



# Build on the Rock

Doctrinal Lesson  
Series 2023

## Lesson 15:

### "True Baptism and the Counterfeit"



The subject of baptism is a very important, yet controversial subject, today. If it wasn't important, it wouldn't be mentioned 22 times in the Bible. What is the significance of baptism and when should one get baptized? What is the correct method of baptism and are there counterfeit baptisms out there? Some believe that baptism is NOT essential to be saved, but what does the Bible say about baptism? Complete this lesson with the KJV Bible and have your questions answered about Baptism!

1) What did Jesus command His disciples to do? -Mark 16:15

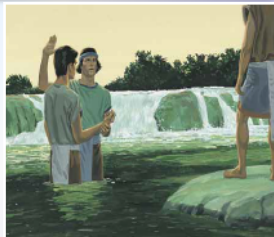
"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel to every creature." -Mark 16:15

2) What did Jesus tell His disciples to do if the people believed and accepted the preaching of the gospel? If they believed not, what would be their eternal consequence? -Mark 16:16.

1 - If the people believed, they must be "bap\_\_iz\_\_d" and would be "s\_\_ved."

2 - If the people believed not, they would be "d\_\_mned" to hellfire.

\*Note: The great commission to the church is to preach the gospel to every creature on earth. Those who believed and accepted the gospel MUST go through the ordinance of baptism to officially join the church and be saved in the kingdom of God. Those who reject the gospel and refuse baptism will miss out on the gift of salvation and will be damned to punishment in hell. This scripture tells us of the importance of baptism.



\*Note: Some people will use the story of the thief on the cross as an excuse for not being baptized. (See Luke 23:42, 43). The thief believed and accepted Jesus while bound to a wooden cross. He never got baptized, yet Jesus said that the thief would be in heavenly paradise. This scriptures doesn't contradict Mark 16:16, but reveals to us that baptism is only required when it is a physical possibility. The thief could not come down from the cross to be baptized and God does NOT expect from us what we CANNOT do.

### 3) How many true baptisms are there? -Ephesians 4:5

1 - There is "one L\_\_rd, one fa\_\_th and o\_\_e b\_\_pti\_\_m."

### 4) What does the Bible say about Jesus' baptism that reveals to us the true method of baptism? -Mark 1:9, 10

1 - The Bible tells us that when Jesus was baptized, He came "up o\_\_t of the w\_\_ter", which reveals to us that submersion is the true method of baptism.



\*Note: The Greek word for baptism is "BAPTIZO", which means to wholly cover with fluid or to submerge. When Jesus and the Ethiopian Eunuch were baptized, the Bible once again describes them both coming up out of the water, which tells us that they were submerged. (See Acts 8:38, 39)

**\*Warning:** Today, there are several counterfeit baptisms that you need to be aware of so that you don't practice them, nor teach them to others:



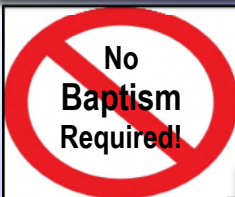
Infant Baptism



Affusion (Pouring)



Sprinkling



Baptism by Mail

**\*History of Baptism by sprinkling:** The first general law for sprinkling was obtained by Pope Steven II. He was driven from Rome by Adolphus, king of the Lombards, in 753, fled to Pepin, who a short time before had usurped the crown of France. While he remained there, the monks of Cressy, in Brittany, consulted him whether, in case of necessity, baptism poured on the head of the infant would be allowed. He declared that pouring or sprinkling was admitted only in CASES OF NECESSITY.

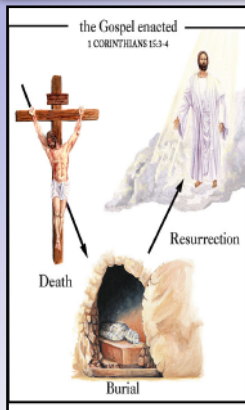
In 1311, the (Catholic) legislature, in a council held in Ravena, declared immersion or sprinkling to be indifferent. In some areas, however, (Scotland for instance) sprinkling was never practiced in ordinary cases, till after the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century.



Pope Stephen II

5) The counterfeit methods of baptisms are traditions of men. What does the Bible say about holding to men's traditions above the Word of God? -Mark 7:7.

1 - We worship God "in va\_n" when we teach "for d\_ctrines the comm\_ndm\_nts of m\_n."



6) What is the significance of baptism? -Romans 6:4-7

1 - The submersion into the water is symbolic of our sinful life being "buried with h\_m [Jesus] by b\_ptism into de\_th."

2 - The coming up out of the water is symbolic of Christ being "raised up from the d\_ad" and us walking "in newness of l\_fe."

3 - Baptism is symbolic of both Christ's "d\_ath" and "res\_rrection."

4 - Baptism is symbolic of the crucifixion of the "old m\_n" and the new man being "freed from s\_n."

7) What are the steps to prepare for baptism? -Matthew 28:19, 20, Acts 16:31; 2:38.

1 - You must be taught to "obs\_ve all th\_ngs" that God has "c\_mmanded" you.

2 - You must "bel\_eve on the L\_rd Jes\_s Chr\_st."

3 - You must "r\_pent" of all of your sins and be converted. (See also Acts 3:19)



8) Is rebaptism Biblical? -Acts 19:3-5

1 - Yes! Rebaptism is biblical because Paul found some believers in Ephesus who were baptized unto "J\_hn's bapt\_sm", which "was the b\_ptism of repentance." After they learned about Jesus Christ, they were rebaptized "in the n\_me of the L\_rd Jes\_s Chr\_st."

\*Note: Rebaptism was administered by the early church after the believers learned about Christ's death and resurrection. Baptism is a commitment to follow Jesus and when you come to understand significant doctrinal Truth that you have not known previously, it is good to be rebaptized. Rebaptism is also for those who have fallen away from the faith and decide to recommit their lives to Jesus Christ.

9) In whose name does the Bible say to be baptized in? -Matthew 28:19, Acts 2:37, 38.

1 - Jesus says to baptize in the "n\_me of the Fa\_her, and of the S\_n, and of the H\_ly Gh\_st."

2 - Peter says to baptize in the "na\_e of J\_sus Chr\_st."

**\*Note:** Though, these 2 commands seem to be contradicting, they actually compliment each other. Jesus emphasized the importance of acknowledging the 3 person godhead at baptism, while Peter emphasized the importance of acknowledging Jesus as being the Son of God and the one who gives us remission for sins. The apostles baptized in Jesus name, but if you are baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost acknowledging Jesus as the Son, this would also be acceptable before God.



Peter commanded the people to repent and be baptized on the Day of Pentecost.

### 10) What does one officially become a part of at baptism? -1 Corinthians 12:13.

1 - By “one spir\_\_t, are we all b\_\_ptized into one b\_\_dy.” The body is symbolic of the church. (See Ephesians 1:22, 23)

**\*Note:** Baptism is the ordinance that officially adopts you into becoming a member of the body of Christ -- the church. Before taking any leadership position, such as Deaconry or Eldership, one must be baptized. When you are baptized, your church becomes your spiritual brothers and sisters in Christ and we should treat each other as family.

### 11) Does the ordinance of baptism guarantee that you will be saved and ready for heaven? -Matthew 7:21-23, Revelation 3:14-17.

1 - No, it DOES NOT guarantee your salvation. Jesus says that “many” baptized Christians will come to Him in that day saying “have we not proph\_\_sied in thy n\_\_me? and in thy name have c\_\_st out d\_\_vils? and in thy name done many w\_\_nderful w\_\_rks?” Jesus will reply “I nev\_\_r kn\_\_w you” because they worked “in\_\_quity” [lawlessness].

2 - The church of “Laodicea” is described as being “neither c\_\_ld, nor h\_\_t”, but “l\_\_kewarm.” Even though they are baptized, they are described as being “wr\_\_tched, and m\_\_serable, and p\_\_or, and bl\_\_nd, and n\_\_ked.” Laodicea is an unsaved church!

**\*Caution:** Baptism does NOT guarantee our salvation, nor are Christians “once saved, always saved”, as many believe, today. Baptism is just the beginning of the Christians experience. Newly baptized members of the church start out as spiritual babes, but God expects them to grow up to be mature Christians that are living more and more like Jesus every day. Spiritual babes in Christ are far from perfect, but as they continue to learn and walk with Jesus, they are transformed into Christ’s perfect image and character.

**Appeal)** Would you like to be baptized or rebaptized into the body of Christ -- the church? \_\_\_\_.