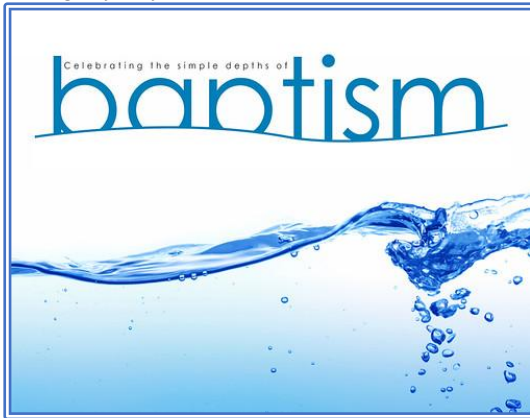




A Study of Biblical

BAPTISM

*"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."*

Matthew 28:19-20

When you read the New Testament, you quickly find the word "baptism." In Matthew 3:5-6 is the account of people from Jerusalem, Judea and the region around the Jordan River being baptized by John the Baptist (Baptizer). The word baptism is a familiar word in many of the New Testament books, especially in the book of Acts.

However, two problems arise:

- The Bible mentions at least 5 different types of baptism – so which one is for today?
- Churches today have a variety of baptismal modes, requirements and purposes – so why the confusion?

This study will address these issues by simple exploring the Bible teachings and understanding the "depths of baptism." God certainly doesn't require us to obey something without it having meaning and purpose. Its importance is seen in our theme scripture above when Jesus pronounces it as an essential part of the Great Commission.

THE FIVE BAPTISMS MENTIONED IN THE BIBLE

1. The Baptism of _____

"They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea." 1 Corinthians 10:2

2. The Baptism of _____

"Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River." Mark 1:5 "He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins." Luke 3:3

3. The Baptism of _____

"I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come. He will baptize you with fire." Lk.3:16

4. The Baptism of _____

"For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." Acts 1:5

5. The Baptism of _____

"Baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" Matthew 28:19-20

THE "ONE" BAPTISM TO BE FOLLOWED TODAY

- Even though the Bible mentions these five, by A.D. 62, Paul wrote to the Ephesians, *"There is one body and one Spirit just as you were called to one hope; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all and through all and in all."* Ephesians 4:4-5
- This study series will reveal the "one" baptism and why it is administered today. But the following chart will give you an overview of the power and purposes of the "one" baptism.

CHART – "JOURNEY TO SALVATION"

- The situations were different; people were at different stages; but the end result was the same.
- It was a baptism in water (The Greek word "baptizo" means to "immerse, dip, plunge").
- No mention of babies being baptized; was a "life" decision by those old enough to understand.
- Baptism was a response of faith and the heart, not a church ritual, sacrament, or "work" of humans.
- Baptism was important enough to be mentioned in all nine "conversion/salvation" stories.
- Baptism was urgent since all seemed to respond immediately.