



The Basics of Baptism

“Fundamental” lessons are a constant need in a growing church for two essential reasons:

1. As a reminder to those who've heard them before, 2Pet.1:12-14; 3:1; Phil.3:1;
2. To provide essential knowledge a basis for growth to those new to the faith, 1Pet.2:1-5.

Given these things, we're going to keep things real simple as we examine the

The Basics of Baptism

The **concept** of baptism is simple. It represents two facets of our spiritual lives:

1. The ***Death*** of our old self of selfishness and sin, [Rom.6:1-7](#); [Col.2:12](#); [Eph.2:1ff.](#)
2. The ***Birth*** of our new self of selflessness and service, [Rom.6:8-11](#); [John 3:3,5.](#)

Baptism is, therefore, both an ***end*** as well as a ***beginning***.

The Basics of Baptism

Scriptural, New Testament baptism is made of three essential parts- remember the **3 P's**:

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1. The candidate must be the right **Person**- a penitent believer, John 1:12; Acts 2:36-38a; 8:12-13,35-37.

2. For baptism to be scriptural, it must be done for the right **Purpose**- for the remission of sins through the blood of Jesus, Acts 2:38b; 22:16; Titus 3:5.

3. For baptism to be effective, it has to be the right **Practice**- immersion/burial in water, Col.2:12; Rom.6:4.

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For baptism to be scriptural and effective, it requires the right **Person, Purpose, and Practice.**

With these things in order, baptism:

- ✓ Is *“in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit”* (**Matt.28:19b**) because it is *by their authority*;
- ✓ Makes you a *“disciple”* of Christ, **Matt.28:19a**;
- ✓ Is the beginning of your journey toward heaven, **Matt.28:20**.

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Now, here are the questions to be answered:

- Are you the right **Person**- a penitent believer in Jesus Christ?
- Do you understand the **Purpose** of baptism- the remission of your sins and becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ?
- Are you ready to have the right **Practice** of immersion/burial in water applied to you?

Then, “**why do you delay?**” **Acts 22:16**

