

CHRISTADELPHIAN BIBLE POSTAL COURSE

Tutor's Name: _____

Date: _____

Student's Name: _____

Ref No.: _____

**LESSON 10**

The Christian Baptism

To read: 2 Timothy 1-4

To learn: Mark 16:16

QUESTIONS

In many parts of the Bible it speaks about the importance of testifying or being a witness, the privilege of sharing our faith with the world. Now we are going to consider another aspect of this theme, "Baptism". We will see that baptism is a testimony and at the same time, a requirement in obtaining salvation.

1. After his death and subsequent resurrection, the Lord Jesus gave his disciples a firm directive as to what their duties and responsibilities were to be. We read this in Matthew 28:16-20. Here Jesus Christ clearly states:

- 1 - his authority (v.18);
- 2 - his command (vs.19-20) and
- 3 - his promise(v.20)

We see that the commandment of Jesus (Matthew 28:19-20) presents 3 duties: Which are they?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2. The apostles began this great work of preaching the Gospel to others on the day of Pentecost. The Apostle Peter says in Acts 2:38 "Repent and be Baptised". What did the three thousand do on the day of Pentecost when they received the word of the Lord? (Acts 2:41) _____

3. In Samaria, what did those do who believed the gospel announced to them by Phillip, according to Acts 8:12?

4. What did the eunuch want to do when he heard the gospel explained by Phillip, according to Acts 8:36?

5. What did Saul do when he was converted and received his sight from Ananias, according to Acts 9:18?

6. What did Peter do with the believers of Caesarea, according to Acts 10:47-48? _____

7. What did Lydia do when the Lord opened her heart, according to Acts 16:14-15? _____

8. What did the jailor at Philippi do when he was converted, according to Acts 16:32-33? _____

9. What did Crispus, those of his household and many of the Corinthians do, when they heard the gospel and believed, according to Acts 18:8? _____

Of the quotations examined up to now - two truths stand out: 1. Christ ordered that those who became his disciples were to be baptized. 2. The first century believers all obeyed this command of the Lord.

Let us now consider the act of baptism.

10. What did Jesus do after his baptism? (Matthew 3:16) _____ the water.

11. Why did John baptise in Aenon (John 3:23) Because there was _____.

12. At the baptism of the eunuch, what did he and Philip do? 1. _____ went down into the water (Acts 8:38) 2. _____ of the water (Acts 8:39)

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13. For the following question there are two possible answers. Underline the correct one.

According to Romans 6:4, what happens to us at baptism?

1. We are sprinkled
2. We are buried.

14. According to Colossians 2:12 two things happen at a biblical baptism. What are they?

We are _____ and _____.

Apart from the proven fact that the word "baptise" literally means "submerge", the quotations examined above confirm that the biblical way of baptism is by full immersion.

In the biblical baptism the believer is "buried" in the water to be "resurrected" from it.

15. A careful study of the New Testament reveals that something important always preceded baptism. According to the following quotations, say what happened before these particular people were baptized:

1. Acts 2:41 _____
2. Acts 8:12 _____
3. Acts 16:14-15 _____
4. Acts 18:8 _____

We see that we must hear and believe the word before being baptised.

16. In agreement with this conclusion Peter tells us in 1 Peter 1:23, that we have been born again of imperishable seed through _____

17. James 1:18 tells us that God chose to give us birth through _____

We conclude, therefore, that biblical baptism is for BELIEVERS, that is to say, for people who have heard and believed in the word of God. There is not one case in the scriptures of infant baptism or of persons who have not first given witness of their personal faith in the Lord before being baptised.

Let us now consider what baptism does for us.

18. There is now no condemnation for those who are _____ (Romans 8:1) We must therefore know how we can be "in Christ Jesus".

19. Galatians 3:27 says that all who have been _____ into Christ, have clothed themselves with Christ.

20. Peter said on the day of Pentecost, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the _____ of your _____." (Acts 2:38)

21. Ananias said to Saul, "Get up, be baptized and _____ calling on the name of the Lord." (Acts 22:16)

We see that when we are in Christ, in other words when we are baptised in his name, we receive the forgiveness of our former sins. Baptism also means the beginning of a new life. Biblical baptism is a requirement in obtaining salvation and the forgiveness of our sins. At the same time, it is to declare our hope of salvation. According to Romans 6:3-5, we confirm that by means of baptism the believer makes a triple confession of faith.

1. He professes his faith in the death of Christ on the cross and in his resurrection from the grave as the foundation of his salvation.

2. He professes his faith in his own death to the old life of sin and his spiritual resurrection with Christ to walk in a new life with the REALITY of salvation.

3. He professes his faith in his future bodily resurrection from physical death when Jesus returns, to live forever with him in the glory of his kingdom as the HOPE of his salvation.