



Global College of Ministry

**EXPLAIN**

The Christian and Salvation (Baptism)

## The Name of Jesus

“That at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father”  
(Philippians 2:10-11).

- ☑ “Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name” (Philippians 2:9).
- ☑ “And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth” (Matthew 28:18).
- ☑ “And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?” (Acts 4:7).

**T**he name Jesus means “Jehovah Savior” or “Jehovah is become salvation.” When should the name of Jesus be used? The better question may be, “When shouldn’t the name of Jesus be used?” One writer said, “And whatsoever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Colossians 3:17). The name of “Jesus” is mentioned six hundred times in the Bible. His name represents great power and authority and can be used:

- ☑ In prayer (John 14:12-14)
- ☑ In preaching (Luke 24:47)
- ☑ When you are in need (John 15:16)
- ☑ In healing (Acts 3:6,16; Acts 4:7,10,7-18)
- ☑ When casting out demons (Acts 16:18)
- ☑ To receive eternal life (John 20:31)
- ☑ In salvation (Acts 4:12)
- ☑ In water baptism (Acts 2:38, 8:16, 10:48, 19:5, 22:16)
- ☑ In everything (Colossians 3:17)



HOW DO YOU MEASURE UP?

*There is great power and authority in the name of Jesus.*

	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Is this what the Bible teaches?			
Is this what you believe?			
Is this what your church teaches?			

### Study Questions

1. How many times is the name "Jesus" mentioned in the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What does the name "Jesus" represent? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. In each of the following Scripture passages, how is the name "Jesus" used? Use your Bible to locate these passages and give specific answers.
  - 1) Acts 4:12 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 2) John 14:12-14 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 3) Colossians 3:17 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 4) Acts 22:16 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 5) Acts 2:38 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 6) Luke 24:47 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 7) John 20:31 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 8) Acts 16:18 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 9) Acts 3:6, 16 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 10) John 15:16 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 11) Acts 10:48 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 12) Acts 19:5 \_\_\_\_\_  
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### Additional Notes

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## Life Is in the Blood

“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood”  
(Acts 20:28).

### Facts about Blood

**B**lood sustains life. It is the life fluid of the body. It takes nourishment to the body and carries away waste. We seldom think of blood until we see a nosebleed or a wound. Otherwise, the blood silently continues its work. Sixty thousand miles of blood vessels link every living cell in the body. The heart pumps five quarts of blood through the body every twenty-three seconds.

### The Bible and Blood

The Bible treats blood as a sacred fluid symbolic of life. The word “blood” is used more than four hundred times.

Blood circulates through every page and verse of God’s Word. From Genesis to Revelation we see a stream of blood that imparts the very life of God.

### The Old Testament and the Blood

In the Old Testament the writers outline in detail blood sacrifices.

Just as blood represents life and feeds every cell in the body, the blood of Jesus represents eternal life to the Christian.

Deep in the Jewish understanding was an association of blood with life.

“But flesh with the life thereof, which is the blood thereof, shall ye not eat” (Genesis 9:4).

During the time of Moses, God established His command for all generations.

“It shall be a perpetual statute for your generations throughout all your dwellings, that ye eat neither fat nor blood” (Leviticus 3:17).

“For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul” (Leviticus 17:11).

Since blood represented life, the Jews were not allowed to drink blood or use it in any foods. Every Jewish housewife would check her meat to make sure that no blood remained. The rule was unconditional: Do not eat blood for it contains life. No Jew would ever digest blood. It was always poured out as an offering to God.

Before their exodus from Egypt, the children of God were instructed to place the blood of a lamb on their doorposts. The Lord passed over each home protected by the blood.

“And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt” (Exodus 12:13).

### **The New Testament and the Blood**

Much later, when the leaders of the early church had to decide what had to be observed by the Gentile Christians, two out of four rules had to do with blood.

“That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well” (Acts 15:29).

The apostles did not permit the drinking of blood and meat that was not properly butchered. In strangled animals the blood would not have been drained.

### **Blood of Christ**

References to the “blood of Christ” refer to Christ’s sacrificial death on the cross.

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin” (1 John 1:7).

“Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me” (John 6:53-57).

Jesus taught that we should “drink his blood” (John 6:53). Jews were taught that if they drank the blood of a lamb, the life of the lamb entered into them. Jesus was telling them that if they drank His blood, then His life entered them.

“The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).

God put something in Adam that made him come alive. It was (the breath of God) and blood that gave him life. Blood cleans away harmful wastes from the body. When Adam and Eve sinned, they died spiritually.

“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

Sin stops the blood of Jesus from flowing in our lives. A blood transfusion takes the blood from a healthy individual and puts it into the veins of an unhealthy suffering person. Through repentance and water baptism in Jesus’ name, Christ’s blood cleanses away sin (waste).

The blood of Jesus is so powerful because our Redeemer did not partake of Adam’s blood. He did not have a drop of Adam’s blood in His veins. An unborn baby’s blood is not taken from the mother, but from the father. Jesus was conceived of the Holy Ghost (Matthew 1:20).

“But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ” (Ephesians 2:13).

Jesus made the once and for all sacrifice.

“For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins” (Matthew 26:28)

Jesus ascended into heaven and made atonement for us. In the Tabernacle the priest sprinkled blood over and over. There were six pieces of furniture in this portable church. Not one was a chair. The priest could not sit down because his work was never complete. Jesus offered one sacrifice for our sins and then sat down. His work was complete. “It is finished” (John 19:30), He said from the cross.

“But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God” (Hebrews 10:12).

<b>No Blood, No Remission</b>
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“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission” (Hebrews 9:22).

“For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins” (Hebrews 10:4).

“By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all” (Hebrews 10:10).

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace" (Ephesians 1:7).

### Study Questions

1. What does blood do for the body? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is blood symbolic of in the Word of God? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What was the unconditional rule that Jews adhered to concerning blood? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Before they left Egypt, what were the Israelites instructed to do? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What did the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15) decide? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Why did Jesus teach we should (symbolically) drink His blood? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What stops the blood of Jesus from flowing in our lives? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. How does the blood of Jesus cleanse us from sin? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. How is the blood of Jesus untainted by sin? \_\_\_\_\_  
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10. Why did the priest not sit down in the Tabernacle? \_\_\_\_\_

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### Additional Notes



## After Repentance, What Next?

“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:16).

**R**epentance is not complete without baptism. The Bible teaches that we should repent and be baptized (Acts 2:38, Luke 24:47, Mark 16:16). Repentance and baptism go hand-in-hand. They should not be separated or divided. “They are experienced together, accomplishing God’s full work of forgiveness in the heart of the believer.” (Woodward, What Happens at Repentance.)

Believing leads to baptism.
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- ☒ “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:16).
- ☒ “But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women” (Acts 8:12).
- ☒ “And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized” (Acts 18:8).

The Gospels close with Jesus’ command to baptize all nations (Matthew 28:19). The first message preached by the apostles, on the birthday of the church, resulted in a command for everyone to be baptized (Acts 2:38). Therefore, water baptism is an act of obedience to the command of Christ. In the Early Church, people were baptized immediately after believing. Philip told the Ethiopian he could be baptized if “...thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest” (Acts 8:37).

Jesus expressed the importance of water baptism when he instructed Nicodemus, “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God” (John 3:5).

All Biblical accounts of baptism are by immersion. Jesus Himself set an example of immersion (Matthew 3:16; John 3:23; Acts 8:38; Romans 6:4-5). The word baptize comes from a Greek word “baptizo” which means to dip, immerse, or plunge. Immersion is a big word but means to go completely under water.

- ☒ “And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized” (John 3:23).
- ☒ “And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they were come up out of the water...” (Acts 8:38-39).

- ☒ “Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection” (Romans 6:4-5).

Baptism is essential for salvation.

- ☒ “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:16).
- ☒ “The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 3:21).



HOW DO YOU MEASURE UP?

*Believing leads to water baptism by immersion and is essential for salvation.*

	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Is this what the Bible teaches?			
Is this what you believe?			
Is this what your church teaches?			

### Study Questions

1. Write in full, one Scripture (with reference) that supports each of the following statements.

1) Repentance and baptism go hand-in-hand. \_\_\_\_\_

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2) Believing leads to baptism. \_\_\_\_\_

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3) The Gospels close with Jesus' command to baptize all nations. \_\_\_\_\_

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4) Jesus Himself set an example of baptism by immersion. \_\_\_\_\_

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5) The first message preached by the apostles on the birthday of the church, resulted in a command for everyone to be baptized. \_\_\_\_\_

6) In the early church, people were baptized immediately after believing. \_\_\_\_\_

7) Jesus expressed the importance of water baptism when He instructed Nicodemus. \_\_\_\_\_

8) Baptism is essential for salvation. \_\_\_\_\_

9) Immersion means to go completely under water, and is the Bible method of baptism. \_\_\_\_\_

### Additional Notes

## Baptism Is To Be Done in Jesus Name

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

**R**on Schoolcraft in *A Fresh Look at Matthew 28:19* states that this verse is one of the best verses in the Bible for baptism in Jesus name. A simple question to be asked is, “What is the name?” The answer is simply, yet profoundly, “Jesus.” “The crystal- clear proof is found in the Book of Acts where the apostles obeyed Matthew 28:19 by baptizing in the name of Jesus!” The disciples were not merely asked to repeat a formula, titles, or words. They were told to baptize in the name. Every account of baptism in the New Testament Church was done in the name of Jesus. Peter, the first preacher, given the keys to the kingdom (Matthew 16:18), used the name of Jesus in baptism.

- ☑ “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” (Acts 2:38).
- ☑ “(For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus)” (Acts 8:16).
- ☑ “And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days” (Acts 10:48).
- ☑ “When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Acts 19:5).
- ☑ “And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16).
- ☑ “For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ” (Galatians 3:27).
- ☑ “And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem” (Luke 24:47).

Why did Jesus command to baptize in “the name?”
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- ☑ His name is above every name (Philippians 2:9-11; Ephesians 1:21).
- ☑ There is salvation in no other name (Acts 4:10-12).
- ☑ Whatever you do should be done in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:17).
- ☑ We are washed in the name of the Lord Jesus (1 Corinthians 6:11). (*Two Important Questions In Life – Search for Truth*)

The Apostle Paul was so convinced that baptism in Jesus name was necessary that he rebaptized some believers in the name of Jesus (Acts 19:1-5).

Baptism remits sin. The blood of Jesus Christ is necessary to remit sin (Hebrews 9:22; 1 John 1:7). The only Biblical way to receive remission of sin is through baptism in Jesus name (Luke 24:47; Acts 2:38).



HOW DO YOU MEASURE UP?

*Water baptism is to be done in name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Is this what the Bible teaches?			
Is this what you believe?			
Is this what your church teaches?			

### Study Questions

1. List four (4) reasons (with Scripture reference) why Jesus commanded to be baptized in "the name."

1) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Write each of the following Scripture references about baptism in "the name" in full.

1) Luke 24:47 \_\_\_\_\_

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2) Acts 19:5 \_\_\_\_\_

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### Additional Notes

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# Water Baptism in the Name of Jesus

“Then Peter said unto them, ‘Repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of JESUS CHRIST for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost’  
(Acts 2:38).

## What Is Baptism?

**“B**aptism” comes from a Greek word *baptizo*, which means “immersed, plunged into, or completely covered.” Immersion is the only mode of baptism the Bible records.

John immersed Jesus: *“And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water”* (Matthew 3:16). *“And straightway, coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened”* (Mark 1:10). Philip immersed the Ethiopian eunuch when he baptized him: *“And when they were come out of the water, the spirit of the Lord caught away Philip”* (Acts 8:38-39).

Christian water baptism is a ceremony where one who has repented of his sins is immersed in water. This is a personal step of obedience taken by a repented soul.

## Why Should We Baptize?

Water baptism held a crucial position of importance in the Old Testament plan of the Tabernacle in the wilderness. God gave them this plan, and it included a type of baptism – the washing of the priests in the brazen laver before they could enter the Holy Place (Leviticus 8:6; Exodus 30:19-21).

- 📖 In the New Testament, water baptism is also an essential ingredient. As our memory verse says, this baptism is not just for getting wet, but for the remission of sins, and must be applied with a specific formula.
- 📖 In the Old Testament, Leviticus 16 says it was important that the priest was dressed and washed correctly before he offered the sin and burnt offerings, and before he entered the Holy Place. He entered the Holy Place once a year, for the atonement of the sins of the people. This chapter gives special instructions to the priesthood. Aaron’s sons were killed when they did not carefully follow the instructions of the Lord concerning this sacred ritual of atonement. God does not approve those who do not know His instructions and follow them carefully.
- 📖 Hebrews 9:22 says: *“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.”* Remission of sins is provided:
  - By the name of Jesus, who shed His blood on Calvary (Hebrews 9:12-15), and
  - By obedience to the instructions and example given to us by Jesus Himself.
- 📖 When we are obedient to the instructions given by Peter in Acts 2:38, we are committing an act of faith in Jesus Christ and the power of His blood to cleanse us from all sins.

Baptism is a type of burial as recorded by Paul in Romans 6:4-5: *"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection."*

In writing to the church at Rome, Paul was letting them know that the death they would experience was not like the one Jesus experienced, but was a death to the sinful nature with which they were born. And the calling of His name – Jesus – the One who shed His sinless blood – was what gave them a new life, a cleansing from past sins.

Baptism is a strong commandment of God's Word; the Lord Himself spoke about it on several occasions:

- 📖 He told the ruler of the Jews, a Pharisee named Nicodemus, that there were special instructions for anyone who wanted to enter the kingdom of heaven: *"Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God"* (John 3:5).
- 📖 After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to the eleven and rebuked them because they didn't believe those who had reported seeing Him alive again. Then He gave them this commission: *"Go ye into the all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover"* (Mark 16:15-18).
- 📖 Just as there were serious consequences in the Old Testament when the priest did not follow the instructions given by the Lord, the New Testament also records grave results for those who do not obey the Lord's instructions regarding baptism:
  - *"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned"* (Mark 16:16).
  - *"...baptism doth also now save us"* (1 Peter 3:21).

Let us be careful to obey the instructions of the Lord!

## How Should We Baptize?

### 1. Follow the example of the Apostles.

Jesus asked His followers an important question one day. He said, *"Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?"* (Matthew 16:15). They gave various responses, and then Peter said, *"Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God"* (Matthew 16:16). When Jesus heard this, He was pleased and told Peter that flesh and blood had not revealed this to him.



He went on to give Peter an important commission: *“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven”* (Matthew 16:18-19). This was no chance statement, but was Biblical authority given to one man who had received a revelation of who God was.

Neither was it a chance happening when Peter preached on the Day of Pentecost, and the people asked him, *“What must we do?”* He used his revelation of who God was to tell them: *“Repent, and be baptized every one of you, In the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost”* (Acts 2:38).

But what about the commandment of the Lord in

Matthew 28:19? *“Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”*

- 📖 So, what was His father’s name? John 5:43 says: *“I am come in my Father’s name, and ye receive me not; if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.”*
- 📖 What was the name He came in? Matthew 1:21 says: *“And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.”* Luke 1:76-79 speaks about this child who would be born, and explains what He will do for us: *“...to give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins. . .”* **What a wonderful name!**

## 2. What Was the Example of the Apostles?

Peter and the rest of the apostles carried out this command in the New Testament. Their followers were baptized by immersion, and in the name of Jesus Christ. Examples include:

- 📖 On the Day of Pentecost – those that received the word Peter preached were baptized (Acts 2:41) – Jews.
- 📖 The Samaritans believed the preaching of Philip and were baptized in the name of Jesus (Acts 8:12, 16) – Samaritans.
- 📖 Cornelius, the first Gentile, was baptized when he heard the truth (Acts 10:47-48) – Gentiles.
- 📖 Even John the Baptist’s disciples at Ephesus – when they heard what God had done for His disciples, they obeyed the word also (Acts 19:1-7).
- 📖 Peter taught in Acts 4:12 – there is no other name that can save us.
- 📖 Paul taught it when he wrote to the church at Colosse – do *all things* in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:17).

## Conclusion

There is really no way around it. If we want to obey the Bible, baptism by immersion, in the name of Jesus is the only way. It was the way Peter preached on the Day of Pentecost, and to the Samaritans and Gentiles. Jesus gave Peter the keys to His kingdom, and Peter used them

until his death. In his first epistle to the church in general (written to believers scattered throughout the world through persecution), Peter reminded them of the importance of baptism:

*"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 3:21).*

*"We may never be martyrs but we can die to self, to sin, to the world, to our plans and ambitions. That is the significance of baptism; we died with Christ and rose to a new life."  
(Vance Havner)*

Water baptism saves us in the sense that it is an obedient expression of our repentance and faith in Christ and of our commitment to come out of the world. It is our confession and pledge that we belong to Christ and have died and risen with Him.

*"Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead" (Colossians 2:12).*

Water baptism is not a magical act; it is without spiritual value unless it is accompanied by conscious faith and repentance. Baptism is important only because God has ordained it to be so. When we submit to water baptism according to God's plan, God honors our obedient faith and remits our sins.

### Study Questions

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the only mode of baptism the Bible records.
2. "Baptism" comes from what Greek word? \_\_\_\_\_  
What does this Greek word mean? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Explain what is meant by the term "Christian water baptism." \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What two groups of people does God not approve of?  
1) \_\_\_\_\_  
2) \_\_\_\_\_
5. How did the plan of worship in the Tabernacle in the wilderness relate to water baptism in the New Testament? (Give Scripture to support.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. According to Paul in Romans 6:4-5, baptism is a type of what? \_\_\_\_\_

7. List and briefly explain (with Scripture reference) at least three times Jesus spoke about baptism.

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

8. In Matthew 28:19, Jesus commanded his followers to “baptize them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.” Write out (with reference) at least two (2) scriptures that tell us the name of His father that Jesus came in.

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

9. Peter and the rest of the apostles carried out the commandment of Matthew 28:19 in the baptisms performed in the New Testament. List four (4) groups of other believers who had not heard this truth before. Provide Scripture reference where possible.

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

10. Explain how water baptism saves us. Support your answer with Scripture.

## What Hinders You?

“And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?” (Acts 8:36).

**A**cts 8 tells the amazing story of a deacon and his desert road rendezvous with an African big man; a royal officer to the queen. He was reading God’s Word in his chariot, and could not understand what it meant. God arranged a preacher. Philip jumped aboard, and preached Jesus to Him. The Ethiopian eunuch gladly received the Gospel, understood it, and embraced it. He asked, “Look. Here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?” He was not willing for anything to stop him from responding to the Word of God. However, many people allow hindrances and hang-ups to prevent them from being baptized.

In this lesson we will take the question the officer asked and apply it to others, “What hinders you from being baptized?”

### Unbelief

Belief is a requirement for baptism. “And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him” (Acts 8:37-38).

“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned” (Mark 16:16).

“[Therefore beware] brethren, take care, lest there be in any one of you a wicked, unbelieving heart [which refuses to cleave to, trust in, and rely on Him], leading you to turn away and desert or stand aloof from the living God” (Hebrews 3:12, *AMP*).

The people who came out of Egypt, the land of bondage, were not permitted to enter the Promised Land because of their unbelief.

“So we see that they were not able to enter [into His rest], because of their unwillingness to adhere to and trust in and rely on God [unbelief had shut them out]. [Numbers 14:1-35.]” (Hebrews 3:19, *AMP*).

“...They could not enter in, because of unbelief” (Hebrews 3:19).

Unbelievers will not enter heaven. Sinners will not be there.

### Rejection

Some reject the Gospel and therefore do not get baptized. If you reject Christ, He will one day reject you!

“But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the counsel of God against themselves, being not baptized of him” (Luke 7:30).

John’s baptism was unto repentance (Matthew 3:11; Acts 19:4) and pointed to the baptism introduced in Acts 2:38.

### **Ignorance**

The Ethiopian was willing to admit his lack of knowledge and to be enlightened. God does not excuse our lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6).

“Such [former] ages of ignorance God, it is true, ignored and allowed to pass unnoticed; but now He charges all people everywhere to repent ( to change their minds for the better and heartily to amend their ways, with abhorrence of their past sins)” (Acts 17:30, *AMP*).

“But how are people to call upon Him Whom they have not believed [in Whom they have no faith, on Whom they have no reliance]? And how are they to believe in Him [adhere to, trust in, and rely upon Him] of Whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher?” (Romans 10:14, *AMP*).

In Acts 19:1-5 the Apostle Paul taught the Ephesians concerning the correct mode of baptism. They cheerfully accepted.

### **Lack of Teaching**

Perhaps, like the Ethiopian, some are asking, “How can I understand this unless someone teaches me?” Teaching is important in the Great Commission and concerning baptism (Matthew 28:20).

“Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet.” “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him” (Acts 8:30-31, *NIV*).

Many do not realize the importance of water baptism. False teaching, which minimizes baptism, is largely responsible for this lack of water baptism.

“Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day” (Psalms 25:4-5).

### **Tradition**

One African student wrote, "Our old customs and other beliefs have encouraged people not to accept baptism. People think baptism is just a ceremonial ritual. They think believing in tradition is enough. Tradition cannot save mankind."

Another student wrote, "many hold to what they were taught as infants and are not ready to change their minds. This prevents thousands from baptism. People are bold enough to say, 'I understand your teaching but I want to hold on to what I was taught in my church.' It is time for us to take a stand and break customs." Customs and traditions are usually wrong only when they violate or oppose God's Word.

"Jesus replied, "And why do you, by your traditions, violate the direct commandments of God?" (Matthew 15:3, *NLT*).

"Thus you are nullifying and making void and of no effect [the authority of] the Word of God through your tradition, which you [in turn] hand on. And many things of this kind you are doing" (Mark 7:13, *AMP*).

Many will perish because they held to manmade traditions they were taught, refusing to adjust to God's Word.

### **Fear**

There are some who neglect baptism because they are afraid of the water. God has not caused this type of fear and will help a person overcome it.

### **Procrastination**

Some tend to put things off until tomorrow. Procrastination is the thief of time. Tomorrow may be too late. The Ethiopian took the first opportunity for baptism. He said, "See, here is water" as if he was looking for the first sign of water so he could obey God's Word. Obviously, Philip had instructed him that baptism was the proper response to the Gospel.

"For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2).

"And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee" (Acts 24:25).

Baptism is essential and urgent (Acts 2: 36-41, 8: 35.). This is why when people heard the gospel and believed it, they were immediately baptized (Acts 16: 33).

### **Peer Pressure**

It's hard to break away from tradition, culture, and friends who do not want to obey God's Word. Peer pressure causes a person to wonder, "What will my friends and family say?" Do not worry about that. Worry more about what God's Word says.

### **Lack of Repentance**

Belief and repentance precede baptism (Acts 2:36-38; Romans 10:9-10). Without it a person is not prepared for baptism.

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 2:38).

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord" (Acts 3:19).

Repentance comes from the Greek word *metanoia* which means to "change mind." Change your mind and ways today. Start walking the opposite direction—toward baptism.

### **Pride**

"God sets Himself against the proud and haughty, but gives grace [continually] to the lowly (those who are humble enough to receive it)" (James 4:6, *AMP*).

Some hate to admit that they were wrong and that they need to be baptized in Jesus name. They want to cling to other modes and formulas of baptism because of their pride.

Quick obedience to God's commands is important. Samuel said, "To obey is better than sacrifice" (1 Samuel 15:22).

Do not allow any of the above hindrances keep you from obeying God's Word.

I like the words of this song:

"When we walk with the Lord,  
In the light of His word,  
What a glory He sheds on our way!  
While we do His good will,  
He abides with us still,  
And with all who will trust and obey!  
Trust and obey, for there's no other way  
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey!"

Trust and obey! Be baptized in Jesus name today!

**Study Questions**

1. Prove that belief is a requirement for baptism. \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. List five things that could hinder a person from baptism in Jesus name. \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. How does tradition keep a person from obeying the command to be baptized in Jesus name? \_\_\_\_\_  
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4. What does peer pressure cause a person to wonder? \_\_\_\_\_  
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5. What is repentance? \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Additional Notes**

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## What Are You Waiting For?

“And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16).

**T**he Word of God is clear and precise concerning baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

“Be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ” (Acts 2:38).

“They were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Acts 8:16).

“They were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Acts 19:5)

“For there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Colossians 3:17, *NKJV*).

The content for this lesson is provided by Pastor Raymond Woodward; a tremendous friend and Bible teacher.

Water baptism is an outward physical act. Our obedience to the God’s command accomplishes an inner spiritual work.

That is why in the Bible there is no such thing as a Christian who hasn’t been baptized! All believers in the Book of Acts were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Some people ask, “Do I have to be baptized?” A good answer is, “Praise the Lord, you get to be baptized!”

Look at this list of some of the issues that are dealt with when an individual is baptized in Jesus’ name!

**My sins are washed away or remitted, accomplishing God’s full work of forgiveness.**

“And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16).

**My sense of right and wrong is washed and cleansed, so I can be free from my past way of thinking.**

“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 3:21).

**My body is buried in a “grave of water,” portraying the death of my old life.**

“Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead” (Colossians 2:12).

**I am born again “of the water,” depicting the birth of my new life.**

“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God” (John 3:5).

**I am brought into God’s covenant of New Testament salvation, portraying the “cutting off” of my fleshly desires.**

“In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with him in baptism ...” (Colossians 2:11-12).

**I take upon myself the name of Jesus Christ, which is the only saving name.**

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

**I apply the burial of Christ to my life, making it effective in me.**

“Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:4).

**I demonstrate publicly that I am beginning a new life, committing myself to Christ and to my church family.**

“Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers” (Acts 2:41-42).

The more a believer studies the Bible, the more they find out about the miraculous events that happened back at the time of their salvation experience. The small matter of saying “yes” to the terms of God’s covenant leads to a lifetime of spiritual relationship and discovery, much like the small matter of saying “I do” to the terms of one’s wedding vows leads to a lifetime of

discovering all the implications of those two words uttered in an instant! Only Heaven will reveal the full wonder of God's work in us at the moment we are baptized!

“So, now  
What are you waiting for?  
Get up  
Be baptized  
Wash your sins away  
Calling on the name” (Acts 22:16, *NIV*).

### Study Questions

1. Provide three scriptural references for baptism in Jesus name. \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Write out one of the Scriptures referenced in number one above. \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. Provide five issues that are dealt with when one is baptized in Jesus name.
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  - 2) \_\_\_\_\_  
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  - 3) \_\_\_\_\_  
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4. Write out the words found in Acts 22:16. \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Truth Or Tradition

“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost”  
(Acts 2:38).

**I**n history there was a great man named Aristotle. He taught that heavier objects fall faster than lighter ones. Because he was one of the greatest thinkers of his time, people believed him. After two thousand years of people believing this, another man named Galileo called for learned men to come to the base of a high tower. He then climbed to the top and pushed off a five kilo and a one kilo weight at the same time. Much to the surprise of everyone who had gathered, both objects fell at the same time. The power of belief in man's wisdom was so strong that the learned people refused to believe what they had seen. They denied Galileo's experiment and insisted Aristotle was correct. The tradition of what they had been taught would not allow for them to accept the truth; even when they had seen it; and admit that they were incorrect. They persisted to believe an inaccurate teaching. This story was related in a book called, *Strong Men in Tough Times*, by Ed Cole. He stated, “A person's beliefs hold the greatest potential for good or harm in life.”

This same man related a story that has been repeated in several other books on various subjects. It is an old story about a ship's captain who one night saw what looked like a light of another ship heading toward him. He had the signalman blink to the other ship, “Change your course ten degrees south.”

The reply, “Change your course ten degrees north.”

Again a response, “I am a captain and I say change your course south.”

To that the reply came, “I am a seaman first class. Change your course north.”

The captain was angry and signaled back, “I say change your course south. I'm on a battleship.”

The reply came back, “Change your course north. I'm in a lighthouse.”

What we believe about our salvation matters when we consider our future destiny. We must adjust to the truth of God's Word. If someone says something is wrong, and then a thousand people say it is correct, it is still wrong.

We cannot be like the boy who reacted stubbornly to his mother.

One day the mother told the son to sit down and he refused. She again insisted he sit down and he insisted on refusing. She demanded he sit down and forced him. The boy retorted, “Mother even though you see me sitting down, in my spirit I am still standing up!”

This brings us to the point of this lesson.

***What are the correct words to be used for Water Baptism?***

As we look at churches that practice baptism by immersion we realize there are two varying formulas used. Many use the words of Jesus in Matthew 28:19. Others use the words recorded in Acts 2:38 as contained in the first sermon preached in the New Testament Church. Because of these two different formulas there is confusion in the minds of many as to which should be used.

Matthew 28:19 is considered to be the Great Commission. Luke also records the Great Commission in Luke 24:45-47. "Remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations."

We do not see anyone in the New Testament baptized using the triune formula.

In history the triune formula was not used by the early church. It started in 325 A. D. at the Council of Nicea.

No record of the Trinitarian formula can be found in the Book of Acts, neither in any of the Epistles. No where in the New Testament was there an example of someone being baptized using this formula.

It is important that we are baptized in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ because, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

Peter was given the keys to the kingdom by Jesus in Matthew 16:19 and used these keys to open the door to salvation in Acts 2:38.

Jesus Himself in Matthew 28:19 commanded we baptize in a name. We are aware that "Jesus" is the only saving name. The Apostles did not disobey or fail because we know all Scripture is inspired by God. Jesus is the highest name known to mankind (Philippians 2:9-11).

Everything we do in word or deed should be done in the name of Jesus (Colossians 3:17). Jesus died for us and we are His bride; therefore we must take on the family name (Ephesians 3:14-15).

We are to be buried with Him in baptism (Colossians 2:8-12). We are washed in the name of the Lord Jesus (1 Corinthians 6:11).

We do not refute the words of Matthew 28:19 but we are trying to show how the command was interpreted and obeyed by the Apostles.

We are not trying to minimize the sincere religious experience of those who have been baptized in the titles. Rather we want you to be like the sincere believers of Ephesus, who upon hearing the truth were rebaptized "in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 19:3-5).

We cannot follow the traditions of men; making the Word of God of none effect (Mark 7:13). It is possible, like Jesus said to hold to "the tradition of the elders" (Mark 7:3). All doctrine must be clearly based on Scripture for it is the only measure of truth.

Pilate asked, "What is truth?" Jesus kept silent. However for those who truly seek truth, He said "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17).

For those who obey the truth, the Bible gives us a great promise. "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

### Study Questions

1. What do we learn from the illustration concerning Aristotle and Galileo? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. What is the best measurement of truth? Explain. \_\_\_\_\_

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3. What are the correct words to be used for water baptism? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Prove using Scriptures that baptism is in the name of Jesus. \_\_\_\_\_

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## This image shows a full page of blank white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for writing or drawing. There are no margins, text, or other markings present.

