

LESSON #18 BAPTISM

TEXTS: **Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15, 16; John 3:3-5; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; Romans 6:3-7; 1 Peter 3:21**

INTRODUCTION:

Dear Abby

Please explain just what people mean when they say that they are "Born Again? "

Signed: B.H.

Dear B. H.,

They mean that they have accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, and have put their faith and trust in Him.

Signed: Abby

People of all faiths are claiming to be "born again" because they think, feel, hear or have a dream concerning a certain sensation and, as a result, think they are saved. (Put your hand on the TV or radio; I found it; accepted Christ on a hospital bed; sitting in car talking to preacher's son.)

Baptism is one of the most misunderstood doctrines of the Christian faith. God is not responsible, the teaching is clear. Volumes have been written, but after all have been said, God's Word still reads '**He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.**'

Hugh F. Pyle in his book The Truth About The Church of Christ, chapter 4 entitled "Please Drown Me In The Baptistry!" writes the following, "The pet heresy of the Church of Christ is the doctrine of baptismal regeneration. They take the entire scope of God's glorious word and try to bring it all under the shelter of about 5 dripping wet verses which (taken out of context) they declare teach that our sins are washed away in the baptistry of the Church of Christ!"

"According to the Church of Christ doctrines, all of the great heroes of the faith in **Hebrews chapter 11** were lost because they were never baptized after Pentecost."

Let's let the Bible show us the answer to Abby's question and also put Mr. Pyle in his place.

I. Bible Subject

- A. The New Testament uses the original Greek word 115 times. (Baptist, Baptism, Baptizing, etc.)
- B. Old Testament division of King James does not use the New Testament form at any time.

II. Meaning of the word

- A. "Baptizo" to dip, plunge, cover or immerse.

III. Kinds of baptism

- A. Moses -- I **Corinthians** 10:2
- B. Fire and Holy Spirit -- **Matthew** 3:11 C. John's -- **Matthew** 3:6
- D. Christ's. This is the one baptism of **Ephesians** 4:5, and the basis of this lesson.

DISCUSSION:

Why be baptized? About as many reasons as there are faiths.

Baptists: "Not essential to salvation; but it is essential to obedience". Hiscox Guide, page 87

Jehovah's Witness: Must be baptized to show dedication. It is expected of Christians.

Methodist: Baptism, a sign to mark the difference between a Christian and a non-Christian.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

1. Baptism is a command.

- a. The Great Commission - **Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16**
- b. Cornelius' household - **Acts 10:48**

2. Who should be baptized?

- a. **Matthew 28:19** - taught persons
- b. **Mark 16:16** - believing persons
- c. **Acts 2:38** - penitent persons
- d. **Acts 8:37** - persons who have confessed Christ.

NOTE: Those that baptize completely reverse the order.

3. Some things accomplished in baptism.

- a. It is part of the new birth - **John 3:3-5; H Corinthians 5:17**
- b. It is for the remission of sins - **Acts 2:38.**
- c. It is for the washing away of sins - **Acts 22:16.**
- d. It is to imitate the death, burial and resurrection of Christ - **Romans 6:3-5.**
- e. It enables one to put on Christ - **Galatians 3:26, 27.**
- f. It enables one to be saved - I **Peter 3:20, 21.**
- g. It enables one to enter the Body, which is the church - I **Corinthians 12:13.**

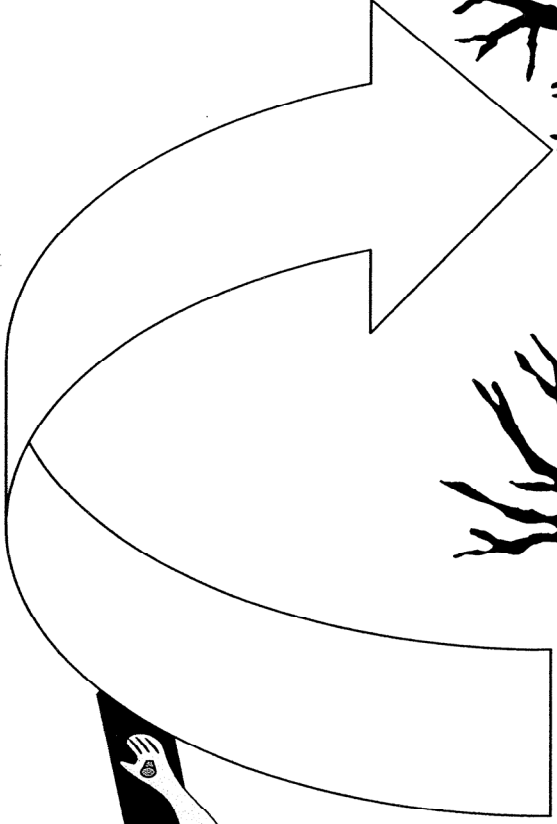
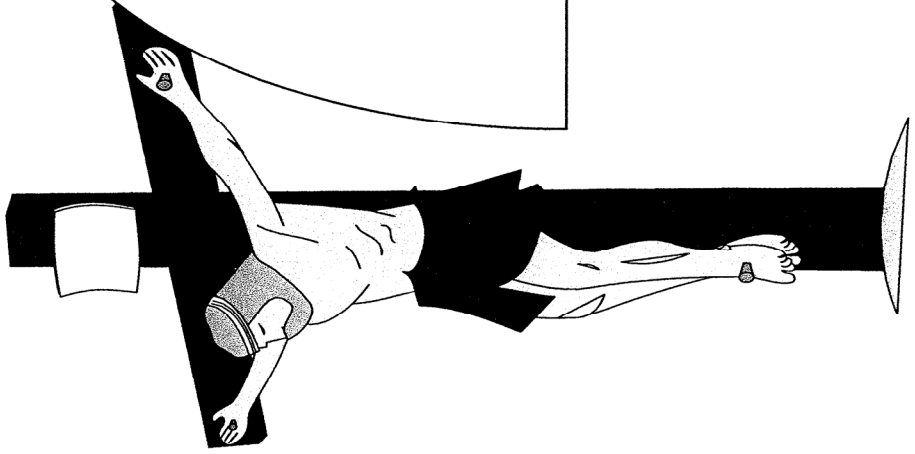
4. Every example of conversion in the book of Acts mentions baptism

- a. Pentecost - **Acts 2.**
- b. Samaritans - **Acts 8**
- c. Saul - **Acts 9**
- d. Cornelius - **Acts 10**
- e. Lydia - **Acts 16**
- f. Jailor - **Acts 16**
- g. Corinthians - **Acts 16**

5. (CHART)

DEATH BECAUSE OF SIN

ROMANS 6:3-5



RESURRECTION



BURIAL

