



Ordinance. A practice commanded by Jesus and continued as a memorial in obedience to Him. The two specific ordinances are water baptism and the Lord’s Supper.¹

THE ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH

There are two religious “practices” Jesus Christ told His disciples to do:

1. BAPTISM
2. COMMUNION

Are these practices:

- Sacraments *a Christian rite (as baptism or the Eucharist) that is believed to have been ordained by Christ and that is **held to be a means of divine grace** or to be a sign or symbol of a spiritual reality*
(Creates the idea/imagery that it is an act that will create spiritual growth every time you participate. Getting more grace or forgiveness from God.)
- Ordinances (We do out of obedience because Jesus Christ told us to, He has ordained them.)

#I. Baptism

Matthew 28:18-20 NIV

“The Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And, surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

#II. Communion

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 NIV

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread,²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁵ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.” ²⁶ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

¹ Menzies, W. W. (1993). [Bible Doctrines: A Pentecostal Perspective](#) (S. M. Horton, Ed.; pp. 275–276). Logion Press.

#I. Baptism by immersion:

The practice of baptism in the Old Testament:
Baptism actually shows up in Numbers 19:1-9.

Numbers 19:1-9 NIV

¹ The LORD said to Moses and Aaron: ² "This is a requirement of the law that the LORD has commanded: Tell the Israelites to bring you a red heifer without defect or blemish and that has never been under a yoke. ³ Give it to Eleazar the priest; it is to be taken outside the camp and slaughtered in his presence. ⁴ Then Eleazar the priest is to take some of its blood on his finger and sprinkle it seven times toward the front of the tent of meeting. ⁵ While he watches, the heifer is to be burned—its hide, flesh, blood and intestines. ⁶ The priest is to take some cedar wood, hyssop and scarlet wool and throw them onto the burning heifer. ⁷ After that, the priest must wash his clothes and bathe himself with water. He may then come into the camp, but he will be ceremonially unclean till evening. ⁸ The man who burns it must also wash his clothes and bathe with water, and he too will be unclean till evening. ⁹ "A man who is clean shall gather up the ashes of the heifer and put them in a ceremonially clean place outside the camp. They are to be kept by the Israelite community for use in the water of cleansing; it is for purification from sin.

- What was the water of cleansing for?
{*It is for purification from sin*}
- **19:1, 2 The unique ritual** of the "red heifer" is found only here in the OT. Unlike other sacrificial animals, the heifer was totally consumed in fire "outside the camp." Its ashes were saved for the purpose of "purification" (v. 9). Dying to sin, which is symbolized in this ritual, is characteristic of holy living (Rom. 12:1-2^{NIV} Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.²
- *Cleansing for defilement. 19:1–22*
19:1–10. Laws had already been given whereby a living person coming in contact with a corpse would be considered unclean (disqualified from religious life and service) for a period of seven days. **But a crisis had probably now arisen.** Due to the recent plague (16:49), no less than 14,700 corpses had come upon the scene. This event alone had, doubtless, contributed to the defilement of tens of thousands of people. What could be done about this? The rite of the **red heifer** was God's answer to this problem.³

WHY DID SO MANY PEOPLE DIE? WHAT WAS THE CAUSE OF THIS PLAGUE?

Numbers 13:26-33

² Thomas Nelson, I. (1995). *The Woman's Study Bible* (Nu 19:1). Thomas Nelson.

³ Hindson, E. E., & Kroll, W. M., eds. (1994). *KJV Bible Commentary* (p. 290). Thomas Nelson.

- Arrive at Canaan
- Moses, as the Lord directed, sent 10 spies in – Lord’s instruction (vs1-2. ALL leaders in Israel)
- All ten seen the same things, experienced the same people
- 8 came back filled with fear
- 2 were filled with faith.
-

Report on the Exploration

²⁶ They came back to Moses and Aaron and the whole Israelite community at Kadesh in the Desert of Paran. There they reported to them and to the whole assembly and showed them the fruit of the land. ²⁷ They gave Moses this account: “We went into the land to which you sent us, and it does flow with milk and honey! Here is its fruit. ²⁸ But the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. We even saw descendants of Anak there. ²⁹ The Amalekites live in the Negev; the Hittites, Jebusites and Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live near the sea and along the Jordan.”

³⁰ Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, “We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.”

³¹ But the men who had gone up with him said, “We can’t attack those people; they are stronger than we are.” ³² **And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored.** They said, “The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. ³³ We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them.”

Numbers 14

The People Rebel

14 That night all the members of the community raised their voices and wept aloud. ² All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole assembly said to them, “If only we had died in Egypt! Or in this wilderness! ³ Why is the Lord bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be taken as plunder. **Wouldn’t it be better for us to go back to Egypt?”** ⁴ **And they said to each other, “We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt.”**

⁵ Then Moses and Aaron fell facedown in front of the whole Israelite assembly gathered there. ⁶ Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes ⁷ and said to the entire Israelite assembly, “The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good. ⁸ If the Lord is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. ⁹ Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. **Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them.**”

- ¹⁰ But the whole assembly talked about stoning them.
- Then the glory of the Lord appeared at the tent of meeting to all the Israelites.

¹¹ The Lord said to Moses, “How long will these people treat me with contempt? How long will they refuse to believe in me, in spite of all the signs I have performed among them? ¹² **I will strike them down with a plague and destroy them, but I will make you into a nation greater and stronger than they.**”

¹³ Moses said to the Lord, “Then the Egyptians will hear about it! By your power you brought these people up from among them. ¹⁴ And they will tell the inhabitants of this land about it. They have already heard that you, Lord, are with these people and that you, Lord, have been seen face to face, that your cloud stays over them, and that you go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. ¹⁵ **If you put all these people to death, leaving none alive, the nations who have heard this report about you will say,** ¹⁶ **‘The Lord was not able to bring these people into the land he promised them on oath, so he slaughtered them in the wilderness.’**

Intercession:

¹⁷ “Now may the Lord’s strength be displayed, just as you have declared: ¹⁸ “The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin and rebellion. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.’ ¹⁹ In accordance with your great love, forgive the sin of these people, just as you have pardoned them from the time they left Egypt until now.”

²⁰ The Lord replied, “I have forgiven them, as you asked.²¹ Nevertheless, as surely as I live and as surely as the glory of the Lord fills the whole earth, ²² **not one of those who saw my glory and the signs I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness but who disobeyed me and tested me ten times—** ²³ **not one of them will ever see the land I promised on oath to their ancestors.** No one who has treated me with contempt will ever see it. ²⁴ **But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.** ²⁵ Since the Amalekites and the Canaanites are living in the valleys, turn back tomorrow and set out toward the desert along the route to the Red Sea.”

²⁶ The Lord said to Moses and Aaron: ²⁷ “How long will this wicked community grumble against me? I have heard the complaints of these grumbling Israelites. ²⁸ So tell them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Lord, I will do to you the very thing I heard you say: ²⁹ In this wilderness your bodies will fall—every one of you twenty years old or more who was counted in the census and who has grumbled against me. ³⁰ Not one of you will enter the land I swore with uplifted hand to make your home, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun.³¹ As for your children that you said would be taken as plunder, I will bring them in to enjoy the land you have rejected. ³² But as for you, your bodies will fall in this wilderness. ³³ Your children will be shepherds here for forty years, suffering for your unfaithfulness, until the last of your bodies lies in the wilderness. ³⁴ **For forty years— one year for each of the forty days you explored the land—you will suffer for your sins and know what it is like to have me against you.** ³⁵ I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will surely do these things to this whole wicked community, which has banded together against me. They will meet their end in this wilderness; here they will die.”

³⁶ **So the men Moses had sent to explore the land, who returned and made the whole community grumble against him by spreading a bad report about it—** ³⁷ **these men who were responsible for spreading the bad report about the land**

were struck down and died of a plague before the Lord. ³⁸ Of the men who went to explore the land, only Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh survived.

³⁹ When Moses reported this to all the Israelites, they mourned bitterly. ⁴⁰ Early the next morning they set out for the highest point in the hill country, saying, “Now we are ready to go up to the land the Lord promised. Surely we have sinned!”

⁴¹ But Moses said, “Why are you disobeying the Lord’s command? This will not succeed! ⁴² Do not go up, because the Lord is not with you. You will be defeated by your enemies,⁴³ for the Amalekites and the Canaanites will face you there. Because you have turned away from the Lord, he will not be with you and you will fall by the sword.”

⁴⁴ **Nevertheless, in their presumption they went up toward the highest point in the hill country,** though neither Moses nor the ark of the Lord’s covenant moved from the camp. ⁴⁵ Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who lived in that hill country came down and attacked them and beat them down all the way to Hormah.

NUMBERS 16 NIV

16 Korah son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, and certain Reubenites—Dathan and Abiram, sons of Eliab, and On son of Peleth—became insolent^(a) ² and rose up against Moses. With them were 250 Israelite men, well-known community leaders who had been appointed members of the council.³ They came as a group to oppose Moses and Aaron and said to them, “You have gone too far! The whole community is holy, every one of them, and the Lord is with them. Why then do you set yourselves above the Lord’s assembly?”

⁴ When Moses heard this, he fell facedown. ⁵ Then he said to Korah and all his followers: “In the morning the Lord will show who belongs to him and who is holy, and he will have that person come near him. The man he chooses he will cause to come near him. ⁶ You, Korah, and all your followers are to do this: Take censers ⁷ and tomorrow put burning coals and incense in them before the Lord. The man the Lord chooses will be the one who is holy. You Levites have gone too far!”

⁸ Moses also said to Korah, “Now listen, you Levites! ⁹ Isn’t it enough for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the rest of the Israelite community and brought you near himself to do the work at the Lord’s tabernacle and to stand before the community and minister to them? ¹⁰ He has brought you and all your fellow Levites near himself, but now you are trying to get the priesthood too. ¹¹ It is against the Lord that you and all your followers have banded together. Who is Aaron that you should grumble against him?”

¹² Then Moses summoned Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab. But they said, “We will not come! ¹³ Isn’t it enough that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey to kill us in the wilderness? And now you also want to lord it over us! ¹⁴ Moreover, you haven’t brought us into a land flowing with milk and honey or given us an inheritance of fields and vineyards. Do you want to treat these men like slaves^(b)? No, we will not come!”

¹⁵ Then Moses became very angry and said to the Lord, “Do not accept their offering. I have not taken so much as a donkey from them, nor have I wronged any of them.”

¹⁶ Moses said to Korah, “You and all your followers are to appear before the Lord tomorrow—you and they and Aaron.¹⁷ Each man is to take his censer and put incense in it—250 censers in all—and present it before the Lord. You and Aaron are to present your censers also.” ¹⁸ So each of them took his censer, put burning coals and incense in it, and stood with Moses and Aaron at the entrance to the tent of meeting.¹⁹ When Korah had gathered all his followers in opposition to them at the entrance to the tent of meeting, the glory of the Lord appeared to the entire assembly. ²⁰ **The Lord said to Moses and Aaron,** ²¹ **“Separate yourselves from this assembly so I can put an end to them at once.”**

²² But Moses and Aaron fell facedown and cried out, “O God, the God who gives breath to all living things, will you be angry with the entire assembly when only one man sins?”

²³ **Then the Lord said to Moses,** ²⁴ **“Say to the assembly, ‘Move away from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram.’”**

²⁵ Moses got up and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him. ²⁶ He warned the assembly, “Move back from the tents of these wicked men! Do not touch anything belonging to them, or you will be swept away because of all their sins.” ²⁷ So they moved away from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram. Dathan and Abiram had come out and were standing with their wives, children and little ones at the entrances to their tents.

²⁸ Then Moses said, “This is how you will know that the Lord has sent me to do all these things and that it was not my idea:²⁹ If these men die a natural death and suffer the fate of all mankind, then the Lord has not sent me. ³⁰ But if the Lord brings about something totally new, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them, with everything that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the realm of the dead, then you will know that these men have treated the Lord with contempt.”

³¹ As soon as he finished saying all this, the ground under them split apart ³² and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them and their households, and all those associated with Korah, together with their possessions. ³³ They went down alive into the realm of the dead, with everything they owned; the earth closed over them, and they perished and were gone from the community. ³⁴ At their cries, all the Israelites around them fled, shouting, “The earth is going to swallow us too!”

³⁵ And fire came out from the Lord and consumed the 250 men who were offering the incense.

³⁶ The Lord said to Moses, ³⁷ “Tell Eleazar son of Aaron, the priest, to remove the censers from the charred remains and scatter the coals some distance away, for the censers are holy— ³⁸ the censers of the men who sinned at the cost of their lives. Hammer the censers into sheets to overlay the altar, for they were presented before the Lord and have become holy. Let them be a sign to the Israelites.”

³⁹ So Eleazar the priest collected the bronze censers brought by those who had been burned to death, and he had them hammered out to overlay the altar, ⁴⁰ as the Lord directed him through Moses. This was to remind the Israelites that no one

except a descendant of Aaron should come to burn incense before the Lord, or he would become like Korah and his followers.

41 The next day the whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. “You have killed the Lord’s people,” they said.

⁴² But when the assembly gathered in opposition to Moses and Aaron and turned toward the tent of meeting, suddenly the cloud covered it and the glory of the Lord appeared. ⁴³ Then Moses and Aaron went to the front of the tent of meeting, ⁴⁴ and the Lord said to Moses, ⁴⁵ “Get away from this assembly so I can put an end to them at once.” And they fell facedown.

Intercession:

⁴⁶ Then Moses said to Aaron, “Take your censer and put incense in it, along with burning coals from the altar, and hurry to the assembly to make atonement for them. Wrath has come out from the Lord; the plague has started.” ⁴⁷ So Aaron did as Moses said, and ran into the midst of the assembly. The plague had already started among the people, but Aaron offered the incense and made atonement for them. ⁴⁸ He stood between the living and the dead, and the plague stopped. ⁴⁹ But 14,700 people died from the plague, in addition to those who had died because of Korah.

Footnotes

- a. [Numbers 16:1](#) Or *Peleth—took men*
- b. [Numbers 16:14](#) Or *to deceive these men*; Hebrew *Will you gouge out the eyes of these men*

- Later, Gentile converts to Judaism (Proselyte) were baptized in water as a rite of initiation.

Other regulations imposed upon Proselytes:

Circumcision:

Gen. 17:13 ¹³ Whether born in your household or bought with your money, they must be circumcised. My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant.

Observance of the Law:

Ex. 12:48-49 ⁴⁸ “A foreigner residing among you who wants to celebrate the Lord’s Passover must have all the males in his household circumcised; then he may take part like one born in the land. No uncircumcised male may eat it. ⁴⁹ The same law applies both to the native-born and to the foreigner residing among you.”

Obedience to the covenant:

Deut. 29:10–13 ¹⁰ All of you are standing today in the presence of the Lord your God—your leaders and chief men, your elders and officials, and all the other men of Israel, ¹¹ together with your children and your wives, and the foreigners living in your camps who chop your wood and carry your water. ¹² You are standing here in order to enter into a covenant with the Lord your God, a covenant the Lord is making with you this day and sealing with an oath, ¹³ to confirm you this day as his people, that he may be your God as he promised you and as he swore to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Association with Israel:

Ruth 1:16 ¹⁶ But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God."

What did the proselyte's need to **separate themselves** from in **Ezra 6:21**?
{Heathenism}

¹⁹ On the fourteenth day of the first month, the exiles celebrated the Passover. ²⁰ The priests and Levites had purified themselves and were all ceremonially clean. The Levites slaughtered the Passover lamb for all the exiles, for their relatives the priests and for themselves. ²¹ So the Israelites who had returned from the exile ate it, together with all who had separated themselves from the unclean practices of their Gentile neighbors in order to seek the Lord, the God of Israel.

The Jews went beyond the teachings of Moses concerning ritual washings and required those who converted to Judaism to also be immersed in water. "For the Jews required three things of strangers who declared themselves to be converts to the Law of Moses: circumcision, baptism, and to offer sacrifice if they were men: the two latter if they were women" ("baptism," International Standard Bible Encyclopedia).

Mark 1:1-6 NIV

Defines how John the Baptist blended these two Old Testament rituals.

What did he do (Vs. 4)? {*Baptism by immersion "of repentance for the forgiveness of sins"*}

¹ The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, ^{[a][b]} ² as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way" ^[c]— ³ "a voice of one calling in the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.'" ^[d]

⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶ John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

Footnotes: a. [Mark 1:1](#) Or *Jesus Christ, Messiah* (Hebrew) and *Christ* (Greek) both mean *Anointed One*. B. [Mark 1:1](#) Many manuscripts *Messiah, the Son of God* c. [Mark 1:2](#) Mal. 3:1 d. [Mark 1:3](#) Isaiah 40:3

Baptism is symbolic of the spiritual occurrence that happens at the time of salvation:

- Immersion = Death to self/carnal nature died with JC
- Raised up = Resurrection of a new spiritual life
- Publicly states "I believe!"

Matthew 3:13-16

NIV The Baptism of Jesus

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. ¹⁴ But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.

¹⁶ As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

NLT ¹³ Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. ¹⁴ But John tried to talk him out of it. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus said, "It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires.^[a]" So John agreed to baptize him. ¹⁶ After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened^[b] and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Footnotes: a. [Matthew 3:15](#) Or for we must fulfill all righteousness. B. [Matthew 3:16](#) Some manuscripts read opened to him.

- Jesus chose to be baptized by John in **Matthew 3:13-16** (Mk 1:9-11; Lk 3:21-22; Jn 1:29-34).
- Since Jesus never sinned, why did He choose to be baptized (Vs. 15)? **{Fulfilled all righteousness...what God Required. Obedience.}**

Why did Jesus submit to Baptism?

1. Public proclamation of His Sonship. (Trinity revealed.)
2. Identified Himself with people He came to save.
3. Began His public ministry.

Is it at baptism that we gain the Father's acceptance?

Is this when we "receive" the Holy Spirit?

Eph 1:13-14

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

- Jesus Christ example of baptism is our benchmark.

He is not making a doctrinal statement but rather proclaiming one already in existence:

- *The Father's acceptance and the Holy Spirit presence.*
- His baptism was the occasion God chose to make them public.

- We are commanded to Baptism:

Matthew 28:18-20 NIV

¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” **Footnotes: a.** [Matthew 28:19](#) Or *into*; see

Mark 16:16 NIV

¹⁶ Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

- Belief brings desire for baptism (outward sign). Condemnation is not put upon us as a nonbeliever, it is inherited by us from our sinful nature. We “embrace” rather than ask for the removal the roadblock to intimacy with Christ.
- Do you need to be baptized before you can ask for the Holy Spirit? {No}
Belief is already there

- Examples of the reception of the fullness of the Holy Spirit:

Acts 10:47-48 NIV

⁴⁷ “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.”⁴⁸ So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

Acts 8:14-16 NIV

¹⁴ When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. ¹⁵ When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit,¹⁶ because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

PAUL IN EPHESUS

Acts 19:1-7 NIV

While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples ² and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when^[a] you believed?”

They answered, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”

³ So Paul asked, “Then what baptism did you receive?”

“John’s baptism,” they replied.

⁴ Paul said, “John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” ⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. ⁷ There were about twelve men in all.

- Baptism reminds us of choosing to Live Dead to this world:

Romans 6:1-14 NIV

Dead to Sin, Alive in Christ

6 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with,^[a] that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷ because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

¹¹ In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ

Jesus. ¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. ¹³ Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

- Baptism demands we live in Unity:

1 Corinthians 1:10-17 NIV

A Church Divided Over Leaders

¹⁰ I appeal to you, brothers and sisters,^[a] in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. ¹¹ My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. ¹² What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas^[b]"; still another, "I follow Christ."

¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴ I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵ so no one can say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶ (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷ For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

- Baptism reminds us we are ALL equal...mutuality.

Gal. 3:23-29 NIV

Children of God

²³ Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. ²⁴ So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.

²⁶ So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, ²⁷ for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Okay. Baptism is obedience and it is a living reminder that we live OBEDIENT to Christ.

WHEN does one get Baptized? As an infant if you have really good parents?

Matthew 28:16-20 The Great Commission

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

- When we first become JC disciple, what is the first step we need to take (vs19)?
{A disciple decides to be baptized in water. Not necessary for salvation, but it is foundational part of the discipling process.}

Acts 2: 36-39NIV

³⁶ "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

³⁸ Peter replied, "**Repent and be baptized**, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

- Is there a time limit to when you should be baptized (from the time of your salvation)? ASAP

What 'formula' does Jesus give (vs 19b)?

{“in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit”

Statement reminds both the new convert and other believers that salvation and the Tian life that follows are possible only through the working of the entire Godhead.}

Note:

These verses also dispel the Jesus only baptism formula. Early years of Pentecostalism.

What happens, besides immersion, to the new believer (vs20)?

{Obedience. To obey JC in all He commands. Baptism is not a part of salvation or a sacrament, but a beginning step in discipleship.}

Other Questions:

- Do I need to be immersed if I have been sprinkled as an infant?
- Can you go to heaven w/o being baptized?
- How will baptism affect your faith?
- What happens if you walk away from your faith and then return, do you need to be re-baptized?

Paul's Summary:

Paul's description clarifies the practice of Christian baptism, immersion, as a symbol that we have been "united with JC like this in His death and ...united with Him in His resurrection".

Romans 6:1-5 NIV

¹ What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. ⁵ If we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Baptism focuses on the death, burial, resurrection of Jesus Christ and what it has permanently done to alter the spiritual state of the human race.