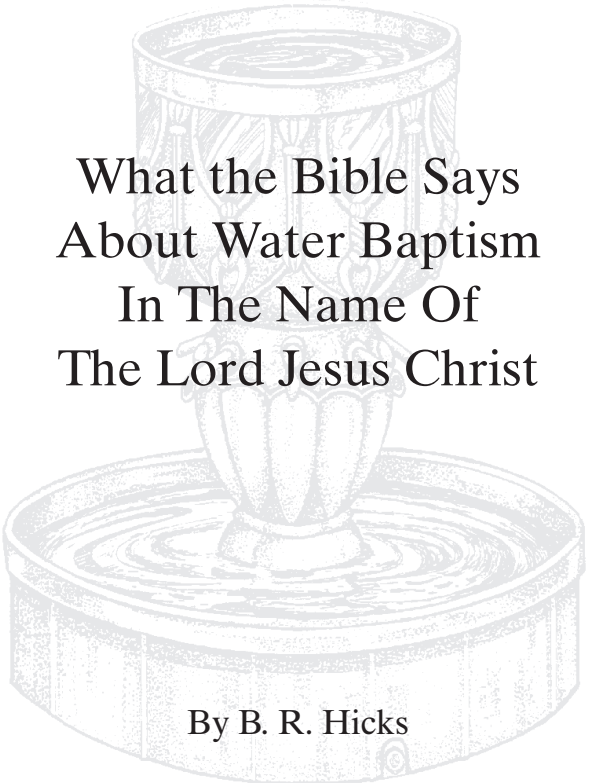




# What the Bible Says About Water Baptism In The Name Of The Lord Jesus Christ

By B. R. Hicks



**Christ Gospel Press**  
**P. O. Box 786**  
**Jeffersonville, Indiana 47131-0786**

Publisher: Christ Gospel Press  
P. O Box 786  
Jeffersonville, Indiana 47131-0786

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Reedited 2007

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*The Truth About Water Baptism*

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Printed in the United States of America.



## What The Bible Says About Water Baptism In The Name Of The Lord Jesus Christ

The Old Testament is filled with the types and shadows of their New Testament counterparts. This is clearly true in the matter of circumcision since a thorough study of the subject of Water Baptism shows that the Old Testament Rite of Circumcision was the physical demonstration of the spiritual application of New Testament Water Baptism. In the Old Testament, Jehovah God made a Covenant with His people Israel, and to Abraham, who was the father of faith, God gave the outward sign of this Covenant. Circumcision was the proof that He had given Israel His Name. Thus, all the males in Israel bore, in their flesh, the mark of the Covenant God had made with them.

Then, New Testament Scriptures show that the Apostle Paul represented Water Baptism as believers' "circumcision made without hands." It is through Water Baptism that believers in Christ take on His Name inwardly.

And ye are complete in him [Christ], which is the head of all principality and power: **In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision**

**of Christ: Buried with him in baptism,  
wherein also ye are risen with *him*  
through the faith of the operation of  
God, who hath raised him from the  
dead** (Colossians 2:10-12).

God Himself confers this Circumcision upon us. Spiritual Circumcision is an *inward act* of “putting off the body of the sins of the flesh” by taking on the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Baptism speaks figuratively of Christ’s Death; therefore, immersion in the Baptismal Waters is an entrance into Christ’s Death in order to take on His Name that is victorious over Death, Hell, and the grave. When, by faith, the believer is immersed in the Waters of Jesus Christ’s Death and takes on His victorious Name, the believer theoretically buries his old carnal nature or life as he theoretically experiences the Lord’s Death in Water Baptism. The believer arises out of the Waters of Death with the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ and His Resurrection Power.

Thus, after being baptized in water, the spiritually resurrected believer has the Power of the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ so that when he, by faith, returns daily to the Waters of Christ’s Obedient Death, he empirically dies to a portion of his carnal nature and experiences Christ’s new Resurrection Power. The death of the baptized believer’s carnal nature can, and should be, a daily experience.

This was the Apostle Paul’s experience, to which he testified in his letter to the saints in Corinth:

I protest by your rejoicing which I  
have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I **die**  
**daily** (I Corinthians 15:31).

If there were no new hope of obtaining more of Christ's victorious Resurrected Life over Death, both now, in our present experiences of spiritual Death, and in our future death, when our bodies are laid in the grave, we would perish in our present hurtful hardships, and we would lack courage and spirit to face our future physical death. But thanks be unto the overcoming Name of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Waters of His Obedient Death, we have daily victory over the spiritual *Death* of our carnal *nature* and the future "waters of *death*" that will consume our natural *bodies*.

Remember, Abraham experienced God's Salvation *before* Almighty God revealed to him the Covenant of Circumcision or Baptism. His relationship with God was well established long before he received the Covenant sign, as recorded in Genesis, chapter seventeen. We experience the same order: by faith, we become Christian believers in the shed Blood of Jesus Christ; then, our Spiritual Circumcision (Water Baptism) follows.

In shadow and type, Abraham started out with the blood and the Fire, for he built altars and offered sacrifices unto God. In addition to the Light of Understanding that Abraham received about the blood and Fire, God brought him up to the Truth of physical circumcision, which was a foreshadowing of the New Testament spiritual experience of Water Baptism.

Whenever God reveals more Light and Truth to us, we are obligated to walk in that Light and Truth, just as our father Abraham did. Once spiritual Light has come across our pathway, we cannot take another route and bypass that Truth; we *must* obediently walk in that new Light if we

desire to grow to spiritual maturity in the Stature of the LORD Jesus Christ.\*

On Abram's way to Canaan's Land, while he was still in Ur of the Chaldees, and before he had come to dwell in Haran, God already had appeared to him with the experiences of blood and Fire and had called him to leave his country, birthplace, and his kindred, and go to a land that God would show him (Acts 7:2,3). Then, after having left Ur of the Chaldees, Abram had another experience. While he was in Haran, God increased Abram's faith and gave him a greater vision of Canaan's Land. There, God called Abram to isolate himself from his country, his kindred, and his father's house, and proceed on to the land of Canaan, the Promised Land, so that he could receive God's appointed blessings, both naturally and spiritually. God desired to bless Abram by making him the founder of a great nation, naturally, and to bless him spiritually with the Promised Seed of the Messiah, in Whom *all* the nations of the world shall be blessed.

In the beginning of his journey, Abram had been faithful to God's Call to isolate himself from his country and nationality, with all the mental, moral, and natural characteristics that it had given him. Abram had been faithful to isolate himself from his kindred or birthplace, the cradle of his beginning of life, the kneading trough in which he had been molded, and the land in which he had been trained up.

But although Abram separated readily from his country and his birthplace, he took his father Terah with him to Haran.

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\* For more information about growing to spiritual maturity see: B.R. Hicks, *Growing in God* (Jeffersonville, IN: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 1989).

Since he was the family patriarch, the Old Testament Scriptures in Genesis honour Terah as the *natural* leader of the family. However, New Testament Scriptures reveal that Abraham was the true *spiritual* leader of the family. So to fulfill God's Call to him, Abram also had to isolate himself from his aged father, which he did by removing himself from Haran and going on to Canaan's Land, before his father died in Haran.

When Abram had left Ur of the Chaldees, he had journeyed to Haran with his father Terah. But because Terah was an idolater, he was referred to as being dead because he really was spiritually dead. However, scrutiny of the details in the Scriptures show that Terah lived sixty more physical years after Abram had left Haran. God's purpose in isolating Abram from his idolatrous father was for him to detach himself from all defiling parental connections. Nevertheless, the LORD bore witness about Terah's repentance and his turning from his idolatry to the worship of the One True God. The proof of this is in what God told Abraham before he died, which was that he would go to his *fathers* in peace and be buried.

**And thou [Abraham] shalt go to thy fathers in peace;** thou shalt be buried in a good old age (Genesis 15:15).

God assured Abram that he would achieve the LORD's divine Master Plan and also spiritual tranquility and peace with his fathers. Terah, Abraham's father, is not specifically named in Acts 7:4, but before Stephen was martyred for Christ, he bore witness about Abraham's having brought

his father's body to Canaan's Land for burial, after his father had died in Haran (Genesis 11:32).

And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken; **The God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he dwelt in Charran, And said unto him, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and come into the land which I shall shew thee.** Then came he out of the land of the Chaldaeans, and dwelt in Charran: and from thence, **when his father [Terah] was dead, he [Abraham] removed him [Terah] into this land, wherein ye now dwell** (Acts 7:2-4).

**By faith Abraham, when he was called** to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, **obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went** (Hebrews 11:8)

God's Governance and Guidance always came through Abram who believed in the One True God. Abram was a spiritual man. Because of God's Call and Covenant with Abram, God never worked through his idolatrous father, Terah. Yet God, in His Mercy and Grace, allowed Abram to bring his father as far as Haran. But until a permanent separation and isolation from his spiritually dead father and his idolatrous house had been made, Abram could not achieve his goal of reaching the Promised Land.

It was not easy for Abram to separate from his aged father; nevertheless, while Abram was



in Haran, the merciful, gracious LORD gave him a greater vision of the Promised Land or Canaan's Land. It was God's extending His help to Abram that removed him from his spiritually dead father. Abram's heart was blessed, encouraged, and enlightened so that he could spiritually see and, therefore, clearly choose the right road that would lead him to Canaan's Land. How great is God's Governance and Guidance of the zealous heart that longs to fulfill God's Master Plan in his life and, then, faithfully obeys God's Purposive Will.

Before Abram's experience in chapter seventeen of Genesis, when his name was changed to Abraham, he had received other wonderful revelations that had increased his faith in God's prophetic Promises and that had enlarged his vision of God's Glory. Indisputably, Abram was a child of God, a believer, and he received many wonderful revelations from the LORD *before* Almighty God revealed to him the Covenant of Circumcision and that his name would be changed to Abraham. But when God was ready to take Abraham up into *greater* Spiritual Stature, He then revealed to him the mystery of His Covenant of Circumcision and his new name, Abraham.

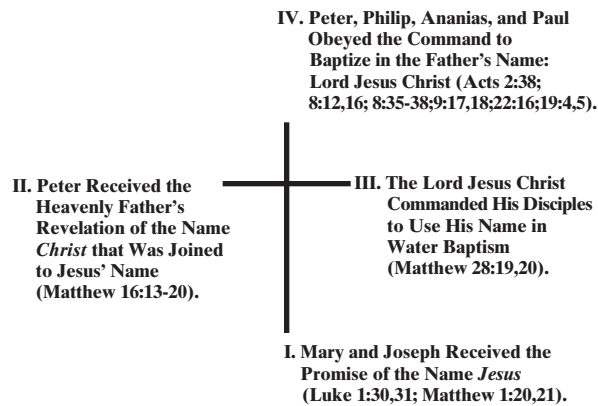
To refuse Almighty God's Covenant of Circumcision in Abraham's day caused a person to be cut off from God's Covenant and removed from the circle of God's chosen people. Likewise, God's imperative command to us to experience Water Baptism or Spiritual Circumcision is just as forceful and important to us, today, in the New Testament dispensation, as circumcision of the flesh was to the Hebrew people in the Old Testament dispensation. God's Covenant of

Circumcision **could not** be administered in a variety of ways because God gave explicit commands concerning how to perform the Rite of Circumcision. Likewise, in the New Testament dispensation, God has given explicit commands concerning how to perform the Rite of Water Baptism or Spiritual Circumcision. In order to lay hold of Spiritual Circumcision through Water Baptism and to receive all the benefits derived from this blessed experience, Water Baptism must be done in the **Name of the Lord Jesus Christ**, according to God's fourfold revelation and divine command in the Book of Luke, in the Book of Matthew, and the saints' obedient demonstration in the Book of Acts.

Water Baptism is for all believers who have received the LORD Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. Baptism in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ has nothing whatsoever to do with the "Oneness" of the Godhead or the "Trinity" of the Godhead. God's Word clearly presents God as ONE in Name, Nature, Spirit, Word, and Glory. Nevertheless, He is a TRIUNE God because He is revealed to us as three distinct Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Hence, He is THREE Persons, but He is ONE in Name and Nature.

Let us consider the Stature of Truth in God's Word concerning the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, as revealed in the New Testament.

(See Stature on following page.)



## I. Mary and Joseph Received the Promise of the Name *Jesus*.

And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, **thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS** (Luke 1:30,31).

The Angel Gabriel came to the blessed Virgin Mary with a message from God concerning the conception and birth of the Saviour of the world. In his message, the Angel gave Mary the Promise of the Name of the Son of Man: He should be called JESUS. "[T]hou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS." The angel did not tell her about the Christ, but only about the Name of Jesus, the Son of Man that pertains to Jesus Christ's humanity side. Mary was the first one to receive the Promise of the Name of Jesus in Seed-form.

The Angel also gave the same revelation of the Name of Jesus, the Son of Man, to Joseph, Mary's legally espoused husband.

But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. **And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins** (Matthew 1:20,21).

Thus was the Name **Jesus** revealed to both Mary and Joseph, who were to be Jesus' earthly parents: Mary was to be His human mother, and Joseph was to be His legal, earthly father.

## **II. Peter Received the Heavenly Father's Revelation of the Name *Christ* that Was Joined to Jesus' Name.**

When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? And they said, Some *say that thou art* John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? **And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou,**

**Simon Barjona: for flesh and Blood hath not revealed *it* unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.** And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven (Matthew 16:13-20).

Jesus, the Son of Man, asked His Disciples, “Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?” They repeated to Him what they had heard others say, but Jesus turned to them and asked, “But whom say *ye* that I am?” Peter replied, “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

God, the Father, had opened Peter’s spiritual eyes to see that Jesus the Son of Man, although human, is also Christ, the divine Son of God. Thus, Peter spoke out of the revelation that the Father had given him. Christ is the Living Word within the flesh of Jesus, the Son of Man.

The controversy that has existed among the Jews and other religions has never been over the Name Jesus because even secular history records the life of the Man called Jesus of Nazareth. The fight always has been over Jesus being the Christ, the Divine One. Jesus Christ is both the Son of Man and the Eternal Word of God. Christ, the Word of God, the Son of God, has always existed. He is from Eternity; He is the Rock of Truth that followed Israel in the wilderness.

And did all drink the same spiritual drink: **for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ** (I Corinthians 10:4).

The Spirit of Christ, the Son of God, was the Spirit that was in the Old Testament prophecies that foretold His coming to Earth to suffer and to die for sinful man and His subsequent resurrection from the dead by the Father's Glory.

**Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow** (I Peter 1:11).

When Peter disclosed the revelation from the Father that Jesus was the Christ, Jesus forbade His Disciples to tell it. He commanded them to tell no man that He was the Christ because He (Jesus) had to continue in His Faithfulness to the Father's Will by going through more experiences of surrender and obedience — His Surrender to die in Gethsemane, if that were the Father's Will; His Obedience to go to Calvary's Cross to die; His going to the grave; and His descending into Death and Hell. After His total Surrender and Obedience to the Father's Master Plan had been accomplished, Jesus' union with the Names Lord and Christ was eternally and forever established through His glorious resurrection from the dead (Acts 2:36).

### III. The Lord Jesus Christ Commanded His Disciples to Use His Name in Water Baptism.

**Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen (Matthew 28:19,20).

Jesus did not have to repeat the Truth that He already had given His Disciples and that they already had received and embraced. At this time, He only had to give them the *permission* and *command* to use His Name in Water Baptism because He previously had forbidden them to use it. Now that the eternal union or joining had been accomplished between the Name of JESUS and the Name of LORD and CHRIST, the Son of God, He commanded them to use His Name (Acts 2:36).

Jesus told His Disciples to go forth and baptize in His *Name!* He did not say *names*, plural. He said to baptize in *the Name*. The Father gave only one Name to His legitimate, Only Begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus bore witness that He had come in His Father's Name: Lord and Christ.

**I am come in my Father's name,** and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive (John 5:43).

The Apostle Paul also bore witness that there is one Name, one Father, one Family, and one Household.

**For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named** (Ephesians 3:14,15).

Because of the unity of Christ's Family and Household, all believers are called Christians.

Jesus never named Himself. The Father named Him before He ever came into the world as a human Being. Before He ever took on flesh as a Man, His Name **was, is, and forever shall be Lord Jesus Christ!**

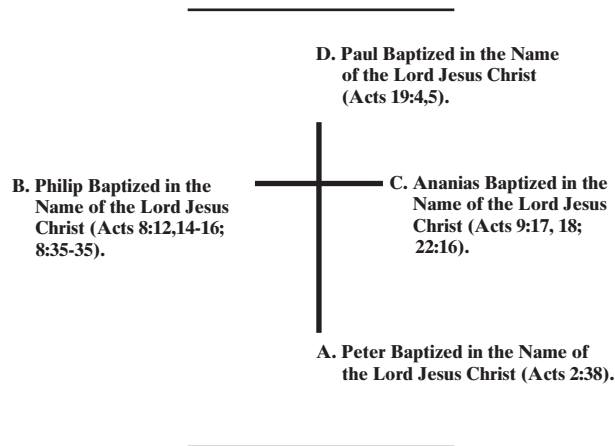
#### **IV. Peter, Philip, Ananias, and Paul Obeyed Jesus' Command to Baptize in the Father's Name: Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Book of Acts records the early Christian Church's obedience to Jesus' command to baptize in His Name. The early church was obedient to fulfill Christ's command and continued to use His Name in Water Baptism until the early 1900's, according to the Catholic encyclopedia. The New Advent Organization's reprinting of the 1908 Catholic Encyclopedia says that some of the early Popes authorized Baptism in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. The 1908 Catholic Encyclopedia notes that the Apostles baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. While the Catholic Encyclopedia gives various reasons and explanations for an apparent discrepancy between baptizing in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy



Ghost versus baptizing in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Catholic Encyclopedia notes that St. Thomas, St. Bonaventure, Albertus Magnus, Peter Lombard, and Hugh of St. Victor acknowledged this form of Baptism as valid, and they noted that Pope Stephen authorized Baptism solely in the Name of Jesus Christ. In the Encyclopedia's words, "St. Cyprian says (Ep. ad Jubaian.) that this pontiff [Pope Stephan] declared all baptism valid, provided it was given in the Name of Jesus Christ.

The Word of God gives distinct accounts of four different men who baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.



### **A. Peter Baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Then Peter said unto them, Repent,  
and be baptized every one of you in  
the name of Jesus Christ for the**

**remission of sins**, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:38).

On the Day of Pentecost, Peter obeyed the revelation he had received about Jesus' being the Christ; therefore, he obeyed Jesus' command to use His eternal Name, the Lord Jesus Christ, when he baptized believers in His Name. The other eleven Disciples stood up with Peter, thus they gave their assent to all the Truth that Peter spoke. There was no conflict among Jesus' Disciples over baptizing in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Salvation begins in us through faith in the precious Blood of Jesus. Then, as a believer, we are ready to obey the command to be baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **B. Philip Baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

When Philip was in Samaria, he preached about the Kingdom of God and the Name of Jesus Christ. Then, he baptized believers in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women...** Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: **(For as**

**yet he was fallen upon none of them:  
only they were baptized in the name  
of the Lord Jesus.)** (Acts 8:12,14-16).

These Scriptures establish Philip's revelation and obedience to baptize in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus, the Son of Man, was the One Who died for man — not the Father — and not the Holy Ghost. Water Baptism is a picture of *Jesus'* Death, Burial, and Resurrection!

Philip also baptized the Ethiopian eunuch.

**Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.** And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: **and the eunuch said, See, *here is water*; what doth hinder me to be baptized?** And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, **thou mayest.** And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: **and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him** (Acts 8:35-38).

We know from the earlier account of Philip's revival in Samaria that he baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **C. Ananias Baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting

his hands on him said, **Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.** And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: **and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized** (Acts 9:17,18).

And he [Ananias] said [unto Paul], The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. **And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord** (Acts 22:14-16).

While traveling on the road to Damascus, Saul met the Lord Jesus Christ and was converted. Although Paul was set to continue his persecution of Christ's followers, the Lord had other plans for him. As a result of his encounter with the Lord's Light, Saul's eyes were blinded. However, the Lord appeared in a vision to Ananias, a devout disciple, and commissioned him to visit Saul, restore his sight, and baptize him in water. Subsequently, Ananias did baptize Paul in the Name of the Lord Jesus, for Ananias had received the Truth from the Apostles as to how to baptize. Paul's own testimony confirmed that he was baptized "calling on the name of the

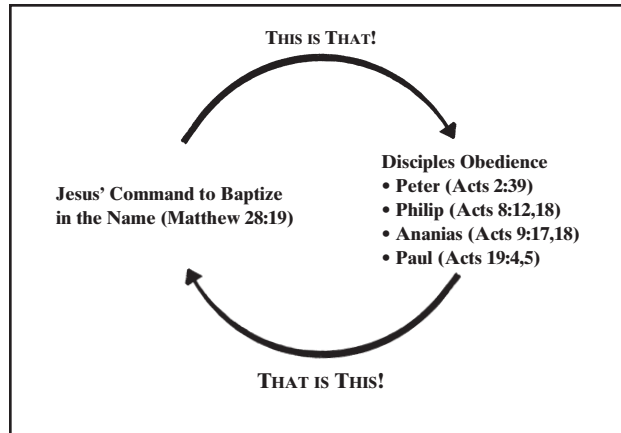
Lord.” He called upon the Name of Jesus, for this same Jesus — Who had died and had been buried and had risen again — had been made both Lord and Christ.

**D. The Apostle Paul Baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Then said Paul**, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. **When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus** (Acts 19:4,5).

There was no other form used in Water Baptism in the Book of Acts. The fact that these four men were obedient in baptizing in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ is evidence that they understood the revelation in Matthew 16:16 that Jesus is the Christ; therefore, they obeyed the command Jesus gave them in Matthew 28:19 to use His Name, Lord Jesus Christ. It is clear that THIS was the fulfillment of THAT.

(See diagram on following page.)



The purpose of Water Baptism in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ is to take on the blessings of His Obedient Death of Surrender and the Glorious Liberty of His Resurrected Life.

**Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?** (Romans 6:3).

Water Baptism is believers' one-time, initial surrender that empowers them to surrender, daily, to the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ and to take on the Waters of His Obedient Death, thus bringing Death to their carnal flesh and allowing them to ascend, daily, with the Father's *kabode* Glory, into the Newness of His Resurrection Life. Being baptized into the Death of Jesus Christ is a basic surrender; it indicates that the believer desires to take on the Lord's Holy *Name* or the *Nature* of His Obedient Death and Resurrection Life.

Looking at the Old Testament type, we see that the High Priest had to wash once outwardly (which pictures a believer's outward act of Water

Baptism). Then, the Priest returned daily to the Laver to wash his hands and feet, which pictures a believer's daily, inward washing in the Waters of Jesus Christ's Name, Death, and Life. As believers, we wash *once* outwardly by taking on the Father's Name, through His Only Begotten Son, in Water Baptism. Then, we must return daily, by faith, to the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, our spiritual Laver, to have our hands and feet cleansed.

At the Laver, we deal with inward sins, the indwelling sins of our carnal flesh. Wherever the Laver is mentioned in God's Word, we find the *foot* of the Laver also mentioned. The foot was the bottom part of the Laver where fresh water was released, daily, from the Laver's reservoir so that the Priest could wash his hands and feet. As we go on for God and come, daily, to Jesus Christ, we find our Heavenly Father releasing His Name in Jesus Christ, our spiritual Laver, which gives us the Waters of His Obedient Death that we need in order to have our hands and feet sanctified from wrath, doubting, and rejection. But we *must* come through the Name of Jesus.

We are in no condition to take on His Obedient Death until we have first taken on His Holy Name or Nature of Surrender, Love, and Humility. As we espouse ourselves to the Father's Name of Lord Jesus Christ, which gives us the willingness to die to the sins of our carnal nature, we are enabled to die daily to the portion of our flesh that God requires of us that day. We *can* die daily to what the Lord reveals to us. But if we do not continue coming to Jesus' Name, day by day, to receive more of His Surrender, Humility, and Obedience, we will not have the power to die to our flesh. Growing in God is a daily process. Giving up our

flesh is a daily process. To journey on with Christ, we must walk in obedience to Him every day.

Being baptized into Jesus Christ's Death separates us from continuing in our past sins, which we served before we accepted Jesus Christ as our Saviour. "[H]ow shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" (Romans 6:2). In both the natural realm and the spiritual realm, a disobedient death is *separation* from God. When we are baptized in the Name of Jesus, the Baptismal Waters represent the cold, chilly Waters of His Obedient Death and also the grave.

Romans 6:2 speaks of the sins of the world or the sins of our past life, prior to our conversion. Although we have experienced the precious Blood of Jesus Christ in Salvation that delivers us from the penalty of sin and death and have received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and have received Water Baptism, outwardly, still we daily experience sinful attitudes of wrath, doubting, and rejection that are unlike Jesus Christ's Holy Nature. Therefore, we must return to Jesus Christ and allow Him to deal with these unChristlike attitudes and dispositions. We must return daily, by faith, to Christ, our Spiritual Laver, in order to appropriate the Waters of Jesus Christ's Name, Obedient Death, and Resurrection Life so that we can deal with our indwelling sins.

The Apostle Paul said that he *died daily*. There are things in our carnal nature that the Holy Spirit desires to reveal to us, daily, so that we can take them to the pool of Jesus' Death, by faith, and be separated from them.

By Water Baptism in Jesus' Name, we are buried with Him in His Obedient Death.

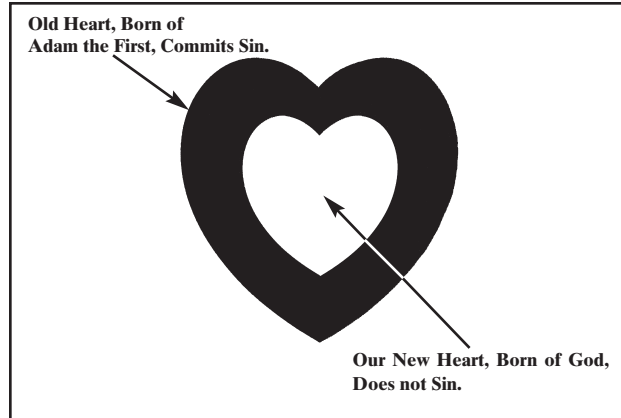


**Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death...** (Romans 6:4).

We are to partake of Jesus' Death through burial with Him, which consists of being concealed, preserved, and kept safe in Him. Unless we return, daily, to the pool of Jesus' Death and bury the unChristlike things in our fleshly nature, we will not please God.

When Jesus saves us by His Blood, He creates within us a New Heart, but we still have within us the natural man or the old carnal heart. Our carnal heart is also called the *old man* (Ephesians 4:22); the *body of death* (Romans 7:24); and the *carnal man* (I Corinthians 2:14). Our New Man (our New Heart) is created in righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24); it cannot sin because it is born of God (I John 3:8-9). First John 3:8 says: "He that committeth sin is of the devil." This verse refers to our old nature or our carnal heart with which we are born. Verse nine of the same chapter says: "Whosoever is **born of God** doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." This verse speaks of our New Heart or our New Man that is born of God.

(See drawing on following page.)



We have many things in our old carnal nature that need to be buried in the Waters of Jesus' Obedient Death. Anger, pouting, murmuring, complaining, accusing, and backbiting are just a few attitudes and dispositions that we must learn to bring to the pool of Jesus Christ's Death, by faith, and bury them there. When we bury something, we leave it there until it disintegrates. We need to bury our sinful dispositions and attitudes in Jesus' Death until they disintegrate. Jesus' Baptism covers, separates, and totally disintegrates all the ugly things we bring to Him.

When we feel our rebellious will resisting Jesus' Will, we can plead His Blood, His Fire, and the Waters of His Name, Death, and Life over it. Soon, we will feel our will beginning to bend in obedience and submission to Jesus' Will. Thanks be unto God our Father for the Power that is in God's sanctifying Provision of Blood, Fire, and Water in His precious Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

The things in us that Jesus has crucified, we must bury in His Death before they stink and breed more worms of rebellion, or we will carry

around their dead corpses, which certainly cannot produce a sweet-smelling savour to our sweet Saviour. Remember, burying things puts them out of sight and out of mind!

By being planted in Jesus's Death, we take on the likeness of His Obedience in Death.

**For if we have been planted together  
in the likeness of his death, we shall  
be also in the likeness of his resur-  
rection:** (Roman 6:5).

We plant a seed for the purpose of having it sprout and grow to maturity. Given the right conditions, a seed planted in the ground will take root downward and bear fruit upward. Likewise, if we, as a seed, are planted in Jesus' Death, we will arise with His exalted Resurrection Life to bear His Fruits of Love, upward, to our Heavenly Father and, then, to each other.

God does not want us to bury or conceal our God-given Light, talents, and abilities. However, He does want us to plant them in Christ's Death until our flesh has surrendered its outward control over how and when we use them. Our carnal self should not be the ruler of our God-given Light, talents, and abilities. Once they are baptized, buried, and planted, our Light, Life, and abilities will be resurrected under the Headship, Authority, and Power of the LORD Jesus Christ, Who is under His Father's Headship. Jesus' Death separates us from our pride so that we can be used for God's Glory. We need to give Him **all** the Glory because it rightly belongs to Him anyway. We will be raised to work for the LORD after

Christ's separation of Death has been worked in us. Thus, we will serve the LORD for *His* Glory and not for *our own* glory.

We must allow Jesus to plant and bury us deeply enough in His Obedient Death that we will have sufficient root downward and sufficient growth upward to endure the heat of the sun in the times of testings, trials, and temptations. When we are planted and rooted, the Stature of the LORD Jesus Christ will come up in our hearts — a Spiritual Stature that will enable us to stand firm and not take the bowed down position of being a servant of sin.

We must remember that although Jesus Christ already has crucified our old man at Calvary's Cross, we must daily return to Him so that we can experience the Power of His Cross that also delivers us from the power of sin within our old heart.

**Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin** (Romans 6:6).

We must daily partake of Jesus' Obedient Death through Baptism into His Obedient Death, through burial, through planting, and through crucifixion. Some things of the flesh can be plucked up and simply cast away, but other things of the flesh take time to be uprooted. Crucifixion is a slow, painful process. When God shows us something He wants removed from our hearts because it is unlike Him, we must not rush out on our own and try to conquer it. Instead, we must wait in prayer and study God's Word and allow Him to

put His “Will” and His “do” in us. While we are waiting on the Lord and spending time in the Word and prayer, we will grow deeper, higher, longer, and broader in Jesus’ Love. He is our Spiritual Bridegroom Who loves us.

Each time we experience going down into Jesus’ Obedient Death, we will arise with His Newness of Light and Life. A new thrill of Christ’s Love, Light, and Life is born in our hearts each time we experience the Newness of His Crucifixion. When Christ’s Love, Light, and Life flow forth, His eternal Newness remains ever present. Jesus Christ’s Resurrection Power lifts us higher and higher into the Newness of His Everlasting Life. Praise His Name!

To Mary and Joseph, God the Father gave the Promise of the Name **Jesus**. To the Apostle Peter, He revealed the Name **Christ**, the Son of God, Who was joined to Jesus, the Son of Man. After His resurrection, the Lord Jesus Christ commanded His Disciples to use His Name — **Lord Jesus Christ** — in Water Baptism. And His Disciples — Peter, Philip, Ananias, and Paul — obeyed His command. To God the Father and to His Only Begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, be all the Glory, both now and forever more!

