

*Lesson 5:*  
**Water Baptism**

**Objectives**

1. To understand the meaning and importance of Water Baptism.
2. To educate new believers (through leaders) prior to their submission to Water Baptism.

**Introduction**



Christian baptism has its roots in Jewish practice during the pre-Christian era. Converts to Judaism were baptized to express their faith in Jehovah God. When John the Baptist came upon the scene to prepare the hearts of the Jews to receive their Messiah, he demanded repentance, confession of sin, and baptism in water. He declared, "I needed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me... shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire" (Matthew 3:11).

Jesus Himself was baptized of John (Matthew 3:16). After this, He and His disciples baptized large numbers of believers (John 3:22;4:1-2). He included baptism as a vital part of the inauguration of a convert into the church He established (Mark 16:16).

After His resurrection, He instructed His apostles to "Go... teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Matthew 28:19). Just before His ascension, He met with His apostles and "opened... their understanding, that they might understand the scripture, and said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it beloved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem" (Luke 24:45-47).

Therefore, the responsibility of continuing His ministry, propagating the gospel, and establishing and extending the New Testament church fell upon the relatively few disciples.

**Lesson Proper**

**SALVATION AND BAPTISM**

- Water Baptism is found only in the New Testament for reason that being born again was not possible until the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- Salvation must come first before Water baptism, this is an order that must not be altered.



### **MISBELIEFS ABOUT WATER BAPTISM**

- Water Baptism can save man from Hell
- Water Baptism must be done during childhood
- Water Baptism is not important at all

### **VERSES THAT PROVED THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER BAPTISM**

- Mat 3:15  
Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.
- Mat 21:25  
John's baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or from men?"
- Mat 28:19  
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,

### **UNDERSTANDING WATER BAPTISM**

- Spiritually Baptized (at salvation)

Once we accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we are spiritually baptized. This is what John the Baptist was referring to in Mat 3:11.

*Mat 3:11 "I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."*

### **WATER BAPTISM; DEFINED**

- Outward declaration of faith, the outward declaration of what has happened within. The outward representation of being one in Christ or of our salvation.
- Death to our old nature
- The cleansing
- Spiritual rebirth

### **WATER BAPTISM - A COMMAND, NOT AN OPTION**

Water Baptism is ordained by God not by men and not to be taken for granted.

### **THE FIRST ACT OF OBEDIENCE**

If there is any work needed when we believed in Christ, then, Water Baptism is the first step we should do.



### **OCCURRENCES IN THE BIBLE**

- The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ (Mat 3:13-17)
- The Baptism ( Acts 8: 26-39)
- The Baptism of Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:18)
- The Baptism of Roman Warden (Acts 16:38)
- The Believers in Corinth (Acts 18:8)
- The Believers in Ephesus (Acts 19:5)

#### **✚ Life Application:**

- Arrange/Set the schedule for the next Water Baptism of new converts.