

Search for Truth
Lesson Six

Chart 3 - Repentance

Matthew 3:1-2

- 1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,
- 2 And saying, **Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**

The Greek word in use for repent means:

3340. metaneo, met-an-o-eh'-o; from G3326 and G3539; to think differently or afterwards, i.e. reconsider (morally feel compunction):--repent.

Compunction: a feeling of guilt or moral scruple that prevents or follows wrongdoing.

Repent: feel or express sincere regret or remorse.

So repentance is not only a feeling of regret or remorse for doing something wrong, **but is also** the changing of one's mind or purpose afterwards. **Repenting requires** a change in one's direction of thinking. **The change** that is taking place when you repent for a sin you have committed before God **is the changing** of one's mind or will **to follow after** the will of God. A **surrendering** of your will **to that of** God's will. God's will for us is to **keep His commandments.** (Jn 14:15)

Continuing from Matthew 3

- 5 Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan,
- 6 And **were baptized** of him in Jordan, **confessing their sins.**

When you repent for your sins, you are both **acknowledging and admitting** your guilt of these sins before God.

Continuing from Matthew 3

- 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
- 8 Bring forth therefore **fruits meet for repentance:**

Notice that in order for you to repent **you must bring forth fruits meet for repentance.** This again, is stressing the importance for us to not only acknowledge our wrongdoing and our guilt for our sins, **but to be sorry** for our sins and **deciding to turn away** from these sins **to follow after God.**

Repentance is more than just saying I am sorry, but **repentance is** a feeling of regret or remorse for doing something wrong as well as the changing of one's direction. **This directional change**

is **the changing** of one's mind or will **to follow after** the will of God.

Repentance is not an option but a commandment.

Luke 13:2-5

2 And Jesus answering said unto them, **Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things?**

3 I tell you, Nay: but, **except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.**

4 Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?

5 I tell you, Nay: but, **except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.**

Repenting is the first step taken toward the new birth experience of being born again, as well as an on going act every time you come short of the glory of God and find that you have sinned.

2 Corinthians 7:10

10 For **godly sorrow worketh repentance** to salvation **not to be repented of:** but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

Repentance is only the beginning of living your life after Christ. **Repentance** is the changing of your mind from following after your ways, and following after God's ways. Meaning, you must surrender your will to the will of God. **You must deny your flesh and follow after Christ.**

Understanding Water Baptism

A. Baptism of Christ

Matthew 3:14-15

14 But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?

15 And Jesus answering said unto him, **Suffer it to be so now:** for thus it becometh us **to fulfil all righteousness.** Then he suffered him.

Jesus was **a righteous man without sin**, yet still **He was baptized** and said, **suffer it to be so now:** for thus it becometh us **to fulfil all righteousness.**

This is because **baptism was part of the plan of God** for the new birth experience of being born **of water** and **of the Spirit** as was spoken to Nicodemus in John 3:1-7

1 John 2:5-6

5 But whoso **keepeth his word**, in him verily is **the love of God perfected:** hereby know we that we are in him.

6 He that saith he abideth in him **ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.**

How did Jesus walk? **The first thing Jesus did** to begin his ministry **was to get baptized.** Why did he get baptized? As an outward show of an inward change? No. **He was without sin.** Jesus

said it was, “**to fulfil all righteousness.**”

Jesus was our **perfect example**. He deliberately **established a pattern** which He intended **all His believing disciples to follow**.

Thus why Jesus **also said**:

Mark 16:16

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

B. God hath Showed me that I should Not Call any man Common or Unclean.

Acts 10:1-8

1 There was a certain man **in Caesarea** called Cornelius, **a centurion** of the band called the Italian band,

2 **A devout man**, and one that **feared God** with all his house, which gave **much alms** to the people, **and prayed** to God alway.

3 He saw **in a vision** evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.

4 And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, **Thy prayers and thine alms** are come up for **a memorial** before God.

5 And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname **is Peter**:

6 He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: **he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.**

7 And when the angel which spake unto Cornelius was departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually;

8 And when he had declared all these things unto them, **he sent them to Joppa.**

The Apostle Peter **also has a vision**.

Acts 10:9-16

9 On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:

10 And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, **he fell into a trance,**

11 And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

12 Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

13 And there came a voice to him, **Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.**

14 But Peter said, **Not so, Lord**; for I have never eaten any thing **that is common or unclean.**

15 And the voice spake unto him again the second time, **What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.**

16 This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.

Acts 10:17-22

17 Now while **Peter doubted** in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate,

18 And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.

19 While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.

20 Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, **doubting nothing: for I have sent them.**

The Lord sent these men on behalf of Cornelius and **the Lord** told Peter to go with them **doubting nothing.** Peter was going to tell them **all things commanded of him by God.**

21 Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, Behold, **I am he** whom ye seek: **what is the cause** wherefore ye are come?

22 And they said, Cornelius the centurion, **a just man,** and **one that feareth God,** and of good **report** among all the nation of the Jews, **was warned** from God by an holy angel **to send for thee** into his house, and **to hear words of thee.**

Acts 10:25-28

25 And as Peter was coming in, **Cornelius** met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him.

26 But **Peter** took him up, saying, Stand up; **I myself also am a man.**

27 And as he talked with him, he went in, and **found many** that were come together.

28 And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; **but God hath showed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.**

The understanding of the vision was revealed to the Apostle Peter. But God hath showed me that I should not call **any man common or unclean.**

Acts 10:29-48

29 Therefore came I unto you **without gainsaying,** as soon as I was sent for: I ask therefore for **what intent** ye have sent for me?

30 And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing,

31 And said, Cornelius, thy prayer is heard, and thine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God.

32 Send therefore to Joppa, and call hither Simon, whose surname is Peter; he is lodged in the house of one Simon a tanner by the sea side: **who, when he cometh, shall speak unto thee.**

33 Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast **well done** that thou art come. Now therefore **are we all here present** before God, **to hear all things** that are **commanded thee of God.**

All things THAT ARE COMMANDED thee of God.

34 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, **Of a truth** I perceive that **God is no respecter of persons:**

So what he done for the Jews He will do for the Gentiles.

35 But in **every nation** he that **feareth him**, and **worketh righteousness**, is accepted with him.

36 **The word which God sent unto the children of Israel**, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)

37 **That word**, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and **began** from Galilee, **after the baptism** which John preached;

38 How **God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power:** who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

39 And we are witnesses of **all things** which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; **whom they slew and hanged on a tree:**

40 Him **God raised up the third day**, and showed him openly;

41 Not to all the people, but unto **witnesses chosen before of God**, even to us, who did eat and drink with him **after he rose from the dead.**

The Apostle Peter preached **the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ** to Cornelius and to his company.

42 And **he commanded us to preach** unto the people, **and to testify** that it is he which was **ordained of God** to be the Judge of quick and dead.

43 To him give all the prophets witness, that **through his name** whosoever believeth in him **shall receive remission of sins.**

The Apostle Peter preached that they **were commanded to preach and to testify** that Jesus was **ordained of God** to be the Judge of quick and dead, and **Jesus was He** whom the prophets gave witness, that **through his name** whosoever believeth in him **shall receive remission of sins.**

Cornelius and his company were believers.

44 While Peter yet spake these words, **the Holy Ghost fell on all them** which heard the word.

45 And they of the circumcision which believed **were astonished**, as many as came with Peter, because that **on the Gentiles** also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

46 **For they heard them speak with tongues**, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

47 **Can any man forbid water**, that these should not be **baptized**, which **have received** the Holy Ghost as well as we?

48 **And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.** Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

This is so very important to understand.

Remember, an **Angel of the Lord** appeared before Cornelius and told him, “And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter: He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner,

whose house is by the sea side: **he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.**” Then God showed the Apostle Peter a vision. “While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, **doubting nothing: for I have sent them.**”

Cornelius then tells Peter what the Angel told him and then says to the Apostle Peter, “Now therefore **are we all here present** before God, to hear all things **that are commanded thee of God.**” When Peter heard these words he said, “**Of a truth** I perceive that **God is no respecter of persons:**”

So the Apostle Peter was telling Cornelius and all **present what they must do as commanded by God.** While they heard the Word of God from the Apostle Peter **the Holy Ghost** fell upon all of them, “**For they heard them speak with tongues,** and magnify God.”

“Then answered Peter, **Can any man forbid water,** that these should not be **baptized,** which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?”

Baptism was not an option but clearly **a commandment.** Even as it was **for the Jews** when the day of Pentecost had fully come. The people present asked Peter and the rest of the Apostles **what they must do,** even as Cornelius has asked the Apostle Peter **what they must do.**

And what they **MUST DO WAS THE SAME THING:**

Acts 2:38-39

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.

39 **For the promise** is unto **you,** and to **your children,** and to **all that are afar off,** even as many as **the Lord our God shall call.**

This included **the Gentiles,** though it was not yet known. For God is **no respecter of persons.**

Acts 10:34-35

34 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, **Of a truth** I perceive that **God is no respecter of persons:**

35 But in **every nation** he that **feareth him,** and **worketh righteousness,** is accepted with him.

“**For the promise** is unto **you,** and to **your children,** and to **all that are afar off,** even as many as **the Lord our God shall call.**”

Remember God gave to Peter the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven!!

Matthew 16:18-19

18 **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.

19 **And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven:** and whatsoever thou shalt

bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

C. Is Baptism Essential to Salvation?

According to the Apostle Peter, who had **the keys** of the kingdom of heaven, who spoke all that was **commanded of God** to Cornelius and to his household, which was **the same message that was preached to the Jews** on the day of Pentecost, for God is no respecter of persons!!

And Jesus also told us, “**He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.**” (Mk 16:16)

D. What Method do we use When we get Baptized?

John 3:1-7

- 1 There was a man of **the Pharisees**, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:
- 2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, **Rabbi**, we know that thou art a teacher **come from God**: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, **except God be with him**.
- 3 Jesus answered and said unto him, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**
- 4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?
- 5 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.
- 6 That which is born of the flesh **is flesh**; and that which is **born of the Spirit** is spirit.
- 7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, **Ye must be born again.**

Several things to discuss here. **First off** this born again process is **not a fleshly birth** but a spiritual birth as stated in verse 6. Also it is **very important to remember** that **these instructions** that were given here **are instructions that were given just 7 verses prior to this scripture: 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

Yet people **will cling to verse 16** and claim to be born again **while ignoring everything else Jesus spoke on**. For instance: Did Jesus not just tell Nicodemus, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, **he cannot enter** into the kingdom of God? Did Jesus not also tell us except ye repent, **ye shall all likewise perish**. Did Jesus not also tell us He that **believeth and is baptized** shall be saved.

God did so love the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. That is why we need to follow after the instructions that Jesus gave to us. **Not just some of it.** All scripture is given by inspiration of God. (2 Tim 3:16)

To fulfill being born of water **you must be baptized** as Jesus said, **he that believeth and is**

baptized shall be saved.

Matthew 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power is given unto me** in heaven and in earth.

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:

20 **Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:** and, lo, I am with you alway, **even unto the end of the world.** Amen.

Notice Jesus said, teach all nations, **baptizing them**, and teaching them to observe **all things** whatsoever I have **commanded** you. Not just some things. **But all things.** For all scripture is given by inspiration of God. (2 Tim 3:16)

So here Jesus tells us to **baptize them in the name of** the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. So what is the name?

Jesus tells us the name.

John 5:43a

43 **I am come in my Father's name,** and ye receive me not:

John 17:6, 26

6 **I have manifested thy name** unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

26 And **I have declared unto them thy name,** and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.

John 14:16-18, 26

16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another **Comforter**, that he may abide with you for ever;

17 Even **the Spirit of truth;** whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: **but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.**

18 **I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.**

26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send **in my name,** he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Luke 24:45-49

45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,

46 And said unto them, **Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:**

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem,

until ye be endued with power from on high.

Jesus opened their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, **and told them what to speak.** He told them to preach repentance and remission of sins in His name. **And they did!!!** He also told them to go to Jerusalem and wait for the promise of the Holy Ghost. **They did!!!!**

So when the Holy Ghost was poured out as the Lord had promised, the Apostles told everyone, **including you and me,** what they **needed to do in order to obtain salvation.**

Notice that the Apostle Peter, preached to them exactly what the Lord told them.

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.

(Lk 24:47 **repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.**)

(Jn 14:26 **But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost,** whom the Father will send **in my name,** he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.)

The Apostle Peter continues.....

39 **For the promise** is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

The Plan of Salvation **for every** generation! **Remember:** The Holy Ghost will come into you with the evidence of speaking in another tongue as the Spirit gives the utterance. (Acts 2:4)

That is enough to tell you that the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost **was Jesus.** The **Apostles did exactly what the Lord told them** to do. They preached repentance and remission of sins in His name, with the understanding that the Lord had just given to them, **thus fulfilling baptizing everyone in the name of** the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

There is **not one occurrence** given in the Bible of anyone being baptized in the titles of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. **History also tells us** that the early Church **always baptized** in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, or in the name of the Lord Jesus, or in the name of the Lord. It also **was always a full submersion into water.**

Recall: 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.

Notice that the Apostle Peter told us to repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of

Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.

Repentance is a must in our lives. But just repenting of your sins, and not being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, **will not remove your Adamic sin.** Which is referring to the fact that we were all born in sin. Yes when you repent, you will feel a great weight lifted off of you. However, **this does not negate the fact** that the Lord told us that we must be born of water and of the Spirit. You must repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ **for your sins to be remitted.**

E. What happens When we get Baptized?

Colossians 2:11-15

11 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:**

12 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.**

13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;**

14 **Blotting out** the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, **nailing it to his cross;**

15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, **he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it.**

This is crucial to understand. Once you have repented and then you are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, you must have faith in the operation of God. **The operation of the circumcision of Christ, or the cutting away of your sins!!!!**

This takes place in the baptism as you are buried with Him and then believing that just as God raised Jesus from the dead, **likewise** we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection.

Romans 6:1-7

1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

2 **God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?**

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were **baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?**

4 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:

6 **Knowing this,** that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that **henceforth we should not serve sin.**

The **circumcision of Christ** has just taken place that **the body of sin might be destroyed!!**

7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

Galatians 3:24-27

24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster **to bring us unto Christ**, that we might be justified by faith.

25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

26 For ye are all the children of God **by faith** in Christ Jesus.

27 **For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**

Not only is it in the water that we are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, or the cutting away of our sins that takes place, **it is also when we put on the name of Christ.**

That is why it is **so important** that when you are baptized, that you are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. **For that is when you take on His name.**

Notice when the Holy Ghost was first poured out upon the gentiles what takes place:

Acts 10:44-48

44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

46 **For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.** Then answered Peter,

47 **Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?**

48 And **he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.** Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

The first thing the Apostle Peter **commands** them to do is to be **baptized in the name of the Lord**. It was not an option! He commanded it!! For he knew that in order for you to receive remission of sins that was inherited from your birth, you had to not only repent of your sins, but also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. For he knew that this was the fulfilling of being born of water as Jesus instructed Nicodemus. Whereas the receiving of the Holy Ghost was the fulfilling of being born of the Spirit as Jesus told Nicodemus.

Water baptism by submersion is absolutely essential to the new birth experience, or the process of being born again!!!!

Listen to this account of what took place when Apostle Paul (Saul of Tarsus) received the Holy Ghost:

Acts 9:17-18

17 And **Ananias** went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, **and be filled with the Holy Ghost.**

18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, **and arose, and was baptized.**

Now **Listen** to Apostle Paul retelling this account:

Acts 22:12-16

12 And one **Ananias**, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there,

13 Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him.

14 And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth.

15 For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard.

16 **And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.**

Here again, we see that it is in the water baptism, that your sins are cut away with the circumcision made without hands, and thus why we invoke the name of the Lord, for our sins are being washed away. Not by magic of the water. **But because of the faith of the operation of God.**

F. Is there any Age Restriction on When you can get Baptized?

It is also important for you to realize that infant baptism or the sprinkling of water being used in baptism **is not scriptural**. In a nutshell this was instituted by the Catholic Church. A baby can not understand the Gospel and can not confess Jesus.

John 3:16

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever **believeth in him** should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Acts 8:36-38

36 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?

37 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.**

38 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.**

Notice also that they both went down **into the water.**

John 3:23

23 And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because **there was much water there:** and they came, and were baptized.

If you take notice here, John the baptist chose a place where there was much water to perform the baptisms.

Mark 1:9-10

9 And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.

10 **And straightway coming up out of the water**, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:

Here again we see the Jordan would have **much water** and we also see something else. John was baptizing the people **in the water**. Pay special attention to **verse 10**. “And **straightway** coming up **out of the water**, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:”

This verse said straightway coming up out of the water, John saw these signs. Are we to believe that this is meaning that Jesus straightway walked out of the water and then the signs appeared upon him? Of course not. Jesus was **in the water** to be baptized **by submersion** and “**straightway coming up out of the water** he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:”

So this was **not a sprinkling** of water upon the head of Jesus **but a submersion** into water.

So a child should not be baptized **until** the child has been **taught about Jesus** and **desires** then to go to Heaven. **At that time** you can tell your child that all of mankind was born in sin, and we must repent for those sins. And that means that we are sorry for them and don't want to do them anymore. **If the child confesses** that they love Jesus and want to go to Heaven and they tell Jesus they are sorry for all of their sins, **it is time** to let them know that **we also need** to be baptized into His name so our sins can be washed away. (**Note:** of course I am not meaning the water magically makes sin disappear)

If the child then says I want to be baptized. Then they have confessed Jesus, **understood** that they needed to repent for their inherited sin from Adam, and **they have faith** that when they are baptized that their sins will be washed away or remitted.

Romans 10:9-10

9 That if thou shalt **confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus**, and shalt **believe in thine heart** that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

10 For **with the heart** man believeth unto righteousness; and **with the mouth** confession is made unto salvation.

G. The Errors of those who Do Not Believe that Baptism is Essential to Salvation.

Unfortunately, many people try to refute that being baptized is essential to salvation. In order for them to say this, **they directly go against what Jesus spoke** when he said, He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. **They also go against the commandment** given by Jesus saying, Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

They also ignore the first message taught by the Apostle Peter when the Holy Ghost was poured out, when he told everyone that they must repent, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and that ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

They ignore that it is in the baptism that the Lord performs the circumcision made without hands. **They ignore** the words of the Apostle Paul when he tells us what Ananias said concerning the water baptism, which was, why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord. They also miss the types and shadows given to us from the Old Testament.

H. Types and Shadows given to us.

1 Corinthians 10:1-2

1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were **under the cloud**, and **all passed through the sea**;

2 And **were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea**;

Here we have a type of baptism of water and of the Spirit. The water being the Red sea, while the Spirit being represented by the pillar of the cloud by day.

1 Peter 3:20-21

20 Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls **were saved by water**.

21 **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:

This particular passage many times is used to try to justify that baptism is nothing more than the answer of a good conscience toward God. **Again, ignoring** all the other scriptures and **missing the point of what was spoken**.

The Apostle Peter is the very one that told us, 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. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, **even as many as the Lord our God shall call**.

Here, the Apostle Peter has again stressed, that just as Noah was saved by water, we also **by like figure** are saved by water **through baptism**. Then stating, not the putting away of the filth of the flesh. Meaning, we aren't getting into the water to be baptized for the flesh but for our souls.

Remember, "the soul that sinneth, it shall die." (Ezek 18:4b) And we were **all born** in sin and shapen in iniquity. (Psa 51:5)

So, it is the answer of a good conscience toward God, because of our faith of the operation of God, which was the **circumcision of Christ**, the circumcision made without hands. **The cutting**

away or washing away of our sins!!!!

Titus 3:5-6

5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

6 Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour;

Again you see water and the Spirit.

The Greek word in use for washing:

3067. loutron, loo-tron'; from G3068; a bath, i.e. (fig.) baptism:--washing.

The Greek word in use for regeneration:

3824. paliggenesia, pal-ing-ghen-es-ee'-ah; from G3825 and G1078; (spiritual) rebirth (the state or the act), i.e. (fig.) spiritual renovation; spec. Messianic restoration:--regeneration.

Ephesians 5:24-27

24 Therefore as the **church is subject unto Christ**, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 **That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,**

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Again, by the washing of water by the word. **A Spiritual cleansing.**

We also see the **washing away of blood** in the Old Testament when the Levitical priesthood performed sacrifices on the Brazen Altar and **then washed in the Brazen Laver.**

The Brazen Altar, where the sacrifices were done, was a shadow of Jesus Christ, the sacrificial lamb of God, which was sacrificed as our atonement, to reconcile, which is to restore friendly relations, between us and God.

The Brazen Laver, was a shadow of the water baptism in Jesus name, where our old man is buried with Christ, and **His blood remits or washes away our sins.**