

Instruction about Baptisms

- Hebrews 6:2, “*instruction about baptisms...*” notice it’s in the plural
- The word ‘Baptized’ comes from the Greek word ‘baptizo’ (bap-tid’-zo)
 - o to immerse or submerge into something; to make overwhelmed (i.e. fully wet)
- There are four different baptisms that we see in Scripture which we’ll explore together

Baptized into the Body of Christ

1 Corinthians 12:13, “For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body — whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free — and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.”

- **Please Read: Titus 3:3-7** *The new birth is the rebirth of the human spirit*
- Notice we are all given one Spirit to drink, “Living Water” – **John 4:7-14**
- When we were first born again, that’s when we were connected to the Body of Christ
- The ‘Body of Christ’ refers to all believers that are spiritually connected to one another
- Like in a human body, each part has a function to contribute
 - o **Romans 12:4-8; Ephesians 4:15-16; 1 Peter 4:10**
- **Please Read: 1 Corinthians 12:14-31** *Jesus is the Head of His Body – the Church*
 - o **Eph. 1:22-23; 5:23, 30; Col. 1:24**

Water Baptism

In keeping with the definition of ‘Baptism’ which speaks of complete immersion and fully wet. To perform water baptism, one would need a lot of water that is deep enough to submerge.

John 3:23, “Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were constantly coming to be baptized.”

- Jesus was thirty years old when He was water baptized- **Mt. 3:13-17; Lk. 3:23**
- Water Baptism is a conscious decision on behalf of the one being water baptized
- **Please Read: 1 Peter 3:18-22** *Water Baptism does not save us!*
- It’s an ordinance given by the Lord Jesus Himself in the Great Commission- **Mt. 28:19-20**
- The early church regularly practiced water baptism after folks were born again
 - o **Acts 2:38,41; 8:12-16, 36-38; 9:18; 10:47-48; 16:15, 33; 18:8; 19:5**
- It’s an outward testimony of an inward work- declaring to the world we follow Jesus
- A wonderful picture of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus-us identified with Him

Col 2:12, “Having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.”

Dead to the World, Flesh & Devil

Water baptism is a symbolic expression which demonstrates the extent by which we have identified with Jesus in His death, burial and resurrection.

- **Please Read: Romans 6:1-14; chapter 7; 1 John 2:15-17**
- God made Jesus who had no sin to become sin with our sin so He could defeat it
 - o **Isa. 53:6-12; 1 Cor. 5:22; 2 Cor. 5:21**
- Jesus became what we were so we could become what He is- righteous **Ro. 8:10**
 - o **Php. 3:7-14; Col. 2:13; 1 Pet. 3:18; Rev. 1:18**
- The New Birth delivered us from the control of the old sinful spiritual nature
- There is still a sinful nature in our physical body which must be kept under subjection
 - o **Ro.8:1-14; 13:13-14; Gal.5:13-26; Eph.4:17-32; Col.3:1-14; 1Th.4:1-10; 1 Pet.4:1-6**

Gal. 2:19-21, “For through the law I died to the law so that I might live for God. I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

Baptism with the Holy Spirit

Receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38; 10:45) is received the same way as the gift of eternal life (Ro. 6:23) by God’s grace and through our faith- both gifts are available for all. Luke 11:13, *“If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”*

Matthew 3:11

I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire

- When a sinner is born again and receives the gift of eternal life-Holy Spirit resides within
 - o **John 4:10-14; 14:15-17; 20:22; 1 Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19-20; 2 Cor. 6:16**
- This is the prerequisite to being Baptized with the Holy Spirit- must be born again first
 - o **Acts 2:1-4; 8:4-25; 10:44-48; 11:11-18; 19:1-7**
- Baptism with the Holy Spirit opens the door to more supernatural in the believer’s life
 - o **Acts 2:43; 4:30; 5:12; 6:8; 8:6, 13; 14:3; 15:12; Ro. 15:17-19; 1Cor. 2:1-4; Heb. 2:4**
- God commands people to be saved (Acts 17:30); Jesus commanded us to receive this gift

Acts 1:4-5

On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

- Commands remove all doubt whether it's God's will or not- **Acts 2:38-39**
- There was 120 in the upper room who had received- **Acts 1:12-15, 2:1-5**
- Jesus is the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit- **John 1:33; 14:16; 15:26; 16:7**

Power to be a Witness- Fulfill the Great Commission

In **Matthew 24:14; 28:18-20** and **Mark 16:15-20** the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ received a divine mandate or commission to preach the Gospel message (1Cor. 15:1-8) to the world.

- Are we to do so glibly in our own strength/mental acumen- No! **Acts 4:29-31; 2 Cor.3:5**
- 1 Cor. 4:20, *"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power."*
- **Please Read: Luke 24:45-49** *Clothed With Power*
- Jesus told them and us today, don't try and fulfill the Great Commission without power

Acts 1:8, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Initial Evidence – Speak in Tongues

On the day of Pentecost they all spoke in other languages (tongues) as the Spirit gave the utterance- a supernatural flowing forth, a vocal miracle- **Isa. 28:11-12; Mk. 16:17; Acts 2:5-15**

- The Holy Spirit provides the utterance and we do the speaking- He does not make us
- Speaking in the tongues of men or angels (**1 Cor. 13:1**) is not the only thing to all this
- There is boldness to preach the gospel; confirming with signs and wonders etc.
- There are four kinds or uses for speaking in other tongues that I see in Scripture
- 1- Devotional Gift- to build yourself up- **1Cor. 14:1-19; Eph. 5:18-20; Col. 3:16; Jude 20**
- 2- Ministry Tongues- with interpretation- **1 Cor. 12:10, 30; 14:26-33**
- 3- Sign to Unbelievers- **Acts 2:5-12; 1 Cor. 14:22**
- 4- Intercessory- groaning and travail- **Isa. 66:8; Ro. 8:22-27; Gal. 4:19**

Baptism of Martyrdom

Remember baptism means full immersion into something, in this case laying our life down. Luke 12:50, *"But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is completed!"*

- **Please Read: Mark 10:35-40; 14:34** *Speaking of His death, burial and resurrection*
 - **Please Read: Philippians 3:7-16** *Laying our life down for the faith is common*
 - Since the Church began, countless have made the ultimate sacrifice for Jesus
- Lk.14:26; Jn.20:19; Acts 7:55-59; Php.2:17; 2 Tim.4:6; Heb.11:32-40; Rev.2:10; 16:6; 18:20**
- John 15:13, *"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."*