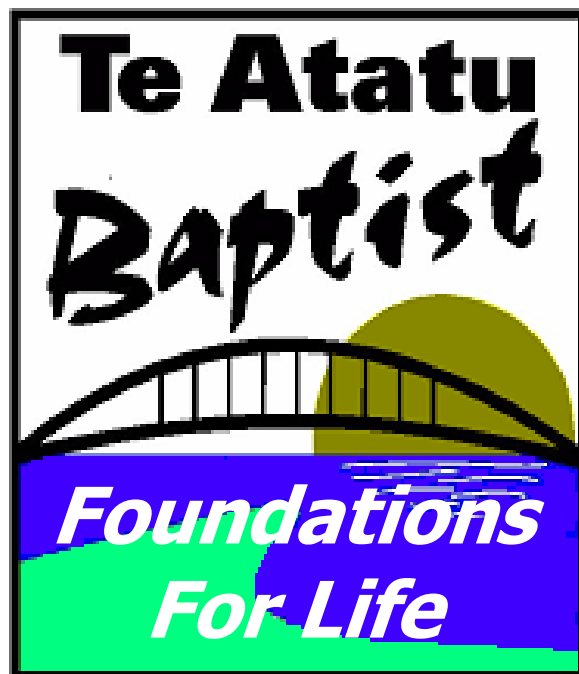


FOUNDATIONS FOR LIFE!

What's Baptism all about?



What's Baptism all about?

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Jesus made it clear that all Christians are to be baptised and then we are meant to encourage every other new believer to *also* be baptised — but why? What's it all about?

This little devotion is designed to help you understand about baptism and hopefully will answer some questions you might have.

The first thing we need to understand – is that:

Jesus was baptised.



Please read Matthew 3:13-14 and write down Matthew 3:15

Verse 15. Jesus replied

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Your Bible might say something like: ‘Let it be so now, it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness’.

Basically, what Jesus was saying – is that He needed to be baptised – in order to make His Christian life ‘complete’!

This is a good reason why we too should follow in the footsteps of Jesus, so that our lives are also more ‘complete’ in God – and doing what He wants us to do.

You might also be interested in the original meaning of the word ‘baptism’, it means: to *immerse*, to be *fully saturated*, to go *under*.

For that reason, Christians should be fully immersed in water and not just christened by having water sprinkled over their heads.

Or else if you were ‘christened’ as a baby – you should consider being *baptised by full immersion* now that you are of an age where you can make your own decision to follow Jesus and be baptised.



All Christians are to be baptised.

Please read Mark 16:15 and 16.

Christians are encouraged by Jesus to ‘Go into all the world’ and tell others something. Can you write down what they are to tell others?

Go into all the world and preach the

The ‘Good News’ or ‘gospel’ is the story of the life of Jesus who came from heaven to earth to live a perfect life by always obeying God, then by taking the punishment for our sins and rising from the grave three days after He was crucified.

What does verse 16 of Mark chapter 16 tell us that those who listen and believe in the gospel of Jesus should then do?



Those who and are will be saved.

From all these verses so far, we can see that Jesus was baptised to make His Christian life more complete and that He taught that all believers should also be baptised.

Where did the idea of baptism come from?

In ancient days, during the time of the Old Testament, people of distant lands who wanted to become citizens of Israel were required to ‘wash themselves’ to signify their being cleansed from the sins of the evil nations and becoming part of God’s nation.

The word for this washing was known in the Greek language as ‘baptism’.

This is a similar reason why Christians are baptised. But it isn’t the nation of Israel we want to become a part of – it is the eternal Kingdom of God!
That’s exciting!!!

What is baptism an ‘example’ of?

Please read Acts 22:16.

According to this verse, what does baptism ‘symbolize’ to wash away?

Get up, be baptised and wash away your



We must know that the water can never wash away sin, because sin is inside our hearts, but the washing in water symbolizes what Jesus has done in our hearts by forgiving our sins when He took our punishment upon the Cross. Therefore the outward washing in water is a symbol of what Jesus has already done in our hearts.

Now read Romans 6:3 to 5

In verse 3, baptism is said to be an example of what?

All of us who were baptised were baptised into His
Baptism is likened to a grave. As we go under the water, this is similar to being buried, as we are buried under the water, we then rise out of it a new person!



This too is a symbol, an acting out of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, it's like a story, a drama or a play that we do to show others that we want to be like Jesus, that we believe and have faith in Him.

To Summarize this study:

What does the word ‘baptise’ mean?

(The answers are found in the paragraphs you have already read within this study – you can copy them word-for-word.)

The original meaning of the word ‘baptism’ means ‘to to be fully, to go

Why was Jesus baptised?

The Bible teaches that Jesus was baptised to ‘make His purpose in life.

Why should I be baptised?

To make my Christian life more

What does baptism do to me?

Can the water I am baptised in wash away my sin?

(Yes or No)



*Sin is inside our hearts, the washing in water
 what Jesus has done in our hearts, therefore the outward
 washing in water is aof what Jesus has
 already done in our*

Baptism is one way that we can show others that we love the Lord Jesus and are wanting to live a life that pleases Him.

Please complete this paragraph:

*This too is a symbol, an..... out of the death,
 and resurrection of Jesus, it 's a, a
 or a play that we do to show others we want to be
 like, that we believe and have in
 Him.*

What do I do now?

Is the Holy Spirit encouraging you to be baptised in obedience to the Word of God?

If you have completed this study and believe it, if you are living a life that wants to please the Lord Jesus Christ, then the next thing for you to do is be baptised!

For advice on how and when this can happen, contact Pastor Roger Spackman of Te Atatu Baptist Church, Ph 834-4076.

