

## WHAT HINDERS ME FROM BEING BAPTIZED? (Acts 8:26-40)

### A. The HISTORICAL CONTEXT of this IMPORTANT QUESTION.

1. Jesus Christ had already \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world and been \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead as proof that God had been \_\_\_\_\_.

- What is this message called in the Bible? (1 Cor.15:3-4)
- Is water baptism part of the Gospel? (1 Cor.1:17-21)

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ had already descended from Heaven upon believers on the Day of Pentecost as promised by Jesus Christ to \_\_\_\_\_ spiritually believers into the Body of Christ – the Church.

- How many different “baptisms” are in the Bible?

	BAPTISM	SCRIPTURE	SUBJECT	SPHERE	RESULTS
D R Y / R E A L	Baptism of Moses	<i>1 Corinthians 10:2</i>	Israelites who fled from Egypt	<i>Cloud and Sea</i>	Identified with Moses (Sea) and the Lord (Cloud)
	Baptism of Cup	<i>Matthew 20:22</i> <i>Luke 12:50</i>	Christ	<i>Suffering</i>	Christ identified with sins of mankind
	Baptism by Holy Spirit	<i>Acts 1:5; Rom. 6:3-4</i> <i>1 Cor. 12:13;</i> <i>Eph. 4:5; Gal. 3:26-28</i>	All church-age believers	<i>Body of Christ</i>	Believers identified with Christ as His body
	Baptism of Fire	<i>Matthew 3:11</i> <i>Matthew 13:25ff</i> <i>Luke 3:16b</i>	All unbelievers	<i>Judgment Fires</i>	Unbelievers identified with God's judgment
W E T / R I T U A L	Baptism of John	<i>Matthew 3:1-11</i> <i>John 1:25-33</i> <i>Acts 19:2-4</i>	John's and Jesus' Disciples (Israelites)	<i>Kingdom</i>	Disciples of John's or Jesus' message of repentance — Kingdom message
	Baptism of Jesus	<i>Matthew 3:13-17</i>	Jesus	<i>Will of the Father</i> <i>Resulting ultimately in the cross</i>	Personal identification with repentant remnant, national manifestation of Messiah to Israel, and divine coronation of the King
	Baptism of Church-age Believers	<i>Acts 2:41; 8:26-40</i> <i>10:47-48; 18:8</i>	Obedient believers	<i>Public identification with Christ</i>	Public proclamation of salvation and identification with Christ and other believers

3. This event happened in approximately \_\_\_\_\_ AD as the Gospel was spreading and Jesus Christ was building His Church just as He had predicted and promised in \_\_\_\_\_.

- What had Jesus Christ commanded His disciples just prior to His ascension into Heaven?
- Was water baptism being practiced in the early church? Why?
- What had already transpired in the Book of Acts leading up to this passage?

**B. The IMMEDIATE CONTEXT Surrounding this IMPORTANT QUESTION. (8:26-35)**

**1. The CONTACT. (8:26-27)**

- a. It was a \_\_\_\_\_ directed by the Lord. (8:26)
- b. It involved a Spirit-sensitive \_\_\_\_\_ believer named \_\_\_\_\_ (8:27a) who was already \_\_\_\_\_ by the Lord and who \_\_\_\_\_ this man. (Acts 6:3-7)
- c. It involved a religious but \_\_\_\_\_ unbeliever who was reading the \_\_\_\_\_. (8:27-28)
  - What can we learn about this unsaved man? (Also remember 1 Cor.2:14)

**2. The CONVERSATION. (8:28 – 35)**

- a. The conversation began with a \_\_\_\_\_ initiated by the \_\_\_\_\_ whether he understood what he was reading in Isaiah. (8:29-30)
- b. The conversation involved \_\_\_\_\_. (8:30-31)
- c. The conversation turned to the \_\_\_\_\_, and in particular \_\_\_\_\_. (8:32-33)
- d. The conversation focused on \_\_\_\_\_, not some secondary issue. (8:34-35)

**C. The EXEGETICAL CONTENT and CONCLUSION of this IMPORTANT QUESTION. (8:36-37)**

1. The eunuch asked: *"See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?"* (8:36)
2. Then Philip answered: *"If you believe with all your heart, you may."* (8:37a)
3. The eunuch replied: *"I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."* (8:37b)
4. The eunuch was \_\_\_\_\_ by immersion as a \_\_\_\_\_ of his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus Christ. (8:38-

**What can you learn from this passage regarding water baptism?**

- 1) Receiving God's gift of salvation by faith alone in Christ alone must \_\_\_\_\_ it. (Acts 10:43-48; 16:30-34; 18:8; 19:1-5)
- 2) Every believer has the privilege to \_\_\_\_\_ in it and should \_\_\_\_\_ so.
- 3) Water baptism is not a means of salvation, nor sanctification, but is a \_\_\_\_\_ to others of your identification with Christ \_\_\_\_\_ by immersion.