

Three Baptisms

Matt. 3:10-12

Introduction:

- A. Confusion over the subject of “baptism.”
 - 1. Does baptism save?
 - 2. If so, what baptism saves?
 - 3. What about the three baptisms mentioned by John?
 - a. Some “Pentecostal” groups say all must be baptized in all three.
 - b. Some say that water baptism does not save, but Holy Spirit (cf. 1 Pet. 3:20, 21)
- B. Let us compare the three kinds of baptism mentioned by John.

Discussion:

I. Holy Spirit Baptism.

- A. A promise (Acts 1:4,5; 2:33).
 - 1. Joel’s prophecy (Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:16-21)
 - 2. Promised to “all flesh” — Jews & Gentile (Acts 2, Acts 10)
- B. Administered by God (John 14:16, 26; Acts 1:4; 2:17; 33).
- C. Purpose is guide and confirm (John

II. Fire Baptism.

- A. A Threat (Mal. 4:1; Matt. 3:11,12).
 - 1. Described (Mark 9:43-49).
 - 2. To be feared (Luke 12:4,5)
- B. Administered by God (2 Thess. 1:7-9; Rev. 21:8).
- C. Purpose is to punish and destroy.

III. Water Baptism.

- A. A command from God (Acts 2:38; 10:47, 48; 22:16).
- B. Administered by man (Matt. 28:19; Acts 8:38; 1 Cor. 1:14-16).
- C. Purpose to reward (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16).

Conclusion:

- A. Holy Spirit is promise — cannot obey a promise.
- B. Fire is a threat — cannot obey a threat, just heed it.
- C. Water is a command — Must be obeyed (Eph. 4:5)
- D. Water is only one that promises a reward.