

The Bible Answers Our Questions about Baptism  
(Ephesians 4:4-6)

Introduction:

1. In these passages, 7 very important subjects are listed.
2. Our lesson is a study of "the one baptism" mentioned in vs.5.
3. Our approach is based on some advice given in our bulletin article.
  - a. Six basic questions will help us in analyzing a passage.
  - b. Those questions are what, why, when, how, where, and who.
  - c. These questions will also help us in studying various subjects.
4. "The Bible answers our questions about baptism."
5. Let us begin by asking . . .

Discussion:

- I. **WHAT IS BAPTISM?**
  - A. Baptism is an act of obedience to the Lord's will (Matthew 28:19-20).
  - B. In addition to being an act of obedience, baptism is a likeness of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (Romans 6:3-7).
- II. **WHY SHOULD A PERSON BE BAPTIZED?**
  - A. A person should be baptized because Christ commanded it (Matthew 28:19-20; John 14:15).
  - B. A person must be baptized in order to receive some special benefits, including:
    1. salvation (1 Peter 3:21)
    2. the "remission" [removal] of sins (Acts 2:38)
    3. having sins washed away (Acts 22:16)
    4. getting into Christ (Galatians 3:27)
    5. being added to the 1 body, the church (1 Corinthians 12:13; Acts 2:47).
- III. **HOW IS A PERSON TO BE BAPTIZED?**
  - A. Baptize: to dip, to plunge, to submerge, to immerse
  - B. Baptism is a "burial" (Colossians 2:12).
  - C. Baptism is a burial in water (Acts 8:38).
- IV. **WHERE SHOULD A PERSON BE BAPTIZED?**
  - A. A person may be baptized anywhere there is plenty of water (Acts 8:36-38).
  - B. (John 3:23) John baptized in a certain area because "*there was much water there.*"
- V. **WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?**
  - A. Those who gladly receive God's word (Acts 2:41).
  - B. This includes men and women (Acts 8:12).
  - C. Examples:
    1. about 3,000 on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:41)
    2. people in Samaria (Acts 8:12)
    3. the eunuch of Ethiopia (Acts 8:26-39)
    4. Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:18)
    5. Cornelius and his household (Acts 10:48)
    6. Lydia and her household (Acts 16:14-15)
    7. the Philippian jailer (Acts 16:33)
    8. 12 men in Ephesus (Acts 19:5).
- VI. **WHEN SHOULD A PERSON BE BAPTIZED?**
  - A. We should be baptized when we want to receive the Lord's forgiveness.
  - B. Prior to baptism, we must:
    1. believe that Jesus is the Son of God (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
    2. repent of our sins (Acts 2:38)
    3. confess our faith in Christ (Romans 10:10).
  - C. (2 Corinthians 6:2) "*Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*"

Conclusion:

1. The Lord has paid the price to make salvation from sin possible.
2. His Word teaches us how to receive salvation.
3. The rest is up to us -- how will we respond to the Gospel?