**BAPTISM**

# “Now that I am saved, where do I start”

 Virtually every religious denomination in existence teaches some sort of baptism as part of their doctrine, and the diversities in the teachings are wide. His People Church believes in Baptism by full immersion set by the example of Jesus Christ. This lesson explains what our church believes and why we believe what we do, regarding baptism.

1. Why does God instruct us to be baptized?

A. Baptism is the *first act of* ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** in service to GOD. *Anyone* can be baptized; it takes ***\_\_\_*** special talents or effort.

B. Jesus set the example Himself by submitting to baptism ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** He began His public ministry.

  *Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22*

C. In *Matthew 3:13-15,* it is clear that Jesus was baptized in ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** to God’s plan. In verse 15, He said’ *“...it is proper for us to do this to fulfil all righteousness.”*

 This point of ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** and ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** is the single most important thing to realize concerning baptism.

D. Other Bible characters who submitted to baptism after Salvation are:

 1. The **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** eunuch. Acts 8:36-39

 2. The Apostle **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. Acts 9:18

 3. The Philippian **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and his household. Acts 16:25-33

2. What is the purpose of Baptism?

A. Several types of baptism are mentioned in the Bible. In each case, **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** baptism is a picture of a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** truth. The important point to consider is the ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** portrayed by baptism.

B*. Romans 6:1-7* (specifically verses 3-4) show the two purposes of baptism.

1. It pictures the ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_****,* ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***and ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** of Jesus Christ.

2. It is a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** testimony of the new convert’s **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** with Jesus Christ through the *death, burial* and *resurrection*, which is how they were saved. It identifies the new believer with the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. Who should be baptized?

**A.** The clearest case of an individual’s baptism in the Bible is the Ethiopian eunuch in *Acts 8:26-39*. In verse 36, the eunuch asked, *“....why shouldn’t I be baptized?”* Phillip then answered with *the condition* of baptism in verse 37, *“...if you believe with all your heart, you may.”* Then the eunuch’s response sealed the matter, *“...I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”*

**B.** The only requirements for baptism are the requirements for Salvation found in *Romans 10:9-10.*

 1. Heart **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** in Jesus Christ as Lord as Savior.

 2. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** that He is Lord and Savior.

**C.** There are no cases of baptism in the Bible of anyone *but* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**D.** Some other instances of baptism immediately after salvation include:

 1. *Acts 8:12*

 2. *Acts 18:8*

4. What is the method of baptism?

A. Again, *Acts 8:26-39* gives the clearest example. In verses 38-39, both Phillip and the Ethiopian eunuch went down ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** the water and came up out of the water.

 B. In *Matthew 3:16* Jesus was baptised in the same manner.

C. As seen previously, baptism is a picture of (1) ***death****, (2)* ***burial*** and (3) ***resurrection****.* The only way to bury someone is to put them completely underground. The biblical method of baptism is complete**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. No one in the Bible was ever sprinkled because no one can be buried by sprinkling a little dirt on them.

5. How important is it to be baptized?

A. It is ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***essential for Salvation. *Ephesians 2:8-9* makes it clear a person is saved ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** through *faith* without **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, including baptism.

B. It *is* essential for ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** and ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** *growth*. *Matthew 28:19-20* (the ‘Great Commission’) proves it essential. Baptism is an integral part of the ‘Great Commission’ and ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** teaching.

C. Before anyone can be taught to follow Jesus Christ, they must be willing to submit to the ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** *act of obedience*. If a person refuses to obey the Lord in the ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***point, who is to say they will obey Him in future points.

*Matthew 3:13-15*

6. Basic Questions.

 A. Where should I be baptised?

 Since baptism is a ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** confession of your faith in Jesus Christ, most often it will be publicly in front the

 local Church. Many times people will be baptised in rivers, dams, lagoons and even the sea, which is fine; the

Lord Jesus Christ was baptised in the riverJordan. The actual ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** of baptism is not important. The act of

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*** *testimony* of your *identification* with the **Lord Jesus Christ** is the important point.

Key scripture passages you must be familiar with:

Matthew 3:13-17; Acts 8:36-39; Romans 6:1-7

NOTE: There is much false teaching amongst religious groups concerning baptism. The Christian should be aware of some of them.

1. You must be baptised in order to be saved.

2. Baptism by being sprinkled is just as meaningful as immersion.

3. Babies should be baptised into God’s family, or into ‘the Church.’

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

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