

“New Testament Baptisms,” Part 1

Dr. Janet Cook, Senior Pastor,

April 3, 2016

© 2016 Prayers Ministries, dba River of Life Community Church

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all Scriptures quotations are from the NIV Bible.

“Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary *principles* of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this we will do if God permits” Hebrews 6:1-3 (NKJV).

Biblical Foundation Course - by Larry Kreider

New Testament Baptisms – *Four baptisms including baptism in water and baptism in the Holy Spirit* – Cost \$5.00

The New Testament Baptisms book is free to those who agree to the following terms:

1. I will commit to be a disciple of Jesus Christ
2. I will complete the daily devotional studies each day
3. I will complete the reflection questions and write my answers in the book
4. I will agree to meet on a weekly basis with another church member who has been through this study
5. By signing this agreement I commit to learn God’s Word and to keep my word!

Doctrine of Baptisms

In the New Testament we discover there are four distinct types of baptisms:

1. Baptism in water
2. Baptism into the body of Christ
3. Baptism of fire
4. Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Baptism in Water

Romans 6:4 “We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.”

- Identifies us with Jesus
- Sign of cleansing and forgiveness of sin
- An act of faith and obedience

Mark 1:4 “And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.”

- “Repent” - Greek word *metanoia*, which means **a turn-about, a deliberate change of mind resulting in a change of direction in thought and behavior.**

Acts 26:20b Paul said, “I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.”

Jesus was Baptized to Fulfill all Righteousness

Matthew 3:14-17 “But John tried to deter him, saying, ‘I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?’ Jesus replied, ‘Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.’ Then John consented. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.’”

- “Christian baptism is an outward act of obedience by which the believer fulfills the inward righteousness s/he already has through faith in Christ’s death and resurrection.” New Testament Baptisms, by Larry Kreider, p 9.
- Mark 16:16a “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved...” Believers are baptized after their belief and faith in Jesus.

Baptism is a Public Announcement.

Act 2:38-40 “Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call.’ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, ‘Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.’”

- Baptize = Greek verb *baptidzo* which means “to immerse.” Simply stated, to baptize is to totally immerse an object in another substance and then bring it out again.
- Water baptism is very meaningful.
- The person is taking a clear stand for Jesus Christ.
- It is a time of celebration.

Baptism Identifies You With the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:4, 6 – “We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life... For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin — ”

- Water baptism is a physical act that should indelibly mark the mind of the person being baptized with the reality of his union with Jesus Christ.
- “When we come to the cross, we die to our old way of living so that we can have the new resurrected life that God has promised.” New Testament Baptisms, by Larry Kreider, p 11.
- “Water baptism is a sign that we have died to self and, with the power of God’s glory, now walk in a new life.” New Testament Baptisms, by Larry Kreider, p 11.
- The baptismal waters represent a burial ground.
- Coming up out of the water signifies our being raised to new life in Christ.

Baptism in Water illustrates a New Testament Circumcision.

Colossians 2:11-12 “In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by

Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.”

- The old nature that says, “I want to do what I want to do” is symbolically cut away when we are baptized in water.
- It is a New Testament circumcision.
- Romans 6:14a “For sin shall not be your master...”

Baptism in Water Shows We Are Obeying God.

1 Peter 3:21-22 “...and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also--not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand--with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.”

- Water baptism symbolized a spiritual cleansing.
- It is the cleansing of the heart.
- It shows that we are living with a clear conscience.
- It brings tremendous freedom.

Be Baptized in Water!

- If you have never been baptized in water sign up today!
- If you want the free New Testament Baptisms study book, sign the agreement and turn it in at the Welcome Center. You will be able to pick up your book next Sunday, and we will have an accountability partner for you to connect with.