

## WHAT IS BAPTISM ABOUT? Part I

Miscellaneous Scripture

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There are two ordinances in the New Testament church. According to Webster's dictionary, an *ordinance* is a practice or custom that is established through usage or through some authority. The Bible teaches an authority no less than Jesus Christ Himself established two specific ordinances for the church, and those ordinances are *communion* and *baptism*.

**Question One:** \_\_\_\_ should be baptized?

**Answer:** Biblical baptism in water is only for those persons who have \_\_\_\_\_ on Jesus Christ for their salvation

Inside Christendom there are two different positions on who can be baptized.

- \_\_\_\_\_-baptism  
...this is \_\_\_\_\_ baptism or christening

Churches that teach paedo-baptism fit into two different categories:

**Group one** teaches that infant baptism contributes to someone's \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: traditional Catholic theology teaches that baptism removes someone's \_\_\_\_\_ sin, forgives his \_\_\_\_\_ sins and puts him into a state of sanctifying grace.

**Principle:** we receive salvation through \_\_\_\_\_ and some ritualistic ceremonial rite.

Reference: **Ephesians 2:7-9** (see screen)

**Group two** teaches that infant baptism is the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of someone's ultimate relationship to God

Groups (primarily reformed churches) that teach this second form of paedo-baptism argue that infant baptism is equivalent to circumcision in the Old Testament  
Reference: **Colossians 2:11 and 12** (see screen)

- \_\_\_\_\_-baptism from the Latin word for creed that means "I \_\_\_\_\_"

This form of baptism is symbolic of someone's acceptance of a particular doctrine or creed

Reference: **Acts 8:35-37 and 16:29-34** (see screen)

Reference: **Acts 18:8**, "*Then Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, **believed on the Lord with all his household**. And many of the Corinthians, hearing (meaning that they heard the gospel) **believed and** (then) **were baptized**.*"

**Question Two:** \_\_\_\_ should someone be baptized?

**Answer:** There are two basic reasons someone ought to be baptized:

- to mimic the \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus set for us in being baptized Himself.  
Reference: **Matthew 3: 13-17**
- because Jesus has \_\_\_\_\_ us both to be baptized and to baptize others.  
Reference: **Matthew 28:19**, "*Go therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, **baptizing them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*"

Christians are also expected to be baptized as \_\_\_\_\_ their salvation experience as it is reasonable to do so.

References: **Acts 2:41; 8:38; 10:44-48; 16:25-33**