

Solid Rock Community Baptist Church

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BAPTISM

INTRODUCTION:

In the original biblical text, the Greek word for “baptize” was “baptizo” which means to “immerse beneath water”. That is why we baptize by immersion, or fully cover the body with water. Jesus Himself was baptized by immersion (**read Matt. 3:16**)

1. WHY MUST WE BE BAPTIZED?

a. Baptism is an ordinance. There were two ordinances or commandments left for the church. One is the Lord’s Supper (**read I Corin. 11:23-26**). The other is baptism (**read Matt. 28:18-20**)

b. Baptism portrays the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus.
DEATH: on the cross (**read John 19:30**). BURIAL: in the tomb (**read Luke 23:50-53**). RESURRECTION: from the grave (**read Mark 16:1-6**)

c. Baptism is a symbol of the death, burial and resurrection that takes place in our *own* lives!

1. DEATH: to the old man, salvation and new life in Christ
(**read Romans 6:4, II Corin. 5:17 and Cot. 3:3**)

2. BURIAL: the on-going death of the flesh as we become more and more like Christ (**read Romans 8:13 and Cot. 3:5**)

3. RESURRECTION: our spirits are “raised up” unto everlasting life both now AND in the rapture (**read Romans 8:11, Romans 6:5 and Phil. 3:10**)

2. WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT BAPTISM?

a. Baptism is NOT a requirement for salvation (read Romans 10:9)
It is a “symbol” of ones salvation. Remember that the dying thief was certainly saved, though he had no chance to be baptized (**read Luke 23:39-43**)

b. A spiritual immersion is symbolized by baptism as well. When we accept Jesus Christ as our own Savior, we receive the gift (baptism) of the Holy Ghost. We are then immersed or “covered” in His teaching, His guidance and His comfort (**read John 14:26 and John 16:7**)

POINT OF CLARIFICATION: the gift of the Holy Ghost is a consequence of repentance for the remission of sin, NOT a consequence **of** baptism! (**read Acts 2:38**)

c. The baptism experience is personal. Though one is baptized in public, each individual should focus on what it means to them personally.

+ YOU have repented of your sins and been forgiven by God.

+ YOU have received Jesus Christ as your OWN Savior.

+ YOU have committed your very LIFE to Christ and will one day be presented faultless before the Living God!

**GOD BLESS YOU
AND WELCOME
TO THE BODY OF
CHRIST!**

