

From Pastor's Desk...

The Christian Baptism

The term 'baptism', is derived from the Greek word 'baptizo'. The Greek term 'baptizo' was simply brought into English language without translation. The word 'baptizo' or 'baptism' means to make a thing dipped or dyed.

John the Baptist introduced the word baptism to the NT readers. His message of repentance was associated with baptism. It was only a transitory to the Christian Baptism. Christ instituted the Christian baptism and the apostles executed it. The church still practices it as an ordinance.

The meaning of the Christian baptism can be understood only in the light of the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. The symbolic significance of the Christian baptism is represented in the analogy used in Romans 6 :3 - 5 by apostle Paul. Paul relates the spiritual condition of his readers to such a participation in Jesus' death and resurrection through water baptism.

"We are therefore buried with him through baptism into death on order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."

The idea of identification is not merely to the death of Christ, in which the believer is dead to sin, but also to the resurrection of Christ, in which the believer is alive to Christ. Water baptism is therefore, an entry into the new life in Christ - a passage from the old creation into the new creation.

The symbolic significance of the Christian baptism is clearly emerged in its form of immersion:

- Immersion** - going into the water
- Submersion** - going under the water
- Emersion** - coming out of the water

The major two ordinances - Baptism and the Lord's Supper - of the Church go beyond "the symbol" only theory and relate to a reality in life and history. An ordinance is a visible sign or a symbol of an invisible reality. With reality an ordinance is alive and without reality an ordinance dead.

The ordinance of water baptism is not just an option before you. Water baptism is God's counsel and commandment and you are obliged to obey it.

God bless you.

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"Baptizo"
Robin Tim David, Media Coordinator
1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4—The Good News!

RESURRECTION
He rose again for me!

BURIAL
He was buried for me!

DEATH
He died for me!

WHEN CHRIST DIED, I DIED!
WHEN CHRIST WAS BURIED, I WAS BURIED
WHEN CHRIST AROSE, I AROSE

OUT OF THE WATER (a picture of resurrection)

UNDER THE WATER (a picture of burial)

INTO THE WATER (a picture of death)

CRUCIFIED WITH HIM ROM. 6:6
"I have been crucified with Christ. As far as my old, sinful life is concerned, I must consider it dead!" (Gal. 2:20; Rom. 6:3-11)

BURIED WITH HIM ROM. 6:4
"I am a new creature in Christ! Christ lives in me and I have a new life in Him!" (2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 6:4-5; Gal. 2:20)

RISEN WITH HIM COL. 3:1
"I am a new creature in Christ! Christ lives in me and I have a new life in Him!" (2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 6:4-5; Gal. 2:20)

why
baptism
IS SO
important

STEPS OF SALVATION:
FROM **SINNER** TO **SAVED**

GOD'S PART

- God Sent His Son Jn 3.16; 1Jn 4.10
- Jesus Shed His Blood Ep 1.7; 1Pe 1.19
- Spirit Revealed Word Jn 16.13
- Hear Gospel Ro 10.13f; Jn 6.44, 45

MAN'S PART

- Believe Gospel Jn 8.24; He 11.6
- Repent of Sins Ac 2.38; 17.30
- Confess Faith, Ro 10.9, 10; Ac 8.37
- Baptism into Christ Mk 16.16; 1P 3.21
- Remain Faithful Co 1.21f; Re 2.10

SAVED

What must I do to be saved?!

SINNER

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