

NEW TESTAMENT BAPTISM

“The Method of Baptism”

Sermon by Ray Reynolds (9/5/10)



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?

WORD OF THE DAY = “Baptism”