

Lifting Up Jesus
Lesson 28
“The Meaning of Baptism”

QUESTION #1

How important is baptism? Mark 16:15-16; John 3:3-5

Mark 16:15-16 NKJV

¹⁵And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

John 3:3-5 NKJV

³Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born ^[a]again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

⁴Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”

⁵Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

QUESTION #2

What is the meaning of baptism? Romans 6:3-5; Colossians 2:12

Romans 6:3-5 NKJV

³Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴Therefore 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.

⁵For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness* of *His* resurrection,

Colossians 2:12 NKJV

¹²buried 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.

QUESTION #3

Who is first mentioned as administering baptism in the New Testament? Matthew 3:1-6

Matthew 3:1-6 NKJV

^{3:1} 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.’ ”

⁴ Now John himself was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. 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.

QUESTION #4

Why was John the Baptist baptizing out in the wilderness? John 3:23

John 3:23 NKJV

²³ Now John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was much water there. And they came and were baptized.

QUESTION #5

Why did Jesus say it was necessary for Him to be baptized? Matthew 3:13-17

Matthew 3:13-17 NKJV

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. 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 ^[a] He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. ¹⁷ And suddenly a voice *came* from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

QUESTION #6

Was the Father pleased when His Son, our Lord Jesus was baptized? Mark 1:11

Mark 1:11 NKJV

¹¹ Then a voice came from heaven, “You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

QUESTION #7

What does the Bible say that indicates that Christ was baptized by immersion? Mark 1:10

Mark 1:10 NKJV

¹⁰ And immediately, coming up ^[a]from the water, He saw the heavens ^[b]parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove.

QUESTION #8

What about the early church disciples? By what means did they baptize? Acts 8:36-38

Acts 8:36-38 NKJV

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 ^[a]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.

QUESTION #9

What did Jesus instruct His followers to do before they baptized people? Matthew 28:19-20

Matthew 28:19-20 NKJV

¹⁹ Go ^[a]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, ²⁰teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” ^[b]Amen.

QUESTION #10

What did Peter say we are to do before we are baptized? Acts 2:38

Acts 2:38 NKJV

³⁸ Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the ^[a]remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

QUESTION #11

By what rite of passage was membership in God’s church obtained? Acts 2:41

Acts 2:41 NKJV

⁴¹ Then those who ^[a] gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added *to them*.

QUESTION #12

How important is public confession of our faith to God? Matthew 10:32-33

Matthew 10:32-33 NKJV

³² “Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. ³³ But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.