

# Lesson Four ~ Baptism

After salvation God gives us a wonderful command. That command is to follow Christ in baptism. Baptism is the first step of obedience for the new believer in Christ. I have never known any Christian to grow in Christ or to be blessed by God who did not obey God in believer's baptism.

*As you answer the following questions, ask God to teach you through His Word the importance of baptism.*

## **I. The Motive for Baptism**

### **A. Obedience**

- 1) Your first movie for baptism should be obedience. In *Matthew 28:18-20*, God commands us to "go" and do three things. List them below:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### **B. Love**

- 2) If you love the Lord, you will want to do what He says. Write out *John 14:15* below:

---

---

---

---

*\*\*\*Baptism proves your love for God.*

*The Motive for Baptism (continued)***C. Joy**

3) Read the story in *Acts 8:26-40* of the Ethiopian eunuch's salvation and baptism. You will see in this event how baptism brought rejoicing to his heart. Now answer the question below.

- What one thing was necessary before the eunuch could be baptized (v. 37)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Salvation must come before baptism. After the eunuch was baptized, he "went on his way \_\_\_\_\_" (v. 39).

The threefold motive for baptism:

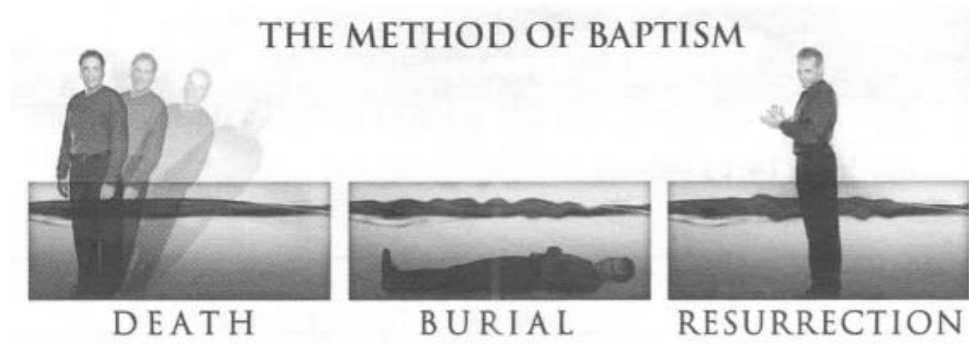
**II. Baptism Can Only Be Performed in One Way.**

**A.** In the Bible, no one has ever baptized except by immersion of the body under water. The word *baptism* literally means "to dip, to plunge, to submerge, or to immerse." Nowhere in the Bible is sprinkling of babies or adults taught.

- 1) Where was Jesus baptized (*Matthew 1:13*)?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Read *Matthew 3:16*. Christ could not have come up out of the water until first He was under it.
- 3) *John 3:23* says they were baptizing in Aenon, because there was how much water there? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) According to *Acts 8:38*, how did Phillip and the eunuch get into the water? \_\_\_\_\_

### **III. The Meaning of Baptism**

Baptism is a picture of your death, burial and resurrection with Christ. Baptism shows the death of the “old man” before you were saved, burial of the old life, and the resurrection of a new life to be lived for the Lord Jesus Christ. Read *Romans 6:3-5* to learn what God says about baptism.



**Key Memory Verses:**

***Matthew 28:19; Matthew 3:12-17; Acts 8:36-39; Romans 6:1-7***

**Note: There is much false teaching among religious groups concerning baptism. The Christian should be aware of some of them.**

1. Man must be baptized in order to be saved.
2. Baptism by being sprinkled is just as meaningful as immersion.
3. Babies should be baptized into God's family, or into "the church."

From the Bible principles taught in this lesson, you should understand that these attitudes are wrong, and why.

**Write any questions you may have concerning the subjects in this lesson.**