

What the Bible Says About...BAPTISM

1. DOES THE BIBLE DEFINE BAPTISM?

- The Greek word **baptism** means *“the process of immersion, submersion and emergence (from **bapto**- to dip)”*

- W.E. Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words.

- It is an individual’s participation in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ
- [Romans 6:3-4](#)- *“...united with him in his death... burial... resurrection.”*
- [Colossians 2:12](#)- *“having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God...”*

2. DOES THE BIBLE GIVE EXAMPLES OF BAPTISM?

- [Acts 2:41](#)- 3000- response to first gospel sermon
- [Acts 8:9-13](#)- Philip in Samaria
- [Acts 8:35-39](#)- Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch
- [Acts chapters 9, 22](#)- Saul’s conversion
- [Acts 10:47-48](#)- Cornelius (first gentile convert)
- [Acts 16:14-15](#)- Lydia
- [Acts 16:29-33](#)- Philippian jailer
- [Acts 18:8](#)- (Paul at Corinth) - Crispus (synagogue ruler) & “many of the Corinthians”
- [Acts 19:1-7](#)- 12 men at Ephesus (re-baptized following an invalid baptism)

3. DOES THE BIBLE TELL US THE PURPOSE OF BAPTISM?

- [Acts 2:38](#)- *“Repent and be baptized ... for the **forgiveness of sins.**”*
- [Mark 16:16](#)- *“Whoever believes and is baptized **will be saved...**”*
- [1 Peter 3:21](#)- *“[The flood water of Noah’s day] ...symbolizes baptism that now **saves you...**”*
- [Acts 22:16](#)- [Ananias to Saul] *“And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and **wash your sins away, calling on his name.**”* (see also [Romans 10:13](#))
- [Galatians 3:26-27](#)- *“You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have **clothed yourself with Christ.**”*

4. DOES THE BIBLE SAY HOW BAPTISM IS TO BE ADMINISTERED?

- [Matthew 28:19](#)- *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them **in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.**”*

5. DOES THE BIBLE TEACH HOW MANY BAPTISMS THERE ARE?

- [Ephesians 4:5](#)- *“one Lord, one faith, one baptism;”*

6. DOES THE BIBLE TEACH US WHAT THAT BAPTISM IS?

- [Acts 8:36-38](#)- “[Philip “preached unto him about Jesus”- eunuch’s response] - *“Look, here is **water.** Why shouldn’t I be baptized?”*
- [Acts 10:47-48](#)- *“Then Peter said, ‘Can anyone keep these people from being baptized **with water?**”*

7. DOES THE BIBLE TELL US WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

- Those who BELIEVE - [Mark 16:15-16](#)- *“Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”*
- Those who REPENT - [Acts 2:38](#)- *“Repent and be baptized...”*
- Those who will CONFESS JESUS AS CHRIST - [Acts 8:36-37](#)- [Philip to eunuch]- *“Philip said, ‘If you believe with all your heart, you may.’ The eunuch answered, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”*
(see also [Matthew 10:32-33](#); [Romans 10:9-10](#))
- Those who GLADLY RECEIVE HIS WORD - [Acts 2:41](#) - *“Those who gladly received his message were baptized...”*

8. DOES THE BIBLE SAY WHEN ONE SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

- [Acts 8:12](#) - [Samaritans] - *“When they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.”*
- [Acts 16:25, 33](#) - [Philippian jailer] *“About midnight... At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized.”*
- [Acts 22:16](#)- [Ananias to Saul] *“And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.”*

APPLICATION: The gospel is the wonderful news that through Christ, God has made provision for sinners to share in His righteousness. It is in the act of baptism that our “sinful self” is crucified and buried. We rise from that “grave” to a completely new life as a Christian.

Paul writes to the Christians in Rome, *“But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.”*

God is calling you today. What are you waiting for...?