

THE THREE BAPTISMS

There is a central teaching of the New Testament that the Lord has been highlighting for me over the past weeks.

There is a passage that talks about the SIX ELEMENTARY PRINCIPLES OF CHRIST

- These are foundational principles and practices that our faith is built on..
- Heb 6:1-3 (NKJV) 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**, [2] of the **doctrine of baptisms**, of **laying on of hands**, of **resurrection of the dead**, and of **eternal judgment**. [3] And this we will do if God permits.
 - o **Holiness** – Repentance from dead works
 - o **Faith** – Hearing and believing what God says
 - o **Baptisms** – the doctrine (teaching and practice)
 - The Baptism of water
 - The Baptism of the Holy Spirit
 - The Baptism of Fire
 - o **Laying on of Hands** – The ministry of Agreement in “Praying for” and “consecrating”
 - o **Resurrection of the Dead** – That believers live forever
 - o **Eternal Judgement** – That all will stand before the judgement seat of Christ and will be held accountable for deeds done in the body.

The Doctrine of Baptisms

- It is an ELEMENTARY PRINCIPLE of faith
- There are more than one “Baptisms”
- They are foundational and important
 - o They must be taught so that we can fully engage in the plan of god

I felt impressed by the Lord to teach on “ELEMENTARY TEACHING of Baptisms”

- There are three types of BAPTISMS that ALL believer must encounter and receive
 - o Yet most people have only heard of one or maybe two
- They are progressive in nature (you can't skip one and go to the next)
 - o According to the Bible, you must be baptized in water first, Spirit next and Finally Fire
- They are EVIDENCE of a life lived in devotion to Jesus
 - o Participation in each one is based in relationship with Jesus
- They lead to purpose and power
 - o Each one brings maturity, more focus and power

John the Baptist's Announcement – Jesus is the BAPTIZER

(Mat 3:11 NIV) ""**I baptize you with water for repentance**. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.**"

- Water baptism is done by Christian leaders (on behalf of Jesus)
- Spirit and Fire baptism is done by Jesus

THE BAPTISM OF JOHN was entirely focused on PREPARING A WAY FOR JESUS COMING

- Mat 3:1-6 (NKJV) In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, [2] and saying, "**Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!**" [3] For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS: '**PREPARE THE WAY OF**

THE LORD; MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT. '..... [5] Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him [6] and were baptized by him in the Jordan, **confessing their sins.**

- TO BE BAPTIZED BY JOHN (in water)
 - REPENT
 - CONFESS SINS
 - PREPARE FOR LORDSHIP OF JESUS
 - “DYING TO SELF” – Symbolism in Baptism
- Purpose
 - TO MAKE WAY FOR THE LORD
 - To open the heart and mind to Jesus
 - To turn away from CARNAL to become SPIRITUAL

Results of John's Baptism

- (Luke 7:29-30 NLT) "When they heard this, all the people, including the unjust tax collectors, **agreed that God's plan was right, FOR THEY HAD BEEN BAPTIZED BY JOHN. {30} But the Pharisees and experts in religious law had rejected God's plan for them, for they had refused John's baptism.**"
 - The people who had REPENTED/ CONFESSED SIN/ BAPTIZED
 - Were able to HEAR and AGREE with Jesus
 - The people who were NOT BAPTIZED
 - REJECTED God's Plan – Jesus message
 - BECAUSE they did not repent
 - They were not SPIRITUALLY ALIVE

OVERVIEW OF THE BAPTISMS

1. BAPTISM OF WATER

Mechanics: BY PERSON

- Public confession and Immersion in water
- Repentance and Confession of sin
 - Lordship of Jesus
 - Turn away from Carnal life (death to self)
 - Open to the Spirit (alive to God)
 - Living in connection with Spirit of God
 - Living in connection with other believers

2. BAPTISM OF THE SPIRIT

Mechanics: By JESUS

- Public surrender and Coming upon of the Spirit
- Empowerment
 - Guidance
 - Comfort – The Fellowship of the Spirit
 - Walking in the Spirit
 - Death to the flesh

3. BAPTISM OF FIRE

Mechanics: By Jesus

- Suffering/Persecution and Glory (fullness)
- Refinement

- Fullness and revelation of the Glory of God

Baptism of Water

How important is Baptism

Jesus was Baptized

(Mat 3:13-15 NLT) "Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. {14} But John didn't want to baptize him. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?" {15} But Jesus said, "It must be done, because we must do everything that is right." So, then John baptized him."

- Jesus himself gave us an example of WATER BAPTISM as
 - o Important
 - o A SPIRITUAL EVENT
 - o The Beginning of Christian life and ministry

JESUS & HIS DISCIPLES BAPTIZED!

(John 3:22 NLT) "Afterward Jesus and his disciples left Jerusalem, but they stayed in Judea for a while and baptized there."

(John 4:1-2 NLT) "Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, "Jesus is baptizing and making more disciples than John" {2} (though Jesus himself didn't baptize them--his disciples did)."

- Jesus and His disciples continued to

ALL PEOPLE WHO MADE A PUBLIC CONFESSION OF FAITH (SAVED) WERE PUBLICALLY BAPTIZED

- It was not just a ritual or outward sign
- It was a PUBLIC EVENT
- It was A SPIRITUAL EVENT
- It was the point at which a believer "died to self" chose to "live to God"

WHAT IS WATER BAPTISM ALL ABOUT – Paul describes

Rom 6:1-14 (NKJV) What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? [2] Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? [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.** [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**.

- "Baptized into His death" – Symbolic and spiritually active death to self – alive to Jesus
 - o Buried by Baptism
- "Walk in Newness of life" – Raised to new life
 - o The fellowship of the Spirit
 - o The ability to hear God
- "Old man was crucified"
 - o "sin was done away with" - The ability to refuse sin
- "Died with Christ - Live with Him"
 - o Give away our rights to live according to the Flesh
- "ALIVE TO GOD – in Christ Jesus"
 - o Dead to self – Alive to God
- "Not living as 'instruments of unrighteousness' but to God – ALIVE FROM THE DEAD"
 - o We have the ability to live in the Purposes of God

How important is Water Baptism?

For the early believers it WAS the sign of following Christ...

Col 2:11-12 (NKJV) In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, [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.

For the early believers it WAS the sign that

Gal 3:27 (NKJV) **For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**

- All believers in the New Testament were baptized immediately when they believed in Jesus
- It was Public event
- It was a sign that you were a Follower of the Way

JESUS COMMANDED US TO BAPTIZE AS A PRIMARY MINISTRY

(Mat 28:18-20 NIV) "Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. {19} Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[1] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, {20} and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.""

Have you been baptized in water?

- How do I know if I really was baptized according to the Scriptures
 - o Were you baptized as an adult?
 - If you were a child did you know what you were doing
 - o Were you baptized for the repentance of your sins/ your past life?
 - Were you being baptized to "join the church" or "die to self"
 - o Did you understand that Baptism was choosing to DIE TO SELF?
 - Did you know that Baptism is a SPIRITUAL EVENT
 - Did you understand that Baptism was about laying aside SIN...
 - o Did you understand that your Baptism was about (being raised) LIVING FOR GOD?
 - Being Spiritually Alive
 - Being Led by the Spirit

If you would like to be baptized, please contact me! We will be setting a date for Baptisms in Late April!!