

The Oneness of Baptism

Eph. 4:5

Introduction:

- A. The importance, significance and design of baptism varies from church to church today.
- B. The oneness of baptism is emphasized in the New Testament.
- C. There several “ones” involved in the “one baptism” of the Bible.

Discussion:

I. The One *Authority* of Baptism.

- A. It is by authority (in the name of) of Christ (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 2:38; Acts 19:3-5).
- B. It not by human or church authority – Eunuch did not have to seek church authority (Acts 8:36-38).

II. The One *Element* of Baptism.

- A. Baptism “in the name of Jesus” is not the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:15,16)
- B. Baptism that saves is in water (Acts 8:36-38; 10:47; 1 Pet. 3:20,21).

III. The One *Action* of Baptism.

- A. It is immersion by:
 - 1. Definition – “To dip” or “plunge under.”
 - 2. Description (Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12).
 - 3. Demonstration (John 3:23; Mark 1:10; Acts 8:36-38).
- B. Immersion in spite of strongest objections.
 - 1. 3000 in one day?
 - 2. Not enough water in Jerusalem? (Six pools).
 - 3. “Desert” (Acts 8:26; Mark 6:39).

IV. The One *Object* of Baptism.

- A. It is for the remission of sins (or to save) (Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21).
- B. It is into Christ (Gal. 3:26) in whom there is remission (Col. 1:13, 14).

V. The One *Subject* of Baptism.

- A. A penitent believer (Mk 16:16; Acts 2:36-38; 8:36-38).
- B. Infants and other unaccountable people are not proper subjects.

VI. The One *Body* of Baptism.

- A. Baptized into one body or church (1 Cor. 12:13).
- B. Added to the church (Acts 2:38, 41, 47).

Conclusion:

- A. Have submitted to the one baptism of the New Testament?
- B. Are living the new life that must follow baptism?