

Lesson
16**Exercise 2: Necessity of Baptism**

In this lesson we will go through an exercise to learn what the Bible teaches about the necessity of baptism. We could simply study the subject of baptism in general but the larger issue in the denominational world today is in understanding that baptism is required for salvation. Some religions view baptism as an outward demonstration to the world that one has already been saved. Other religions simply view it as a practice for becoming a member of the church. In fact, most denominations do not believe it is necessary to be baptized at all to be saved. So, in this lesson we do want to consider the fundamentals of baptism, but we also want to prove whether or not baptism is truly required for salvation.

Resources

There are many good articles and Bible questions that have been answered regarding Baptism on our web site (www.biblequestions.org). Use these articles and your study aids to assist you in answering these questions.

Definitions in Greek (Baptize, Baptist, Baptism)

List the different applications of the terms “Baptize, Baptist, Baptism” in the scriptures

Scenario: Someone tells you that baptism is an outward demonstration to the world that one has already been saved. How would you respond to that assertion?

Scenario: Someone you know who is a Baptist, tells you that baptism is simply the method which is used to join the church and they cite as their proof from the scriptures Acts 2:47. How would you respond?

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Scenarios: Someone you know is a Catholic and tells you that they plan to baptize their infant child for the forgiveness of sins that were inherited from Adam. How would you respond?

What would your response be if they told you they were baptizing the infant to dedicate him or her to the Lord?

Scenario: Let's say you have taught someone the truth on baptism and they have accepted it. They ask you at what age does the Bible teach their child becomes accountable for their sins and therefore should be baptized?

Read the article "What Does "For" in Acts 2: 38 Mean?" on our web site (www.biblequestions.org) and describe why this is important principle in our learning of why baptism is necessary for salvation.

Site all of the examples of conversion in Acts, confirm if baptism was involved and list who was baptized.

Scenario: You are teaching someone about the necessity of baptism. What would you teach them is necessary to do **before** we are baptized? What would you teach them needs to be done **after** baptism?

Scenarios: Someone tells you that belief in Jesus is all that is necessary to be saved. They site Mark 16:16 as proof and state that the end of the verse says "he who does not believe will be condemned" and does not say "he who does not believe and is not baptized will not be saved." How would you respond?

How would you respond if they sited Romans 10:9 as proof that believe and confession is all that is necessary to be saved?

What if they sited the thief on the cross as an example that baptism is not necessary? How would you respond?