

New Testament Baptism



GULF SHORES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Gulf Shores, AL

BIBLE CLASS STUDY GUIDE

Prepared by Ray Reynolds

New Testament Baptism

Bible Class Series

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This study guide was created by Ray Reynolds for the purpose of Bible classes at the Gulf Shores Church of Christ (Gulf Shores, AL). The material presented in this series will be gleaned from personal notes, the New King James Study Bible, Eddy Gilpin, F. Lagard Smith, J.W. McGarvey, Jimmy Allen, Owen Albright, Gene Rogers, Dennis Smith, Clayton Pepper, Mark Copeland, and various other sources.

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“The Practice of Baptism”

Introduction: Baptism may be one of the most understudied subjects in the Bible. The word appears over 100 times in the Bible. Let's study an overview of this topic...

Discussion:

I. The Emphasis of Baptism for Conversion to Christ

- A. Baptism involves much water (**Acts 8:36, 10:47, John 3:23**)
- B. Baptism involves going into the water (**Acts 8:36, Matthew 3:5-6**)
- C. Baptism involves a burial (**Romans 6:3-5, Colossians 2:12**)
- D. Baptism involves a planting (**Romans 6:5**)
- E. Baptism involves a washing (**Acts 22:16, Ephesians 5:26, Titus 3:5, Hebrews 10:22**)
- F. Baptism involves a birth (**John 3:3-5, 1 Peter 1:22-25**)
- G. Baptism involves a resurrection (**Acts 8:39, Romans 6:1-4, Colossians 2:12**)
- H. Baptism involves coming up out of the water (**Acts 8:39**)

II. The Examples of Baptism for Conversion to Christ

- A. Baptism of about 3,000 on Pentecost (**Acts 2**)
- B. Baptism of the Samaritans (**Acts 8**)
- C. Baptism of the Simon the Magician (**Acts 8**)
- D. Baptism of the Ethiopian Eunuch (**Acts 8**)
- E. Baptism of Saul of Tarsus (**Acts 9, 22, 26**)
- F. Baptism of Cornelius & his household (**Acts 10-11**)
- G. Baptism of Lydia (**Acts 16**)
- H. Baptism of the Philippian Jailor & his household (**Acts 16**)
- I. Baptism of Corinthians (**Acts 18**)
- J. Baptism of Ephesians (**Acts 19**)

III. The Effects of Baptism for Conversion to Christ

- A. You are born again as a new creature (**John 3:3,5, Romans 6:3-4, II Corinthians 5:17**)
- B. You obey Christ (**John 14:15, Matthew 28:19-20, Mark 16:15-16, Acts 10:48**)
- C. You are saved from sins (**Mark 16:15-16, I Peter 3:20-21**)
- D. You get added to the church of Christ (**Acts 2:37-47, I Corinthians 12:13**)
- E. You have remission of sins (**Acts 2:38, Luke 24:46-47**)
- F. Your sins are completely washed away (**Acts 22:16, Hebrews 9:22, 10:22, I Peter 3:21**)
- G. You get into Jesus Christ (**Romans 6:3-4, Galatians 3:27**)
- H. You walk in newness of life (**Romans 6:3-5, Colossians 3:1**)
- I. You put on Christ (**Galatians 3:26-27**)
- J. You become a child of God (**Galatians 3:26-27**)

Conclusion: We need to take this important step of faith! Have you been baptized? Are you making disciples and baptizing others? Let's continue to study about this great Bible subject!

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“The Method of Baptism”

Introduction: We see the terms “baptism” and “baptized” in the New Testament quite often. In fact, there are no conversion cases discussed in the book of Acts where baptism was not practiced. The Bible speaks of “*baptism for the remission of sins*” (**Acts 2:38**) and the “*one baptism*” practiced by the New Testament church (**Ephesians 4:5**). But what is that baptism? How was it administered and practiced? We need to consider the consistency of scripture and the New Testament background of the usage of the word and practice of baptism. We need to begin this study by defining our terms and establishing some methodology as it relates to this topic before we can get into its purpose, design, and privileges. Let’s study together . . .

Discussion:

I. What Is The Method of Baptism?

- A. Time + Culture = Changes in Terminology
- B. History + Practice = Clarification
- C. Past vs. Present

II. What Did They Believe About The Method of Baptism?

- A. First century documents can reinforce our understanding of Biblical texts.
- B. First century documents can give us an accurate description of New Testament practices.
- C. First century documents contain the word for baptism.
- D. First century documents confirm the proper definition and practice of baptism.

III. What Does The Bible Say About The Method of Baptism?

- A. Clarification about its practice (**Romans 6:3-4, Colossians 2:12**).
- B. Urgency in its practice (**Acts 2:38, I Peter 3:20-21**).
- C. Consistency in its practice (**Ephesians 4:5, Acts 2:38, 2:41, 8:12-13, 8:16, 8:36, 8:38, 9:18, 10:47-48, 11:16, 16:15, 16:33, 18:8, 19:3-5, 22:16**).

IV. What Should We Believe About The Method of Baptism?

- A. Baptism = Immersion
- B. Immersion = Common Practice (**Matthew 28:19, Mark 16:16, Acts 2:41, Acts 8:36, Acts 22:16, Romans 6:3-4, Galatians 3:27, I Peter 3:20-21**).

Conclusion: This series on baptism is meant to open our eyes to what the New Testament says about the nature of this great Biblical concept. Have you obeyed the Bible’s teaching concerning baptism? Are you seeking salvation today? Have you remained faithful to the Lord?

New Testament Baptism

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“The Views of Baptism”

Introduction: Perhaps no subject is more misunderstood in the religious world than the subject of baptism. It is practiced in some form by almost every group claiming to be a part of “Christianity.” However, the vast majority of these religious groups see baptism as unnecessary for salvation. Let me share with you some various viewpoints on this practice through the literature of many of our denominational friends.

Discussion:

I. The Baptist View of Baptism (The Hiscox Standard Baptist Manual, Edward T. Hiscox)

“an immersion in water, performed as a sign of the removal of sin” (p. 83)

“Baptism may not be essential to salvation, but it is essential to obedience....Baptism, therefore, is an act of obedience...but it possesses no power in itself to remit sin, to change the heart, or to sanctify the spirit.” (pg. 83-84)

II. The Presbyterian View of Baptism (The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church)

“Although it be a great sin to contemn or neglect this ordinance [baptism], yet grace and salvation are not so inseparably annexed unto it, as that no person can be regenerated or saved without it...” (pg. 123-124)

“The efficacy of baptism is not tied to that moment when it is administered....” (p. 124)

III. The Nazarene View of Baptism (The Constitution of the Church of the Nazarene)

“Believing that God has given you forgiveness of sins, and spiritual life through Christ Jesus our Lord and Saviour, and that you are thus graciously prepared to receive Christian baptism, as declarative of your saving faith and covenant of obedience, you will now give avowals of your belief and purpose.” (on the “The Sacrament of Baptism,” p. 215)

“Baptism is the external seal of the new covenant of grace.” (on the “The Baptism of Infants,” p. 216)

IV. The Methodist/Episcopal View of Baptism (The Doctrines and Discipline of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, 1910)

“Then shall the minister take each person to be baptized by the right hand; and placing him conveniently by the font, according to his discretion, shall ask the name; and then shall sprinkle or pour water upon him (or, if he shall desire it, immerse him in water), saying: I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.” (p. 369)

V. Various Independent Views of Baptism

“It is not the physical act of baptism that saves you....Our salvation is by faith alone, through Christ alone.” (“My Answer,” newspaper column by Billy Graham)

“Baptism is a figure, a symbol, a picture of salvation. It does not save. It declares salvation....For if you put baptism in the plan of salvation you minimize the cross and salvation by grace....” (False Doctrines Answered, by John R. Rice, p. 99, 101)

“Now, I will say, once for all, that all of the external rites and ordinances of the Church, in all ages, have only been *signs* or *pictures* of an inward, invisible grace....There is nothing in any or all of them that can cleanse a soul from sin. That must be done by the power of God’s grace alone.” (Bible Tools for Busy People, by John H. Nichols, p. 132)

“The Holy Ghost “shed forth” on the soul cleanses it from all sin, and takes it into spiritual relation to Christ; and “clean water” shed forth on the body in baptism takes us into visible relation to Christ, or into the visible Church.” (Bible Tools for Busy People, by John H. Nichols, p. 132)

“Baptism, then, is the outward expression of an inward salvation. Baptism follows salvation. Baptism is essential to obedience but not to salvation.” (The Truth About the Church of Christ, “Please Drown Me in the Baptistery!” by Hugh F. Pyle, p. 39)

VI. The Biblical View of Baptism

A. Scripture References

Baptism = Matthew 3:7, 20:22, 20:23, 21:25, Mark 1:4, 10:38-39, 11:30, Luke 3:3, 7:29, 12:50, 20:4, Acts 1:22, 10:37, 13:24, 18:25, 19:3-4, Romans 6:4, Ephesians 4:5, Colossians 2:12, I Peter 3:21

Baptisms = Hebrews 6:2

Baptize = Matthew 3:11, Mark 1:8, Luke 3:16, John 1:25-26, 1:33, 4:2, I Corinthians 1:17

Baptized = Matthew 3:6, 3:13-14, 3:16, 20:22-23, Mark 1:5, 1:8-9, 10:38-39, 16:16, Luke 3:7, 3:12, 3:21, 7:29-30, 12:50, John 3:22-23, Acts 1:5, 2:38, 2:41, 8:12-13, 8:16, 8:36, 8:38, 9:18, 10:47-48, 11:16, 16:15, 16:33, 18:8, 19:3-5, 22:16, Romans 6:3, I Corinthians 1:13-16, 10:2, 12:13, 15:29, Galatians 3:27

Baptizes = John 1:33

Baptizing = Matthew 28:19, Mark 1:4, John 1:28, 1:31, 3:23, 3:26, 10:40

B. Examples of Baptism

Jesus = Matthew 3:7

Jews on Pentecost = Acts 2:38, 2:41

Samaritans = Acts 8:12-13, 8:16

Ethiopian Eunuch = Acts 8:36, 8:38

Saul of Tarsus = Acts 9:18, 22:16

Cornelius & His Guests = Acts 10:47-48, 11:16

Lydia & Her Household = Acts 16:15

Philippian Jailer & His Household = Acts 16:33

Corinthians = Acts 18:8

Ephesians = Acts 19:3-5

C. Related Examples

The Consecration of Aaron & His Sons = Leviticus 8:6

The Cleansing of Naaman = II Kings 5:10, 14

The Uncleanliness of Israel = Ezekiel 16:4, 9

The Dialogue with Nicodemus = John 3:1-21

Scriptures About Being Washed & Cleansed = I Corinthians 6:11, Hebrews 10:22, Revelation 1:5

Conclusion: What can we learn from these conclusions? Man’s opinion about this matter makes no difference. The critical question that must be asked is, “What does the Bible say about the subject?” Since the New Testament contains different forms of the word “baptism” (nearly 80 times), we need to consult it for guidance. How can we prevent a departure from the truth on baptism in the church of Christ? We need to open our Bibles and study about New Testament baptism. It is my prayer that through this series, we will learn more about this great biblical practice.

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“The Types of Baptism”

Introduction: Few subjects are more misunderstood in the religious world than the subject of baptism. We have already noted that time and cultural practices have “watered down” the view of baptism in many religious circles. It was originally practiced only as immersion. What does the Bible say about baptism? Are there different forms and methods of baptism? We must be careful to “*rightly divide the word of God*” to find the answers (**II Timothy 2:15**). Can you believe that there are actually seven baptisms mentioned in the New Testament? Let’s study them together. . . .

Discussion:

I. The Baptism of John

Mark 1:8, John 1:25-27, John 3:22-23, Matthew 3:5-6, Mark 1:4-5, Luke 3:3-4, Luke 7:29-30, Acts 19:3-5

II. The Baptism of Fire

Matthew 3:11-12, Matthew 25:41, 46, Luke 3:15-17

III. The Baptism of Suffering

Matthew 20:22-23, Mark 10:38-39, Luke 12:50

IV. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Matthew 3:11-12, Luke 3:15-17, II Thessalonians 1:7-10, Joel 2:28, Acts 2:16-17

V. The Baptism for the Dead

I Corinthians 15:29

VI. The Baptism of Moses

I Corinthians 10:1-2

VII. The Baptism for the Remission of Sins

Acts 2:37-38, Ephesians 4:4-6

Conclusion: While there are seven baptisms mentioned in the New Testament only one is applicable to the church today (**Ephesians 4:5**). We need to study more about the subject of baptism for the remission of sins. What is the significance of a statement like that found in **Acts 2:38**? Have you been baptized? Are you seeking salvation today?

New Testament Baptism

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“The Purpose of Baptism”

Introduction: People often ask, “Why does God command baptism?” That is a great question. In this lesson we will take a closer look at the purpose of baptism in. We will try to a clearer picture of this great Biblical practice. What does it mean to be baptized? Let’s study together. . . .

Discussion:

I. The Power of the Word of God

- A. Who commanded faith, repentance, and confession? (**John 8:24, Luke 13:3, 5, Matthew 10:32**)
- B. Who commanded baptism? (**Mark 16:15-16, Matthew 28:19-20**)
- C. Why would any of these commands be any different?

II. The Consistency of the Word of God

- A. God gives clear, concise, and pointed commands.
- B. Consider what He told Adam & Eve (**Genesis 2:15-17, 3:11, 16-17**).
- C. Consider what He told the Levites (**Exodus 24, Leviticus 10:1-2, 16:12**).
- D. Consider what He told the Israelites (**Numbers 4:15, II Samuel 6:6-7**).
- E. Consider what He tells the church (**Matthew 26:26-27, I Corinthians 11:23-25, 28-29**).
- F. Consider what He told His disciples (**Matthew 28:19, Mark 16:15**).

III. The Obedience of the Son of God

- A. The Bible makes it clear that obedience is essential to salvation
- B. Jesus submitted Himself to obedience (**Hebrews 5:9**).
- C. Jesus submitted Himself to baptism (**Matthew 3:15**).
- D. Jesus is our perfect example (**I Peter 2:21, Hebrews 12:1-2**).
- E. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would guide the church (**John 14:26, Acts 2:42**).

IV. Reasons for Baptism in the Word of God

- A. We must be baptized for the remission of sins (**Acts 2:38**).
- B. We must be baptized in order to wash away our sins (**Acts 22:16**).
- C. We must be baptized in order to experience the death and resurrection of Jesus (**Romans 6:4**).
- D. We must be baptized in order to have the renewing of the Holy Spirit (**Titus 3:4-7**).
- E. We must be baptized in order to have salvation (**Mark 16:15-16**).

Conclusion: Man’s obedience is required by God and God requires baptism. There is a purpose for being baptized. In fact, there are many! Have you been baptized? Are you seeking salvation today?

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“The Examples of Baptism: Jewish Converts”

Introduction: We have spent a considerable amount of time looking into method, views, types, and purpose of baptism. In this lesson we will take a closer look at the book of Acts and consider the great conversion stories of the Bible. We need to keep in mind that the Bible says “*The sum of Your word is truth, and every one of Your righteous ordinances endures forever*” (**Psalm 119:160**) and that we are to “*rightly divide the word of truth*” (**II Timothy 2:15**). Let’s study together. . . .

Discussion:

I. The Stops Along The Way

- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 1st stop in Phoenix, Arizona - Are we home yet?
- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 2nd stop in Omaha, Nebraska - Are we home yet?
- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 3rd stop in St. Louis, Missouri - Are we home yet?
- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 4th stop in Huntsville, Alabama - Are we home yet?
- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 5th stop in L.A. - Are we home yet?

II. The Steps Along The Way

- Romans 10:17** = HEARING
- Hebrews 11:6** = BELIEVING
- Luke 13:3** = REPENTING
- Matthew 10:32** = CONFESSING
- I Peter 3:20-21** = BAPTIZING
- I John 1:7** = WALKING IN THE LIGHT

III. The 3,000 Jewish Converts on Pentecost

- A. The Background of the Conversion Story (**Acts 2:1-14**)
- B. The Sermon (**Acts 2:15-36**)
- C. The Response (**Acts 2:37-47**)
- D. The Application
WHAT DOES IT SAY THEY DID TO BE SAVED?

IV. The 2,000 Jewish Converts at Solomon’s Porch

- A. The Background of the Conversion Story (**Acts 3:1-11**)
- B. The Sermon (**Acts 3:12-26**)
- C. The Response (**Acts 4:1-4**)
- D. The Application
WHAT DOES IT SAY THEY DID TO BE SAVED?

Conclusion: We need to see the consistency through the book of Acts. We have to let the New Testament be our guide in order to know how to be converted and how to be saved. There should be no doubt as to God’s plan after reading the book of Acts. There are several more conversion stories that we need to consider to get a clearer picture of salvation. Have you been baptized? Are you seeking salvation today?

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“The Examples of Baptism: Samaritan Converts”

Introduction: We have spent a considerable amount of time looking into method, views, types, and purpose of baptism. Now we are looking at the book of Acts to see examples of baptism. There is much to learn from these stories. We must let the Word of God speak! Let's study together. . . .

Discussion:

I. The Consistency of the Conversions

A. The Stops Along The Way

- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 1st stop in Phoenix, Arizona
- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 2nd stop in Omaha, Nebraska
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- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 4th stop in Huntsville, Alabama
- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 5th stop in Lower Alabama

B. The Steps Along The Way

Romans 10:17 = HEARING, **Hebrews 11:6** = BELIEVING, **Luke 13:3** = REPENTING,
Matthew 10:32 = CONFESSING, **I Peter 3:20-21** = BAPTIZING, **I John 1:7** = WALKING

II. The Conversion of Simon the Sorcerer

- A. The Ministry of Phillip (**Acts 8:5-12**)
- B. The Curiosity of Simon (**Acts 8:13**)
- C. The Mistake of Simon (**Acts 8:14-23**)
- D. The Sincerity of Simon (**Acts 8:24**)
- E. The Application

WHAT DOES IT SAY THAT HE DID TO BE SAVED?

- He heard the teaching of Philip and believed (v.12).
- He did these things in the name of Jesus (v.16).
- He repented of his sins (vs.12, 24).
- He was baptized by Philip (vs.12, 16).
- He had great joy and wanted to stay in the light (vs.8, 24)

III. The Conversion of the Samaritans

- A. The Harvest Is Ready (**John 4:34-42**)
- B. The People Are Receptive (**Acts 8:5-8**)
- C. The Apostles Are Perplexed (**Acts 8:15-16**)
- D. The Apostles Impart Spiritual Gifts (**Acts 8:17-26**)
- E. The Application

WHAT DOES IT SAY THEY DID TO BE SAVED?

- They heard the teaching of Philip and believed (v.12).
- They did these things in the name of Jesus (v.16).
- It is implied that they were taught about repentance (vs.12, 24).
- They were baptized by Philip (vs.12, 16).
- They had great joy after heeding his words (v.8)

Conclusion: These two stories show the consistency of Scripture. God has offered salvation to the Jews and now to the half-Jews, but He isn't done yet! The gospel is going to go out to the Gentiles! What will God require of them? Have you been baptized? Are you seeking salvation today?

New Testament Baptism

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“The Examples of Baptism: A Eunuch & A Zealot”

Introduction: We have spent a considerable amount of time looking into method, views, types, and purpose of baptism. Now we are looking at the book of Acts to see examples of baptism. There is much to learn from these stories. We must let the Word of God speak! Let's study together. . . .

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- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 5th stop in Lower Alabama

B. The Steps Along The Way

Romans 10:17 = HEARING, **Hebrews 11:6** = BELIEVING, **Luke 13:3** = REPENTING,
Matthew 10:32 = CONFESSING, **I Peter 3:20-21** = BAPTIZING, **I John 1:7** = WALKING

II. The Conversion of the Ethiopian Eunuch

- A. The Call of Phillip (**Acts 8:26-27, 29**)
- B. The Treasurer of the Queen (**Acts 8:27-28**)
- C. The Bible Study (**Acts 8:30-35**)
- D. The Baptism of the Eunuch (**Acts 8:36-40**)
- E. The Application

WHAT DOES IT SAY THAT HE DID TO BE SAVED?

He heard the teaching of Philip and believed in Jesus (v.37).
He confessed the name of Jesus (v.37).
He sought guidance, wisdom, and it changed him (vs.34-36).
He was baptized by Philip (v.38).
He went on his way rejoicing (v.39)

III. The Conversion of Saul of Tarsus

- A. The Background of Saul's Conversion (**Acts 9:1-2**)
- B. Harmonizing the Story of Saul's Conversion (**Acts 9, 22, 26**)
- C. From Saul to Paul (**Acts 9, 22, 26**)
- D. The Salvation of Saul (He did nine things, but which step saved him?)
- E. The Application

WHAT DOES IT SAY HE DID TO BE SAVED?

He heard Jesus and heeded the teaching of Ananias and believed (vs.5,8,18).
He called on the name of Jesus (9:5, 20, 22:16).
He fasted and prayed (vs.9,11).
He was baptized by Ananias (v.9:18, 22:16).
He became a follower of the Way (vs.19-20)

Conclusion: These two stories show the consistency of Scripture. God has offered salvation to Jews, to half-Jews, and now to a proselyte from Africa and an over-zealous Pharisee, but He isn't done yet! The gospel is going to the Gentiles! What will God require of them? Have you been baptized? Are you seeking salvation?

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“The Examples of Baptism: Gentile Converts”

Introduction: We have spent a considerable amount of time looking into method, views, types, and purpose of baptism. Now we are looking at the book of Acts to see the many examples of baptism. There is much to learn from these stories. We must let the Word of God speak! Let's study together. . . .

Discussion:

I. The Consistency of the Conversions

A. *The Stops Along The Way*

- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 1st stop in Phoenix, Arizona
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B. *The Steps Along The Way*

Romans 10:17 = HEARING, **Hebrews 11:6** = BELIEVING, **Luke 13:3** = REPENTING,
Matthew 10:32 = CONFESSING, **I Peter 3:20-21** = BAPTIZING, **I John 1:7** = WALKING

II. The Ministry of Peter

- A. Peter Begins His Visitation Ministry (**Acts 9:32-35**)
- B. Peter Begins His Healing Ministry (**Acts 9:36-42**)
- C. Peter Receives His Calling (**Acts 10:9-23**)
- D. Peter Takes The Gospel to the Gentiles (**Acts 10:24**)

III. The Conversion of Cornelius & His Household

- A. Cornelius Receives His Calling (**Acts 10:1-8**)
- B. Cornelius Receives Peter Into His Home (**Acts 10:24-33**)
- C. Cornelius Receives Peter's Teaching (**Acts 10:34-43**)
- D. Cornelius Receives The Holy Spirit (**Acts 10:44-46**)
- E. Cornelius Receives Salvation (**Acts 10:47-48**)
- F. The Application

WHAT DOES IT SAY HE DID TO BE SAVED?

- He heard the message and was told to believe (10:43).
- He was to submit to the name of Jesus (10:43, 48).
- He turned to Lord (11:18).
- He was baptized in the name of Jesus (10:48).
- He was on the road to forgiveness, eternal life (10:43, 11:18)

IV. A Defence for the Gentile Converts

- A. Peter Returns to Jerusalem (**Acts 11:1-2**)
- B. Peter is Rebuked for Teaching the Gentiles (**Acts 11:3**)
- C. Peter Recalls the Conversion of the Gentiles (**Acts 11:4-17**)
- D. The Jewish Christians Receive the Gentile Christians (**Acts 11:18-30**)

Conclusion: God has offered salvation to the Jews, to the half-Jews, to the proselytes, and now to the Gentiles! He also offers salvation to you! Have you been baptized? Are you seeking salvation?

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“The Examples of Baptism: The Philippians”

Introduction: We have spent a considerable amount of time looking into method, views, types, and purpose of baptism. Now we are looking at the book of Acts to see the many examples of baptism. There is much to learn from these stories. We must let the Word of God speak! Let's study together. . . .

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A. The Stops Along The Way

- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 1st stop in Phoenix, Arizona
- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 2nd stop in Omaha, Nebraska
- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 3rd stop in St. Louis, Missouri
- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 4th stop in Huntsville, Alabama
- L.A. (Los Angeles, CA) to L.A. (Lower Alabama) = 5th stop in Lower Alabama

B. The Steps Along The Way

Romans 10:17 = HEARING, **Hebrews 11:6** = BELIEVING, **Luke 13:3** = REPENTING,
Matthew 10:32 = CONFESSING, **I Peter 3:20-21** = BAPTIZING, **I John 1:7** = WALKING

II. The Complications Facing the Early Church

- A. The Plan of Salvation
- B. The Opposition to the Gentiles (**Acts 11-14**)
- C. The Unity Meeting (**Acts 15**)
- D. The Unity/Apology Tour (**Acts 16**)

III. The Conversion of Lydia

- A. Lydia's Prayer Group (**Acts 16:13, 16**)
- B. Lydia's Conversion Experience (**Acts 16:14-15**)
- C. The Application = WHAT DOES IT SAY SHE DID TO BE SAVED?
 - She heard the message and called herself a believer (16:14-15).
 - She declared the name of the Lord (16:15).
 - She wanted justification as a changed believer (16:15, 40).
 - She was baptized along with her household (16:15).
 - She began to influence others to follow Christ (16:40).

IV. The Conversion of the Philippian Jailer

- A. The Teaching of the Missionaries (**Acts 16:16**)
- B. The Conflict in Philippi (**Acts 16:17-18**)
- C. The Miracle & The Results (**Acts 16:18-22**)
- D. The Jailer's Conversion Experience (**Acts 16:23-34**)
- E. The Missionaries Are Released (**Acts 16:35-39**)
- F. The Application = WHAT DOES IT SAY HE DID TO BE SAVED?
 - He heard the words of Paul and Silas (16:32).
 - He believed in name of the Lord (16:31, 34).
 - He washed their wounds (16:33).
 - He was baptized along with his household (16:33).
 - He was saved and full of joy (16:31, 34).

Conclusion: God offered salvation to the Jews, to the half-Jews, to the proselytes, to the Gentiles, and now to the rest of the world! He also offers salvation to you. Have you been baptized? Are you seeking salvation?

New Testament Baptism

Bible Class Series

by Ray Reynolds

“The Examples of Baptism: The Corinthians & Ephesians”

Introduction: In this lesson we will conclude a survey of the many examples of baptism in the book of Acts. There is much to learn from these stories. We must let the Word of God speak! Let's study together. . . .

Discussion:

I. The Consistency of the Conversions

- A. The Stops Along The Way (From L.A. to L.A.)
Phoenix, Arizona - Omaha, Nebraska - St. Louis, Missouri - Huntsville, Alabama - Lower Alabama
- B. The Steps Along The Way
Romans 10:17 = HEARING, **Hebrews 11:6** = BELIEVING, **Luke 13:3** = REPENTING,
Matthew 10:32 = CONFESSING, **I Peter 3:20-21** = BAPTIZING, **I John 1:7** = WALKING

II. The Rising Conflicts With The Jews

- A. The Conflicts in Thessalonica (**Acts 17:1-9**)
- B. The Conflicts in Berea (**Acts 17:10-15**)
- C. The Conflicts in Athens (**Acts 17:16-34**)

III. The Sermon on Mars Hill

- A. A New Idea (**Acts 17:19-21**)
- B. An Old Alter (**Acts 17:22-26**)
- C. An Accepted Belief (**Acts 17:27-29**)
- D. A New Conclusion (**Acts 17:30-32**)
- E. A Strange Outcome (**Acts 17:32-34**)

IV. The Conversion of the Corinthians

- A. Paul Makes New Friends (**Acts 18:1-4**)
- B. The Trouble With The Jews (**Acts 18:5-7**)
- C. The Success With Crispus & Others (**Acts 18:8-11**)
- D. The Application

WHAT DOES IT SAY HE DID TO BE SAVED?

They heard the words of Paul (18:8). They believed in name of the Lord (18:8). They changed their behaviour (18:6, 8). They were baptized (18:8). They were given approval by God (18:9-11).

V. The Conversion of the Ephesians

- A. Problems in Corinth (**Acts 18:14-17**)
- B. Returning to Antioch (**Acts 18:18-23**)
- C. The Mission in Ephesus (**Acts 18:24-28**)
- D. The Success in Ephesus (**Acts 19:1-4**)
- E. The New Converts (**Acts 19:6-7**)
- F. The Application

WHAT DOES IT SAY HE DID TO BE SAVED?

They heard the words of Paul (19:2-4). They believed the message of Paul (19:2, 5). They made a decision to be re-baptized (19:5). They were baptized in the name of Jesus (19:5). They began serving God in ministry (19:6).

Conclusion: These amazing stories show the consistency of Scripture. They give us insight to the fulfilment of the Great Commission (**Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-16**). God has offered salvation to all nations. What do you lack for complete obedience? Have you been baptized? Are you seeking salvation today?

New Testament Baptism

Bible Class Series

by Ray Reynolds

“The Results of Baptism”

Introduction: We have considered so the method of baptism, the views of baptism, the types of baptism, the purpose of baptism, and the examples of baptism. We have also considered the consistency of the Scriptures and the steps to salvation in each of the conversion stories in the book of Acts. When we are baptized, and start walking in the light, some great blessings come as a result. What are they? Let's study together. . . .

Discussion:

I. We Are Baptized Into Christ

Romans 6:3 - *“Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?”*

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

II. We Are Saved In Christ

John 14:6 - *“I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”*

John 10:9 - *“I am the Door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.”*

III. We Are Blessed In Christ

**Ephesians 1:7, Colossians 1:14, I John 5:11, Ephesians 1:3,
II Corinthians 5:17, II Timothy 2:10**

IV. We Experience The Death, Burial, & Resurrection of Christ

John 19:33-34, Matthew 26:28, Revelation 1:5, Romans 6:3-5, Acts 22:16

V. We Are Added to the Church

**Acts 2:38, Acts 2:41, Acts 2:47, Colossians 1:18, Ephesians 5:23,
Romans 8:14-17**

Conclusion: There are hundreds of things that we could study about baptism and the results of baptism, but these give us a great picture of the truth found in God's word. In our final lesson we will discuss the baptism of Jesus and what it means for us today in the New Testament church. Have you been baptized? What do you lack for complete obedience? Are you seeking salvation today?

New Testament Baptism

Bible Class Series

by Ray Reynolds

“The Baptism of Jesus”

Introduction: After the birth of Jesus, and his teaching in the temple at 12 years old, the next BIG event is Christ’s baptism. Some have asked, “Why was Jesus immersed at the hands of John the Baptizer?” We should read the account (**Luke 3:1-22**) and find out exactly what took place on that day and then figure out why Jesus did it. I want us to consider four false arguments that some people make, and then we will notice four reasons true reasons for Jesus’ baptism. Let’s study together

Discussion:

I. Flawed Arguments Concerning the Baptism of Jesus

A. Jesus was submitting to His peers.

Matthew 3:6-8, Mark 1:4, Hebrews 4:15, I Peter 2:22

B. Jesus was acknowledging His position.

Galatians 3:26-27, Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16, Acts 2:38-39

C. Jesus was identifying with His people.

John 1:29-36, Matthew 3:15, II Corinthians 5:21, Romans 6:1-11

D. Jesus was submitting to His pastor, preacher, or a prophet.

Luke 3:1, 7, 12, Matthew 16:18, Matthew 3:2, Daniel 2:44, Romans 16:16, Isaiah 2:2-4, Joel 2:28-32, Acts 2, I Timothy 3:15, Micah 4:1-3

II. Definitive Reasons for the Baptism of Jesus

A. Jesus was baptized as a prophetic fulfillment.

Isaiah 40:1-2, Malachi 4:5-6, Luke 1:17, Mark 9:13, Matthew 17:11-13, John 1:1-14, 29-31, Matthew 3:14, 17, John 1:34

B. Jesus was baptized as a pattern of obedience.

Matthew 3:15, Psalm 119:172, Psalm 40:8, Hebrews 10:5-7, Matthew 26, I Peter 2:21-25

C. Jesus was baptized as a priestly washing.

Luke 3:23, Numbers 4:34-37, Luke 3:22, II Samuel 7:14, Psalm 2:6-7, Hebrews 7:1-3, Numbers 3:38-51, Hebrews 4:14, 5:5, Psalm 2:7, Luke 3:23-38, Ezra 2:61-63

D. Jesus was baptized as a preview of the gospel.

I Corinthians 15:1-4, I Peter 1:19, Luke 2:52, John 1:1-14, Luke 2:35, 49, 51-52, Mark 1:9-10, Luke 16:24, John 13:26, Romans 6:3-4, Colossians 2:12

Conclusion: Remember all that we have studied in this series. We may not understand all the reasons why Christ submitted to baptism, but we can rightly divide the word of God (**II Timothy 2:15**). We have a limited view of that wonderful event, but we have enough to know that it was significant. He did this to show us the way! Have you submitted to the baptism “for the remission of sins” (**Acts 2:38**)? Come to Jesus now! He will save you if your heart is ready!