

Grace Series: Baptism 101

As per the example of Jesus – by being immersed in water. The word “baptize” comes from the Greek word “baptize” which means “to immerse or dip under water”.

“As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water.” Matthew 3:16.

Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion under water. The book of Acts shows us that this was the norm for every believer.

“...then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water....” Acts 8:38,39

Why Should You Be Baptized

An Act of Obedience:

Jesus was Baptized. He was not even a sinner but humbled himself to the obedience of baptism.

Water baptism is an act of FAITH AND **obedience** to the commands of Christ.

Most times people choose baptism because “it’s the right thing to do” or to join a church or change their life. Which is well but the number one thing is ‘faith and obedience to the Word.’”

READ Mark 16:16, John 3:4-6

You cannot be a Disciple without Baptism & without teaching Baptizing

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” *Matthew 28:19-20*

A Public Declaration:

Baptism declares that you are a follower of Jesus Christ. It is a public confession of your faith in, and commitment to, Jesus Christ. It is the next step after salvation through repentance and faith and is an important foundation for the Christian life.

A Move From Death to Life:

Baptism is a symbol of Christ’s burial and resurrection. Our entrance into the water during baptism identifies us with Christ’s death on the cross, His burial in the tomb, and His resurrection from the dead. “Going under the water was a burial of your old life; coming up out of it was a resurrection, God raising you from the dead as he did Christ. When you were stuck in your old sin-dead life, you were incapable of responding to God. God brought you alive—right along with Christ! Think of it! All sins forgiven, the slate wiped clean, that old arrest warrant canceled and nailed to Christ’s cross.” *Colossians 2:12-14 MSG*

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” 2 *Corinthians 5:17*

“We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” *Romans 6:4*

Baptism in the Old Testament

The Mosaic Law strictly distinguishes between “clean” and “unclean”. **Water** is one of the means used to bring about ritual purity. Persons who were unclean in a religious sense had to subject to a bath of purification. *Leviticus 13-15*

Ezekiel 16:9 mentions a washing with water and an anointing with oil, through which Jerusalem was received into a covenant of salvation. This can also be understood as a reference to Holy Baptism with water and Holy Sealing.

Noah & the Ark

Noah, The Ark Symbolizes Being Baptized

"... those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, 8 in all, were saved through water; And this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you.

Baptism Clears Your Conscience

"... not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. *1 Peter 3:20-21*

The Power of Baptism

Isaiah 9, Isaiah 7, John 1, John 5:43, John 10:30, Acts 2:36, Acts 4:12, 1 Timothy 3:16 and many other scriptures reveal that Jesus is God in person & that the Name, Jesus Christ is the actual revealed Name of the Lord. *Ephesians 4:5*

John 1:12 tells us that all who "received Jesus, to them He gave power or Authority to become sons of God.

It's almost like being married; when you take on the Husband's Name, you receive all of the perks that come with it. The authority or power is in the name.

Acceptance of Jesus Name gives you the authority to use it.

The phrase, "in the name of the Lord," is not a reference to a baptismal formula but a reference to authority. It is similar to hearing someone say, "Stop in the name of the Law!" We understand that the "name of the Law" means by the authority of the Law. It is the same with baptism "in Jesus' name." To baptize in Jesus' name is to baptize in the authority of Jesus. Consider the following:

- "And when they had placed them in the center, they began to inquire, **"By what power, or in what name, have you done this?"** 8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of the people, 9 if we are on trial today for a benefit done to a sick man, as to how this man has been made well, 10 let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that **by the name of Jesus Christ** the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead-- **by this name** this man stands here before you in good health" (*Acts 4:7-10*).
- Acts 4:17-18, "But in order that it may not spread any further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to any man **in this name**. And when they had summoned them, they commanded them not to speak or teach at all **in the name of Jesus**."

Being Baptized

Following are some of the Bible references:

- Acts 2:38, " 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 8:16, "For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized **in the name of the Lord Jesus**."
- Acts 10:48, "And he commanded them to be baptized **in the name of the Lord**. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days."
- Acts 19:5, "When they heard this, they were baptized **in the name of the Lord Jesus**."
- Acts 22:16, 'And now why do you delay? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.'

Congrats on your awesome Decision!

Here at Grace, we love you, and upon your baptism this is the beautiful prayer of in Jesus Name you will hear called over you:

"My Beloved brother or sister, according to the confession of our faith, concerning the death, burial, resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, we do now Baptize in the Name of Jesus Christ."