

Two ordinances (*Baptism and the Lord's Supper*)

Baptism – This baptism is for the believer and it is by full immersion. Nowhere in scripture is the baptism of infants stated or implied.

- It is impossible for infants to voluntarily express their faith in the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (which is needed requirement for salvation *I Corinthians 15.1-4*)
 - It is impossible for infants to give testimony to a conversion that hasn't taken place;
 - No one can give testimony of salvation on another's behalf, this is a devilish teaching;
 - Sprinkling, pouring and the baptism of infants remove from baptism its Biblical purpose: The picture of faith in the death burial and resurrection of Christ and giving witness of personal conversion.

Matthew 3:13-17 – Jesus Christ put a tremendous emphasis on Baptism...

- It is 60 miles one way from Galilee to Jordan, where Jesus traveled to be baptised.

Matthew 28:18-20 – Jesus tells us to observe all things...

Never make the mistake of minimising what Christ put such great emphasis on – many will say: "*It does not matter if you are baptized*", others will say: "*It does not matter 'how' or 'when' you are baptized*"... The Bible will beg to differ...

There are three 3 views/positions of Baptism – 2 are wrong...1 is right...

- Some *underemphasise* baptism by say it is not important...
- Others *overemphasise* baptism saying it is a must for salvation...
 - Beloved, baptism never takes away your sins!!! Beloved, salvation is in *Christ*, not the *creek*...

Baptism is a basis of obedience, which is necessary for a fruitful and joyful life.

C.H. Spurgeon said:

"We believe that the Baptists are the original Christians. We did not commence our existence at the reformation, we were reformers before Luther or Calvin were born; we never came from the Church of Rome, for we were never in it, but we have an unbroken line up to the apostles themselves. We have always existed from the very days of Christ, and our principles, sometimes veiled and forgotten, like a river which may travel underground for a little season, have always had honest and holy adherents. Persecuted alike by Romanists and Protestants of almost every sect, yet there has never existed a Government holding Baptist principles which persecuted others; nor I believe any body of Baptists ever held it to be right to put the consciences of others under the control of man. We have ever been ready to suffer, as our martyrologies will prove, but we are not ready to accept any help from the State, to prostitute the purity of the Bride of Christ to any alliance with the government, and we will never make the Church, although the Queen, the despot over the consciences of men". (From The New Park Street Pulpit, Vol.VII, Page 225).

- Further Spurgeon also stated:

"History has hitherto been written by our enemies, who never would have kept a single fact about us upon the record if they could have helped it, and yet it leaks out every now and then that certain poor people called Anabaptists were brought up for condemnation. From the days of Henry II to those of Elizabeth we hear of certain unhappy heretics who were hated of all men for the truth's sake which was in them. We read of poor men and women, with their garments cut short, turned out into the fields to perish in the cold, and anon of others who were burnt at Newington for the crime of Anabaptism. Long before your Protestants were known of, these horrible Anabaptists, as they were unjustly called, were protesting for the 'one Lord, one faith, and one baptism.' No sooner did the visible church begin to depart from the gospel than these men arose to keep fast by the good old way. The priests and monks wished for peace and slumber, but there was always a Baptist or a Lollard tickling men's ears with holy Scriptures, and calling their attention to the errors of the times. They were a poor persecuted tribe. The halter was thought to be too good for them. At times ill-written history would have us think that they died out, so well had the wolf done his work on the sheep. Yet here we are, blessed and multiplied; and Newington sees other scenes from Sabbath to Sabbath.

As I think of your numbers and efforts, I can only say in wonder - what a growth! As I think of the multitudes of our brethren in America, I may well say, What hath God wrought! Our

history forbids discouragement." (From the Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit, 1881, Vol. 27, page 249.)

We are going to look at three things concerning baptism:

1. **M**_____
2. **M**_____
3. **M**_____

1. **M**_____

The Biblical method of Baptism is by immersion – GR: Baptizo to immerse, submerge; to make whelmed (*i.e. fully wet*) –

Baptism takes a large amount of water

a. **B**_____ (*plenteous amount*)

- **John 3:23** – ‘much water there’ – Beloved, it would be much easier to just sprinkle folks and call it ‘baptism’ – *if that was the case we have the front rows here baptized every service...* The excuse for sprinkling was that it was for those that were sick...
- Sure it would be more convenient to be sprinkled, but baptism is not based on our convenience or the ease of our operation – *Convenience* is not a consideration of baptism but rather a *conviction* of obedience to Christ (*this will be covered more later...*)
- Jesus Christ traveled 60 miles one way on foot to be in a place with Bountiful water now let us look at the:

b. **B**_____ (*of water*)

- **Acts 8:36-38** – Baptism takes going ‘down’ in the water... (*Just like in Matthew 3 when Christ came out of the water, He had to be IN the water first*)... not bringing the water to you in a cup or bowl... We will come back to **Acts 8** shortly, but under the point of a body of water baptism requires *one* going *down* in the water...
- There is a Bountiful amount in a Body of water, now let’s see the:

c. **B**_____

- **Romans 6:4** – Going down in the water as the proper, Biblical method of Baptism is the picture of a burial – (*it shows the death burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ*) – As that we show the burial of the *old man*...

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- **Mark 1:9-10** – ‘*In Jordan*’, not ‘*by*’ or ‘*around*’ or even ‘*with*’ Jordan – ‘*coming out*’ – if He came out He must have been IN the water... Some places will have a painting of Christ being Baptised by John standing ankle deep in the water with a sea shell pouring water on his head...
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- The Baptist church was never part of the Roman institution – Baptist are NOT Protestant, we are not ‘*protesting*’ anything...

That GR word – Baptizo was a common word used for anything to be dunked or dipped completely in the water, to be “fully immersed *and* brought forward’. It has a religious significance as given by transliterating the word rather than translating it... King James was an Anglican, who believed in sprinkling... So the translators of the King James Bible only transliterated... basically creating a new word but maintaining the perfect and correct meaning of Baptizo... Remember God promised to purify His Word... They obeyed God rather than man...

2. M

Going under the *bountiful*
body of water is the *burial*...
Coming out is the *resurrection*...

With that said, what
message does the Devil want to take away from you? The Gospel message – ***I Corinthians 15:3*** *For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;****4*** *And that he was buried, and that he rose again the*

third day according to the scriptures: So if Baptism is a picture of that Gospel, don't you think he wants that removed as well?

- **Acts 8** – I am going to let everyone figure this out on the own – **vs.36-39** Within these Scriptures we see the Method, the Meaning (*and the Motive which is our last point yet covered*) of Biblical Baptism – If there was a segment of this passage the Devil would want you to not see or believe which verse would it be?
 - **V.36?**
 - **V.37?**
 - **V.38?**
 - **V.39?**
 - **VERSE 37** – The Devil could careless if you are baptized, He just does not want you to believe the Gospel – Therefore he wants you to think baptism has no *place, power* or *position* in you life...
 - It is easy to see who is throwing darts at the Word of God when you look at the meaning of Baptism: *No belief = No Salvation... No Salvation = No need of Baptism...*
 - Some say any picture will do... *but if it does not look like what it is, then it is not what it was...*

If you change the Method, you corrupt the Meaning and remove the:

3. **M**

Baptism is NOT '*for*' salvation it is '*from*' salvation... There are many out there with the correct *method*, but wrong *motive*...

Acts 2:38 – look at the word: '*for*' – it simply means '*because of*':

- As in some who has '*wept for joy*'
- Someone '*stole for hunger*'
 - They are stealing to be hungry or weeping to be joyous... It makes no sense does it?
 - **Ephesians 2:8-9** –Paul said unto Titus: "*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*" **Titus 3:5**

Romans 10:13 –

Jesus Christ said: "*All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.*" **John 6:37**

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- Baptism is the Biblical way that we can say: “I am not ashamed of Jesus Christ, neither what He has done for me”... When you are obedient to Christ that is when the real fun begins... but if you are just a part timer... that is when the real famine begins... Christ said: “*If ye love me, keep my commandments.*” *John 14:15*

Within these thought, the evidence supplied have been taught that a Biblical Baptism is based upon the BIBLICAL teachings through the correct *Method, Meaning* and *Motive*. Baptism is not a device to be utilised carry forth the local church, but rather by the local NT Baptist church. The local church is built upon the foundation of the Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 16.18; I Corinthians 3.11 et.al), not upon the successional of pastoral baptism.