

Baptism Facts & Roots

1. Hebrew word – Tevilah, means ceremonial immersion
2. Tevilah is considered an basic teaching of the Bible (Hebrews 6:1-2)
3. A Ceremony which symbolizes the change of status of a particular item, or person; the setting apart for a particular purpose. From clean to unclean, common to uncommon, profound to Holy.
4. The thought is of newness, putting the past behind and of new beginnings. See 2nd Corinthians 5:17

The Concept of Baptism (How is it used?)

- Two kinds of baptisms? Mark 1:8- I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”
- Jesus being immersion into the Father's will. Matthew 20:22 – 23
But Jesus answered and said, “You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?”
- Baptism that effects a change. Romans 6:3,4, 1st Peter 3:21 (Does water baptism wash away sin or does it give a clean conscience? (See Hebrews 9:14))
- Baptism into the Body (or family/community) of Jesus, Eph 4:4-6 & 1st Corinthians 12:13, 14

Concept...continued

- This piece of cloth is being baptized into this pan of dye
 - See Galatians 3:27-29

Questions

So do you need to be baptized to be saved?

What is the only effective baptism in the Bible? Spirit or Water baptism



The Perspective

- Baptism looks to the future, leaving behind sin and walking in newness of life and dropping the burdens of the past.
- Water baptism is a ceremony symbolizing the new birth (spiritual baptism) that we have in Jesus through faith. Leaving behind the old baggage that was paid for by Jesus. The water is a type of “line in the sand” for us. When we go in the water we are putting the past behind, never to go back to it! Philippians 3:13,14

Let's look at how this works

- Acts Chapter 8:26-38 (Ethiopian Jews, Falashim)

Here is the outline –

1. God shows Philip the need (A man needs salvation)
2. Philip shares the God who is able to meet that need
3. The Ethiopian believes (spiritual baptism that effects a change in a person)
4. He is water baptized (a symbol of the new life, never to return to the old.)

Very cool facts of the roots of Tevilah

- Mikva-ot were built right into the homes of the rich.
- Very important practice at weddings (jhn 2:6) associated with new beginnings.
- Modern Jewish practice as with ancient Tevilah practice was self immersion.
- The primary task of the one overseeing the immersion is to ensure that the statement being made is actually complete. (full immersion in water)
- Women oversaw women baptisms for modesty sake.

Baptism in the Name of Who?

- To be immersed in the name of someone is to acknowledge and to be identified with that one.
- Jews that were already in full knowledge of the Father and Spirit were baptized in the name of Jesus only, Acts 2:36-41, Acts 19:1-6
- Those in the scripture that were immersed in the name of the Father Son and Spirit were those who had come from outside the commonwealth of Israel. These had no relationship with God prior to coming to faith. Matthew 28:19