

## BIBLE BAPTISMS

**Hebrews 6:1-3 (KJV)** Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this will we do, if God permit. I have underlined and used red letters to emphasize the teaching of this little tract.

Often in the process of listening to sermons, reading messages, or documents I have been confronted with men's misunderstanding of the doctrine of baptisms as spoken of in God's word. I have heard several IFB preachers speak of baptism as if it only pertains to dunking someone in a baptismal pool. This usually proceeds from a misunderstanding of the spiritual aspect of the Bible. I find an abysmal lack of understanding concerning the spiritual versus the natural teaching of the Bible. There is as far as I have been able to determine a spiritual aspect to every physical precept in the word of God. In the past we have covered this many times under the heading of the spiritual versus the natural which we draw from the teachings of 1 Corinthians 2 and 3. Here in Hebrews chapter 6 verse 2 we see the concept of a plurality of baptisms in the Bible. We have listed below my understanding of the various baptisms taught in the word of God. You may see these a little differently in your study of the Bible, but doesn't that just make it interesting?

**1. Mark 1:1-8 (KJV)** The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins. And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey; And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

This portion of Scripture speaks of John the Baptist's baptism. It is a water baptism designed specifically to point the Jews to their coming Messiah.

**2. "...but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.** In the latter part of verse 8 we see that there is a Holy Ghost baptism. That is found in 1 Corinthians 12:3 also and in many other verses. This is what happens to a person when they trust Christ as Saviour. They are spiritually baptized into Christ never to be brought up or out again. **Romans 6.**

**3. Matthew 3:11 - "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire:"** Here we read about the baptism of fire. You do not want to get this one. You would be immersed in fire never to be brought up. That of course is the punishment in hell for all of those who reject Jesus Christ and his precious Salvation.

**4. Matthew 3:13-16 (KJV)** Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? 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. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him,

**and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:**” Here we read of Jesus’ baptism. We also read about this in John 1:31. This is the fulfillment of the Baptism of John pointing the Jews to Jesus as their Messiah.

**5. Matthew 28:19 – “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:...”** Here we read the commandment to perform Christian baptism in physical water. We see a vivid example of this in Acts chapter 8 where Phillip preaches to the Ethiopian eunuch who gets saved and then is baptized by Philip in water.

**6. 1 Corinthians 10:2 (KJV) And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;** In this very interesting verse we are reminded of Moses’ baptism and the whole nation of Israel as they were passing through the Red Sea.

**7. Matthew 20:22 (KJV) But Jesus answered and said, Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with? They say unto him, We are able.**

**Mark 10:38 (KJV) But Jesus said unto them, Ye know not what ye ask: can ye drink of the cup that I drink of? and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?**

**Luke 12:50 (KJV) But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished!** These verses speak of the baptism of death which we all may experience unless Jesus comes back soon.

Here are some misunderstood verses.

**1 Corinthians 15:29 (KJV) Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead?** What is the baptism for the dead? It is a fake or false baptism that unbelievers were performing that was supposed to convey some spiritual benefit such as life in “nirvana” or some such other fairy tale. Notice the use of the word “**they**” in the verse. Obviously, Paul was not talking about believers. He would have used the pronoun “we”. No, he was talking about unbelievers who were practicing an incorrect kind Baptism similar to what Mormons practice today in their “*temples*.”

**Ephesians 4:4-6 (KJV) There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.** In Here is Ephesians we read about ‘*one baptism*’. What does this mean? You notice the context of this clause is the seven truths of the spiritual world mentioned here. There are seven “*ones*” here.

There is not *one* of these “**Ones**” mentioned that is something or Someone you can see physically today. They are spiritual. I like to say it this way: There is only One True Lord, one true body (The family of God), One True Holy Spirit, One True God, one true hope, one true faith, and one true spiritual baptism: spiritual baptism which happens when a person trusts Jesus as their personal Saviour.

**Romans 6:3-5 (KJV) Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 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. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness of his* resurrection:**

Have you been born again? Has there been a time in your life when you were spiritually baptized into Jesus? If not, you should trust Him as your Saviour, because if you don't, you will experience the baptism of fire spoken of in **Matthew 3:11**.

**John 5:24 (KJV)** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

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