible*, 138-140.

There were many forms of baptisms used in the times before and after Christ; but only one baptism is referred to as the 'one baptism' in Christianity as per the letter to the church at Ephesus.

Ephesians 4:4-6 *There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, **one baptism**, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and **in you all**.*



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The scripture refers to a difference in significance between the baptism of John and the baptism of Jesus (John 1:19-34). The Pharisee's asked John why he baptized if he wasn't the Christ (v25). John baptized to show the way of the Lord.

John 1:19-34 And this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? 20 And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed, I am not the Christ. 21 And they asked him, What then? Art thou Elias? And he saith, I am not. Art thou that prophet? And he answered, No. 22 Then said they unto him, Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? 23 He said, **I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord**, as said the prophet Esaias. 24 And they which were sent were of the Pharisees. 25 And they asked him, and said unto him, **Why baptizest thou then, if thou be not that Christ**, nor Elias, neither that prophet? 26 John answered them, saying, I **baptize with water**: but there standeth one among you, whom ye know not; 27 He it is, who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose. 28 These things were done in Bethabara beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing. 29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. 30 This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me. 31 And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I **come baptizing with water**. 32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. 33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is **he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost**. 34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.

John 4:1-2 When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that **Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John**, 2 (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)

During the time of the ministry of John the Baptist, water baptism was for the remission of sins as a part of the preparing the way of the Lord. The way that God would bring the remission of sins to mankind was being revealed through John. Then came Jesus, the one God told John to bear witness unto. The way of the Lord to bring the remission of sins remained unchanged under Jesus Christ and His disciples; they also baptized in water for the remission of sins. Yet, the way of the Lord to bring reconciliation of mankind back unto God was not yet reveled.

It is very important to understand the timing of the commandment of baptism from Jesus Christ: the resurrected Christ commanded baptism for salvation (Mark 16:16) and for the remission of sins and the filling of the Holy Ghost (Luke 24:45-53). This baptism would be an operation of God that provided the removal of sins and the implanting of the Holy Ghost into the obedient believer. The believer would receive the blood of Jesus shed at His death that would remit them of their sins as well as receive the spirit of Christ that rose from the dead in their baptism (Acts 2:38). This operation of God



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would not only make the believer free from sin, but also reconcile a person back to God through the sacrifice of Christ.

Colossians 2:8-12 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. **9** For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. **10** And **ye are complete in him**, which is the head of all principality and power: **11** In whom also ye are circumcised with the **circumcision made without hands**, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: **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**.

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that **I will make a new covenant** with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: **32** Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: **33** But **this shall be the covenant** that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, **I will put my law in their inward parts**, and **write it in their hearts**; and **will be their God**, and **they shall be my people**.

34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for **they shall all know me**, from the **least of them unto the greatest** of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will **remember their sin no more**.

Ezekiel 36:25-28 Then will **I sprinkle clean water upon you**, and ye shall be clean: from **all your filthiness**, and from all your idols, will **I cleanse you**. **26** A **new heart** also will I give you, and a **new spirit** will **I put within you**: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. **27** And **I will put my spirit within you**, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*. **28** And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and **ye shall be my people, and I will be your God**.

This new covenant came with the circumcision of Christ through water baptism. God is now cleansing a person from the filthiness of sin while at the same time pouring His spirit within them to reconcile them individually to God through the Holy Ghost. The remission of sins and the placement of God's Spirit within a person is the fulfillment of prophecy that came to pass as accounted for in the Acts of the Apostles.

Luke 24:45-53 Then opened he their understanding, that they might **understand the scriptures**, **46** And said unto them, **Thus it is written**, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: **47** And that **repentance and remission of sins** should be **preached in his name** among **all nations**, beginning **at Jerusalem**. **48** And **ye are witnesses** of these things. **49** And, behold, **I send the promise of my Father** upon you: but **tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem**, until ye be **endued** with power from on high. **50** And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. **51** And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from



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them, and carried up into heaven. 52 And they worshipped him, and **returned to Jerusalem** with great joy: 53 And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

Acts 1:2-9 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given **commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen**: 3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to **the kingdom of God**: 4 And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be **baptized with the Holy Ghost** not many days hence. 6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time **restore again the kingdom** to Israel? 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8 But ye shall receive power, **after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you**: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. 9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

John 7:37-39 In the last day, that great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow **rivers of living water**. 39 (But this spake he of **the Spirit**, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet *given*; **because** that Jesus was **not yet glorified**.)

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, **the Comforter** will not come unto you; but if I depart, **I will send him unto you**.

The resurrected Christ taught of His authority and deity, proclaiming that with the obedience of water baptism a person would, by the authority of Christ, receive the Father, and the Son and the Holy Ghost.

John 17:19-26 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. 20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That **they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me**, and I in thee, that **they also may be one in us**: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, **even as we are one**: 23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be **made perfect in one**; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me. 24 Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. 26 And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare *it*: **that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them**.



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Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power** is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 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**: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, **I am with you always**, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

The prophecies were fulfilled between the times of John the Baptist, Christ's ascension: the outpouring of the Holy Ghost (where the institution of water baptism in Jesus' name was preached by Peter in Acts 2:38-39). Jesus sent the Holy Ghost back to the church (John 16:7, Acts 5:29-32) and this covenant promise of God to all mankind (Jeremiah 31:31-34, Joel 2:28-32, Hebrews 8:6-13, Ezekiel 36:25-28, Isaiah 44:3) was manifested (Acts 2:1-21). Jesus said to His Apostles, 'wait for the promise of the Father. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence' - Acts 1:4-5.

Joel 2:28-29 And it shall come to pass afterward, *that* **I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh**; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: 29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days **will I pour out my spirit**.

Baptism is where a person is born again (water baptism) of the water and of the spirit (John 1:11-13, John 3:3-8, 1 Peter 1:23, 1 John 2:27-29, 1 John 3:9, 1 John 5:1-12), all at the same time within God's operation.

Acts 2:1-5 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound **from heaven** as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

Acts 2:14-21 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: 15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is *but* the third hour of the day. 16 But **this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel**; 17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: 18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: 19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: 21 And it shall come to pass, **that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved**.

Acts 2:37-41 Now when they heard *this*, they were **pricked in their heart**, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men *and* brethren, what shall we



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do? **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**. **39** For **the promise** is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, *even* as many as the Lord our God shall call. **40** And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. **41** Then they that **gladly received his word were baptized**: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand **souls**.

Acts 5:29-32 Then Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said, We ought to **obey God rather than men**. **30** The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. **31** Him hath God exalted with his right hand *to be* a Prince and a Saviour, for to give **repentance** to Israel, and **forgiveness of sins**. **32** And **we are his witnesses** of these things; and so *is* also **the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him**.

Jesus Christ had then become the mediator between God and mankind by fulfilling all things and bringing in the New Covenant through water baptism (the circumcision made without hands to which the covenant is received).

Hebrews 8:6-12 But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is **the mediator of a better covenant**, which was established upon **better promises**. **7** For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. **8** For finding fault **with them**, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when **I will make a new covenant** with **the house of Israel** and with the house of Judah: **9** Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because **they continued not in my covenant**, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. **10** For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; **I will put my laws into their mind**, and **write them in their hearts**: and **I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people**: **11** And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: **for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest**. **12** For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

Isaiah 44:3 For **I will pour water upon him that is thirsty**, and floods upon the dry ground: **I will pour my spirit** upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring:

When a person is baptized with the baptism commanded by Jesus, they are receiving the full Gospel salvation: the blood that Jesus shed at His death on the cross, His burial, and His spirit that resurrects from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:1-4, Romans 6:3-5, Colossians 2:8-17). There is only one baptism recognized in the apostle's doctrine (Ephesians 4:5) that will make a person a member of the body of Christ (Galatians 3:22-29, Romans 12:4-5, 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, Ephesians 3:6).

Repentance and Water Baptism is the application of the Gospel to Each Person



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1 Corinthians 15:1-4 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you **the gospel** which I preached unto you, which also **ye have received**, and wherein **ye stand**; 2 By which also **ye are saved**, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which **I also received**, how that **Christ died for our sins** according to the scriptures; 4 And that **he was buried**, and that **he rose again the third day** according to the scriptures:

Romans 6:3-5 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. 5 For if we have been **planted together in the likeness of his death**, we shall be also **in the likeness of his resurrection**:

Water alone will not save a person. A person must first belief, have faith in God and repentance in their hearts of their sins. Otherwise, a person is just getting wet at their baptism without any operation of God.

Galatians 3:22-29 But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that **the promise by faith of Jesus Christ** might be given **to them that believe**. 23 But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed. 24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster **to bring us unto Christ**, that we might be **justified by faith**. 25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. 26 For ye are all the children of God **by faith** in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as **have been baptized** into Christ have **put on Christ**. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if ye **be Christ's**, then are ye Abraham's **seed**, and heirs **according to the promise**.

Ephesians 3:6 That the Gentiles should be **fellowheirs**, and of **the same body**, and **partakers** of his **promise in Christ** by the **gospel**:

Baptism is the Entrance into the Kingdom of God - Born Again

The Apostles knew that the Kingdom of God would come through Christ (Acts 1:6-7). Yet Christ told Pilate that His kingdom was not of this world (John 18:35-36). The kingdom is a spiritual kingdom to which Christ reigns over (1 Corinthians 15:22-28). Jesus said that He had all power in heaven and in earth (Matthew 28:18). Jesus prepared a place for all within this kingdom (John 14:1-3) that we understand as being the Body of Christ (1 John 5:5-20).

1 Corinthians 12:12-14 For as **the body is one**, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: **so also is Christ**. 13 For **by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body**, whether we *be* Jews or Gentiles, whether we *be* bond or free; and have been all **made to drink into one Spirit**. 14 For the body is not one member, but many.



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Romans 12:4-5 For as we have many members in **one body**, and all members have not the same office: 5 So we, *being* many, are **one body in Christ**, and every one members one of another.

2 Peter 1:8-11 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make *you that ye shall* neither *be* barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. 10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: 11 For so an **entrance** shall be ministered unto you abundantly into **the everlasting kingdom** of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Luke 17:20-21 And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, **when the kingdom of God** should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: 21 Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, **the kingdom of God is within you**.

John 3:3-8 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**. 7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. 8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is **born of the Spirit**.

1 Peter 1:22-23 Seeing ye have **purified your souls** in **obeying** the truth **through the Spirit** unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently*: 23 **Being born again**, not of corruptible seed, but of **incorruptible**, by **the word of God**, which liveth and abideth for ever.

1 John 2:27-29 But the anointing which **ye have received** of him **abideth in you**, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the **same anointing teacheth you** of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, **ye shall abide in him**. 28 And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming. 29 If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that **every one that doeth righteousness is born of him**.

1 John 3:9 Whosoever is **born of God** doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, **because** he is born of God.

1 John 5:1-12 Whosoever **believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God**: and every one that loveth him that **begat** loveth him also **that is begotten of him**. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, **and keep his commandments**. 3 For this is the love of God, that we **keep his commandments**: and his commandments are not grievous. 4 For whatsoever is **born of God overcometh**



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the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, *even* our **faith**. 5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but **he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?** 6 This is he that **came by water and blood**, *even* Jesus Christ; **not by water only, but by water and blood**. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth. 7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. 8 And there are **three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one**. 9 If we receive the witness of men, **the witness of God is greater:** for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. 10 He that believeth on the Son of God **hath the witness in himself:** he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. 11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

1 John 5:18 We know that whosoever is **born of God** sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God **keepeth himself**, and that wicked one **toucheth him not**.



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Question 1

As defined, baptism is to be fully submerged in water.

True

False

True/False

Question 2

As described in Ephesians 4:4-6, there is:

One temptation.

One faith.

One baptism.

One Lord.

Multiple choice (Multiple answers)

Question 3

As described in Luke 24:44-53, baptism is essential to receive:

Power in Jerusalem.

Unity with Belial.

Power from witches.

Power from on high.

Multiple choice (Unique answer)

Question 4

As described in Acts 2:37-41, repentance and baptism are essential for:

Claiming God's promise.

Having the lust of the eyes.

The remission of sins.

The gift of the Holy Ghost.

Multiple choice (Multiple answers)