

## The Apostles' Doctrine Series

### Lesson #3

## Water Baptism

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

*(Acts 2:38 KJV) "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."*

### I. Water Baptism Defined

- ❖ Christian water baptism is a ceremony in which one who has \_\_\_\_\_ of his sins is \_\_\_\_\_ in water in the name of Jesus for the \_\_\_\_\_ of those sins. It is an act of faith in Jesus Christ.

### II. John's Baptism

- ❖ John the Baptist, whom God sent to prepare the way of the Lord, preached and administered the baptism of \_\_\_\_\_ for the remission of sins *(Mark 1:2-4; Luke 3:3-4)*.
- ❖ He came baptizing in order to \_\_\_\_\_ Christ to Israel *(John 1:31 KJV)*.
- ❖ John's baptism was for, of, or unto \_\_\_\_\_. Apparently he used no baptismal formula, but he told the people,

*"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance" (Matthew 3:11).*

- ◆ It seems that his baptism simply pointed to future remission that would come through Christ and Christian baptism.
- ◆ It was "unto" remission, a valid translation of the Greek word *eis*, which is usually rendered "\_\_\_\_\_." Hastings' Dictionary of the Bible concurs in this view.

### III. The Baptism of Christ

- ❖ Jesus Himself was baptized by \_\_\_\_\_. Since Christ was without sin *(Hebrews 4:15)*, we know He was not baptized to show \_\_\_\_\_ or in anticipation of \_\_\_\_\_ of sins.
- ◆ Instead, He was baptized to manifest Himself to Israel as \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ with the Spirit, and the Son of God *(John 1:31-34)*;

*(John 1:31 KJV) "And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water."*

*(John 1:32 KJV) "And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him."*

*(John 1:33 KJV) "And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost."*

*(John 1:34 KJV) "And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God."*

❖ He submitted to baptism in order "to \_\_\_\_\_ all \_\_\_\_\_" as recorded in *Matthew 3:15*.

◆ We can subdivide these purposes into several points:

1. Christ was baptized to introduce Himself publicly and to inaugurate His ministry.
2. Christ sanctioned John's baptism and his message of repentance, water baptism, and Spirit baptism.
3. Christ provided an example for us to follow.
4. Since Christ was baptized to fulfill all righteousness

#### IV. Christ's Command

❖ Just before Jesus ascended into heaven, He \_\_\_\_\_ His disciples to go into all the world, to preach the gospel, to make disciples, and to baptize them (*Matthew 28:19*).

❖ He expected all \_\_\_\_\_ to be baptized, and He promised salvation to those who believed and were baptized (*Mark 16:16*).

#### V. Early Christian Baptism

❖ The church in the Book of Acts carried out the Lord's expectation and command regarding baptism.

◆ Peter commanded everyone to be baptized in the name of Jesus (*Acts 2:38; 41*).

◆ When the Samaritans believed the preaching of Philip they too were baptized in the name of Jesus (*Acts 8:12, 16*).

◆ The Ethiopian eunuch, Saul of Tarsus, Cornelius, Lydia of Thyatira, the Philippian jailer, the Corinthians, and John's disciples at Ephesus were all baptized when they heard and believed the preaching of the gospel (*Acts 8:35-38; 9:18; 10:47-48; 16:15; 16:33; 18:8; 19:5*).

◆ Even though Cornelius and his household had received the Holy Ghost, Peter "commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord" (*Acts 10:47-48*).

◆ Ananias commanded Paul to be baptized in the name of the Lord (*Acts 22:16*).

#### VI. Baptismal Mode: \_\_\_\_\_

❖ Baptism requires the literal use of \_\_\_\_\_ (*John 3:23; Acts 8:36; 10:47-48*).

❖ The word baptism comes from the Greek word \_\_\_\_\_, which means "to \_\_\_\_\_."

❖ Immersion is the only mode of baptism the Bible records.

◆ John baptized in the Jordan River (*Mark 1:5, 9; John 3:23*).

◆ John immersed Jesus (*Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10*).

◆ Philip immersed the Ethiopian eunuch (*Acts 8:38-39*).

- ❖ Paul described baptism as a burial with Christ (*Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12*).
- ❖ Historically, sprinkling and pouring arose as a matter of convenience. Immersion became especially inconvenient after the emergence of three non-biblical baptismal practices:
  - ◆ (1) \_\_\_\_\_ baptism,
  - ◆ (2) \_\_\_\_\_ baptism by some trinitarians, and
  - ◆ (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of baptism until the deathbed (in an attempt to live one's whole life in sin and still be saved).

## VII. Does the Baptismal Mode Matter?

- ❖ A person should follow the biblical mode for many reasons.
  - ❖ (1) Baptism is a biblical \_\_\_\_\_, so we should follow the biblical mode.
  - ❖ (2) Jesus was immersed as an \_\_\_\_\_ for us to follow.
  - ❖ (3) Other modes of baptism come from non-biblical \_\_\_\_\_ -- poor substitute.
  - ❖ (4) The only advantage sprinkling has is \_\_\_\_\_ -- poor excuse.
  - ❖ (5) Immersion demonstrates \_\_\_\_\_ to God and \_\_\_\_\_ for His Word.
  - ❖ (6) Only by immersion do we retain the significance of baptism as a \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ.

## VIII. Baptism Is \_\_\_\_\_ To Salvation

1. Jesus said so in *Mark 16:16*
2. Jesus taught it to Nicodemus in *John 3:3-5*.
3. Peter preached it on the day of Pentecost -- Birth of the church (*Acts 2:38*)
4. Peter commanded Cornelius household to be baptized in *Acts 10:48*
5. Peter telling about Cornelius' angelic visitation -- angels tell Cornelius to go find Peter in Joppa in *Acts 11:14*
6. Peter mention the essentially of water baptism in one of his epistles (*1 Pet. 3:20-21*)
7. Why must we be baptized?
  - 1) For the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (*Acts 2:38*)
  - 2) For the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (*Acts 22:16*)
  - 3) Part of the "\_\_\_\_\_ " experience (*John 3:3-5*)
  - 4) For the washing and cleansing of the \_\_\_\_\_ (*1 Pet 3:21*)
  - 5) It's a \_\_\_\_\_ (*Rom 6:3-4; Col. 2:12*)
  - 6) Is taking upon ourselves the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ (*Gal. 3:27*)

## IX. Water Baptism Must Be Performed In The Name Of The Lord Jesus Christ.

1. Is it important what name you used in baptism? (*Acts 4:12; Col 3:17*)
  2. The Word of God tells us and demonstrated to us by example that we are to be baptized in Jesus Name. (*Luke 24:47; Acts 2:37-38; Acts 8:14-16; 10:48; 19:1-5; 22:19*)
- ❖ There are some in our world today that teach baptism in the titles "Father, Son and Holy Ghost." But the scripture does not give us even one example where anyone was baptized in the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

3. What about *Matthew 28:18* (Great Commission)

A. In the name not in the titles

1) Name -- singular

2) Father, Son and Holy Ghost are titles --

B. There is no contradiction --

C. Jesus commanded them -- he did not say "repeat after me"

D. The Name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost is Jesus. (*John 5:43; Mat 1:21; John 14:26*)

E. Nine reasons why *Matthew 28:19* refers to the name of Jesus in baptism.

- ◆ (1) \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ (2) \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ (3) \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ (4) \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ (5) \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ (6) \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ (7) \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ (8) \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ (9) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Observation

5. Historical Background

## X. Infant Baptism

- ❖ Infant baptism is not valid and can never become valid later in life since infants do not have conscious \_\_\_\_\_.
- ❖ The Bible teaches baptism for \_\_\_\_\_ only (*Mark 16:16; Acts 8:37*) and for the \_\_\_\_\_ only (*Luke 3:8; Acts 2:38*).
- ❖ But we do dedicate babies to the Lord.