

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course*An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries*

5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

BAPTISM

Lesson 3

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"Now That I Am Saved, Where Do I Start?"

Virtually every religious denomination in existence teaches some form of baptism as part of their doctrine, and the diversities in their teachings are wide. This lesson is intended to give the Bible's clear and definitive teaching on the subject so the individual understands perfectly what GOD's intention is regarding baptism.

1. Why does God instruct us to be baptized?

- A. Baptism is the first act of obedience in service to the Lord. Anyone who has received eternal life can be baptized; it takes no special talents or efforts.
- B. Jesus set the example Himself by submitting to baptism before He began His public ministry.

Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22

- C. In Matthew 3:13-15, it is clear that Jesus was baptized in obedience to God's plan. In verse 15, He said, "...Suffer (allow) it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness. "This point of submission and obedience is the single most important thing to realize regarding baptism.
- D. Some Bible characters who submitted to baptism after salvation.
 - 1. The Ethiopian eunuch. Acts 8:36-39
 - 2. The Apostle Paul. Acts 9:18
 - 3. The Philippian jailer and his household. Acts 16: 25-33.

II. What is the purpose of baptism?

A. Several types of baptism are mentioned in the Bible. In each case, physical baptism is a picture of a spiritual truth. The important point to consider is the picture portrayed by baptism.

B. Romans 6:1-7 (specifically verses 3-4) shows two of the purposes of baptism.

- 1. It pictures the death, burial and resurrection of CHRIST

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2. It is a public testimony of the new convert's identification with Jesus Christ through the death, burial and resurrection, which is how he was saved. It identifies him with the LORD JESUS CHRIST

A. By the act of Baptism the New Believer is showing to GOD that he is ready to begin his ministry in spreading the Gospel to a lost and dying world.

B. By the act of Baptism the new believer is identifying with THE LORD JESUS CHRIST to fulfill all righteousness Matt.3:15

3. Well what about the following verses:

Acts 2:38

The scripture says here "Repent and be baptized", well I guess we don't have to believe, all we have to do is turn over a new leaf (repent) and get wet and we can get the Holy Ghost. You say of course not, well, I'm going to take this scripture and base my entire faith on this verse, why not? Look at a verse with me, keep in mind the verse above, but just see how confusing it gets if you base your religion on water baptism Lets look at the verses: Acts 8:15-16

Now wait just a minute, in Acts 2:38 the scripture says repent and be baptized and receive the HOLY GHOST, but in this scripture they were baptized, but they did not receive the HOLY GHOST. Confusing eh??. we know that GOD is not the author of confusion, but the devil is the author.

Lets try and wrap this heresies up using the Bible to define itself:

Rom 6:4; Col 2:12; Gal 2:20; Acts 1:5; Acts 11:16; 1 Cor 1:17; Gal 3:26-27

III. Who should be baptized?

A. The clearest case of an individual's baptism in the Bible is the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8:36-39. In verse 36, the eunuch is asked "...what doth hinder me to be baptized?" Phillip then answers with the condition of baptism in verse 37, "...If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest "Then the eunuch's response sealed the matter, " I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of GOD".

B. The only requirements for baptism are the requirements for salvation found in Romans 10:9-10.

1. Repentance of sin

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2. Heart belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

3. Confession that He is Lord and Saviour.

C. There are NO cases of baptism in the Bible of anyone but believers. Every act of baptism in the Bible follows salvation.

D. Some other instances of baptism immediately after salvation include:

1. Acts 8:12

2. Acts 18:8

IV. What is the method of Baptism?

A. Again, Acts 8: 36-39 gives us the clearest example; In verses 38-39, BOTH, Phillip and the Ethiopian eunuch went down into the water and came up out of the water.

B. In Matthew 3:16, Jesus was baptized in the same manner.

C. As seen previously, baptism is a picture of death, burial and resurrection. The only way to bury someone is to put them completely underground. The biblical method of baptism is complete immersion. No one in the Bible was ever sprinkled because no one can be buried by sprinkling dirt on them. Babies are never baptized in scripture either, that is a ritual the Catholic Church started.

V. How important is it to be baptized?

A. It is NOT essential for salvation. Ephesians 2:8-9 makes it clear a man is saved by grace through faith without works of any kind.

B. It is essential for obedience, spiritual growth; Matthew 28:19-20 ("the great commission") proves its importance. Baptism is an integral part of the Great Commission.

C. Before anyone can be taught to follow Jesus Christ, they must be willing to submit to the first act of obedience. If a person refuses to obey the Lord in the first point, he hinders his spiritual growth. Matthew 3:13-15

VI. Basic questions.

A. Where should I be baptized?

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Since Baptism is a public confession of your faith in JESUS CHRIST. It should be done publicly, before the church, or sometimes even a lake or apartment pool.

B. When should I be baptized?

As soon as possible following your salvation.

VII. Summary.

In order for a scriptural baptism to take place, there must be:

- A. A scriptural subject: a born again believer in Jesus Christ.
- B. A scriptural mode: baptism by immersion.
- C. A scriptural motive: NOT in order to obtain salvation, but to give testimony that the candidate has been saved and that he is ready to begin serving GOD.
- D. A Scriptural Authority: In obedience to GOD's Word.

Notes

KJV

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Name _____

1. Give the key reason why God instructs the Christian to be baptized.

2. In Matthew 3:13-15 JESUS was Baptized to demonstrate His _____ and _____ to GOD and his plan. JESUS fulfilled this before he began HIS _____

3. List Three men who were baptized after salvation in the New Testament.
 - A.

 - B.

 - C.

4. What are the purposes for Baptism found in Romans 6:3-4 ?
 - A.

 - B.

5. In Acts 8:36-37, The Ethiopian eunuch had to fulfill two requirements, before he could be baptized. What were those two requirements ?
 - A.

 - B.

6. How do we know that the Ethiopian eunuch and JESUS were not baptized by sprinkling of water ?
 - A.

 - B.

7. Baptism by complete immersion in water is a picture of what ?



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8. Baptism is essential in order for a Christian to _____ and _____ Also; we must be willing to submit to baptism so they can be _____ to follow JESUS CHRIST.

9. Is Baptism essential for salvation ? Give a scripture reference to prove your point

10. Briefly explain the primary purpose of this lesson:

11. What are the four things necessary for scriptural Baptism to take place:

- A. A Scriptural _____
- B. A Scriptural _____
- C. A Scriptural _____
- D. A Scriptural _____

Key passages you must be familiar with; Matt. 3:13-17; Acts 8: 36-39; Romans 6: 1-7 (Write these out on the back page)

True/False

- 1. Man must be baptized in order to be saved.
- 2. The Mode or method of baptism is not important to GOD; one way is just as good to another.
- 3. Babies should be baptized into GOD’s family or into the Church.
- 4. GOD commands the believer to be baptized into the local church for membership purposes.