

God's Plan of Salvation:

1. Hear - Romans 10:17
2. Believe - Mark 16:16
3. Repent - Acts 2:38
4. Confess - Romans 10:10
5. Be baptized - Acts 22:16
6. Live faithfully - Revelation 2:10

Announcements:

Sick: Mr. Brown, Mrs. Carswell, Mr. Dowling, Mr. Hadley, Ms. Kim (Ashley Law's mother), Lamar Mathis, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Newsome, Mrs. Owens, Ms. Ward, Mr. Winns.

If you would be interested in any of the following ways to study the Bible, feel free to let us know:

- Home Bible Study - We will come into your home or other place you feel comfortable and study the Bible with you. Bible questions are welcome in these studies and we will seek to give a Bible answer.
- Correspondence courses - We will be glad to mail you a correspondence lesson that you can fill out and mail back to us and we will send you the next lesson.
- Call us with your Bible question - #503-707-6014.
- Visit our website: [www.oakgrovechurchofchristjenningsflorida.com](http://www.oakgrovechurchofchristjenningsflorida.com)
- Come and visit - We always strive to have good, practical Bible instruction at each of our assemblies.

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# Baptism Into ...

By Derek Long

The Bible has a good amount of information on the subject of baptism. Many people in our world have various views about the purpose of baptism or what baptism does. Such division regarding the subject of baptism is not due to a failure on God's part for He is not the author of confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33) and has made it plain there is only one baptism operative today (Ephesians 4:5). Such division is the result of men failing to accept the plain statements contained in the word of God relating to the subject of baptism. The Bible points out things one is baptized in or into. Let's examine some of these things the Bible says we are baptized in or into.

When Jesus was about to ascend back into heaven to the Father, He left His disciples with instructions. He told them, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 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, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:18-20, NKJV). Jesus teaches part of the process of making disciples involves baptizing people. People

are to be baptized “in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” A couple of things might be learned from this statement regarding baptism: 1. The phrase “in the name of” essentially can mean “by the authority of.” If a cop were to come to your door and say, “Open the door in the name of the law,” we recognize he has the authority of the law behind his command to open the door. When people are baptized “in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,” it means the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit all authorize and in fact command people to be baptized in order to become disciples of Christ. All of the Godhead, in other words, stands behind the command to baptize people in order to make them disciples. 2. The phrase “in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” may also indicate one is entering into a relationship with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit when one is baptized. Christians certainly do have a relationship with all three members of the Godhead as is bore out in other passages (e.g., 2 Corinthians 13:14). Other passages would speak about being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 19:5) which would carry the same sort of significance.

The Bible also speaks of us being baptized into Christ Jesus (Romans 6:3; Galatians 3:27). Being baptized into Christ would speak of one entering into a relationship with Christ. In Christ one finds things such as spiritual blessings (Ephesians 1:3), salvation (2 Timothy 2:10), eternal life (1 John 5:11), etc. A person who has not been baptized into Christ Jesus has none of these things.

In addition to baptism placing one into Christ Jesus, baptism is also said to be “into His death” and “into death” (Romans 6:3-4). The first of these phrases (“into His death”)

reminds us baptism is where one comes into contact with the benefits of Jesus’ death. Jesus died and shed His blood so we could have the remission of sins (Matthew 26:28). Baptism is done “for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38, NKJV). Jesus’ blood makes the remission of sins possible and one accesses the blood of Jesus and the remission of sins it makes possible when one is baptized into Jesus’ death. Another way to look at this is to think about Jesus’ blood being shed to wash us from our sins (Revelation 1:5). Baptism is spoken of as the action which results in having our sins washed away (Acts 22:16). The link between these two verses again proves the point one accesses the benefits of the death of Jesus at the point of baptism. Romans 6:4 says, “Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death” (NKJV). Not only is baptism the point where we access Jesus’ death but is also were we die with Christ to the old man of sin. We rise from baptism to walk in newness of life or like a new man.

Baptism is also said to place us into the one body (1 Corinthians 12:13). The one body baptism places us into is the church (Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18, 24) which there is only one of (Ephesians 4:4). The church or the body of Christ consists of all saved individuals (Acts 2:47). Saved individuals who are added to the church or added to the body are people who have been baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38, 41).