

Inside the Text:

I. What is baptism?

- A. **Baptism is a picture of internal transformation.** (Acts 2:37-41; Rom. 6:3-4)

- B. **Baptism is a proclamation of identity with Christ.** (Col. 2:12; Rom. 6:3-4; Matt. 28:19; Gal. 3:26-27)

II. Who should be baptized?

- A. **Born-again believer...** (Acts 2:41; Acts 8:12, 36, 37; Acts 10:43, 44, 47; Acts 16:30-34)

- B. **Who are able to participate...** (Luke 23:39-43)

III. When and where should you be baptized?

- A. **You should be baptized shortly after spiritual baptism.** (Acts 8:35-36; 9:18; 10:43-48; 16:33)

- B. **You should be baptized in the presence of other believers.** (Matt. 28:18-20)

IV. How should you be baptized?

- A. **The biblical language supports immersion.** (Matt. 3:13-16; Mark 1:9-10; Acts 8:38-39; John 3:23)

- B. **The spiritual analogy supports immersion.** (Rom. 6:3-6)

V. Why should you be baptized?

- A. **Baptism identifies you with Christ.** (Col. 2:12; Matt. 3:13; Matt. 28:19)

- B. **Baptism identifies you with the church.** (Acts 2:41)

- C. **Baptism identifies you to the lost.** (Matt. 10:32)

Apply the Text:

- **Baptism is an ordinance not a sacrament.** (I John 1:7)
- **Baptism is an outward symbol of an inward change.** (Romans 6:3-5)
- **Baptism is an important step of obedience for all believers.** (Matthew 28:19)