

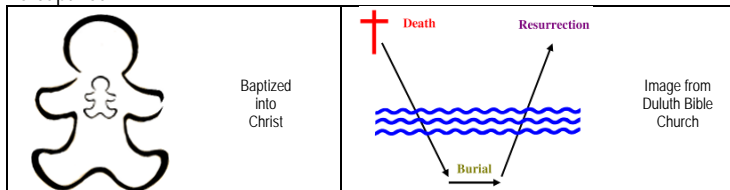
Why Should I Be Baptized?

1. To obey Jesus' command to do so.

- **Matthew 28:19** – Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

2. To express my belief in Jesus as my Savior.

- **Romans 6:3-4** – ³ Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
- **Colossians 2:12** – buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with [Him] through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.
- **Acts 8:36-38** – ³⁶ Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, [here is] water. What hinders me from being baptized?" ³⁷ Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." ³⁸ So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.



3. To express my promise to obey Jesus as my Master.

- **Romans 6:4-17** – ⁴ Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be [in the likeness] of [His] resurrection, ⁶ knowing this, that our old man was crucified with [Him], that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. ⁷ For he who has died has been freed from sin. ⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, ⁹ knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. ¹⁰ For [the death] that He died, He died to sin once for all; but [the life] that He lives, He lives to God. ¹¹ Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. ¹³ And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. ¹⁴ For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace. ¹⁵ What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin [leading] to death, or of obedience [leading] to righteousness? ¹⁷ But God be thanked that [though] you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.

- **Galatians 3:27** – For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
- **1 Peter 3:21** – There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

4. To follow the example of Jesus.

- **Matthew 3:14-16** – ¹⁴ And John [tried to] prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit [it to be so] now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. ¹⁶ When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

5. To follow the example of believers since Jesus' time.

• **Jesus Baptized Believers**

- a. **John 3:22** – After these things Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea, and there He remained with them and baptized.
- b. **John 3:26** – And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified--behold, He is baptizing, and all are coming to Him!"
- c. **John 4:1-2** – ¹ Therefore, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John ² (though Jesus Himself did not baptize, but His disciples),

• **The Early church**

- a. **Acts 2:41** – Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added [to them].
- b. **Acts 8:12** – But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized.

6. To encourage others to follow Jesus by being an example.

- **Philippians 3:17** – Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.
- **2 Thessalonians 3:9** – not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us.
- **1 Timothy 1:16** – However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life.
- **1 Timothy 4:12** – Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.
- **Titus 2:7** – in all things showing yourself [to be] a pattern of good works; in doctrine [showing] integrity, reverence, incorruptibility,
- **1 Peter 2:21** – For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: