

Baptism: The Disregarded or Forgotten Command!

According to many well known religious leaders, in today's religious world, there are many different ways given, to be right with God. These are mere men, just as I am. God the creator tells the created how to be right with Him (righteous) (see **Matt.17:1-8**). If you noticed, I said many different ways, if there is more than one way, that's too many according to the truth; thereby proving it is not of the truth (**John 14:5-6**). The same is true with faiths, but that's another lesson. In a previous article "The Appointments", we scripturally addressed the appointments of death and judgment (**Heb.9:27-28, James 2:26**), and that in the judgment one must give an account of the life lived whether good or bad (**Matt.12:35-36, 2Cor.5:9-11**). If good, according to God through Christ and His apostles eternal life, and if bad eternal damnation, (**John 5:28-29; Rom.2:6-8; 2Thes.1:8-9 and Rev.21:7-8**). Seeing then, these things must and will happen, what must we do to be saved, according to the truth, (**Acts 2:37-42; 8:35-39; 9:4-18; 16:14-15 and verses 30-34**)?

Lord willing in this month's article we will attempt to scripturally address what seems to be the disregarded, and or forgotten command of baptism; given by the Lord to the apostles, and to us through their doctrine (**Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:14-16**). There are those religious leaders who profess baptism, but different types of baptisms are professed, thereby advocating division. Just as the terms ways and faiths, which are different beliefs, is false doctrine (**John17:17**), so is baptisms. Not only does the scriptures teach One Lord, which is The One Way, One Faith, and One Baptism, but they also teach One Body, One Spirit, One Hope and One God (**John14: 6, Eph.4:4-6, Gal.3:27-29**). This oneness would make us all speak the same things, and there would be no division among us, in the religious world, (**1Cor.1:10; Phil.3:16-20**), thereby making us all One in Christ (**John17:20-22; Rom.10:12**).

Most of what is practiced in the religious world today is contrary to the instructions left by Christ, and we believe this is motivated by GAIN. Take the money, prestige and vanity out, then see whose left standing, the proof is in the pudding, this of course is another lesson. Man strive to be different, in faiths (which are beliefs, and or religions), in names, in doctrines, in practices, in traditions, and in baptisms. This is so like man. Man says more than one or many, but Jesus Christ the Lord says ONE and FEW (**Matt.7:12-15; 22:14; Acts 4:12**). Who are we to believe? We best believe the one that will judge us (**John5:26-29**), and by what he will judge us (**John12:48**), even the apostle's word (**John17:20; 2Pet.3:2-3**), according to truth.

I hear this in the religious world today, "if you will just pray this prayer with me, and let Christ into your heart, you are saved." There is no scripture for that, so it is of man, and not of the truth (**Please read John 9:31**). What happened to baptism? Jesus Christ is Lord, he set the rules, and he needs no help from man. Remember Christ was in the creation, (**John1:1-14; 10:30; Col.1:12-17; Heb.1:1-8**); gave up his heavenly life to come down to this sinful world; (**John5:20-24; 6:26-40; 8:28-32; 8:42-47**); to live a suffering lifestyle that ended most cruelly on the cross, for man's sake. His Father was pleased to bruise him throughout his life here, and even the cross for our sake, (**Isaiah 53:1-12**). Through the shedding of His blood on the cross, man has the opportunity of soul salvation by the remission of sin through obedience, (**Matt.17: 1-8; Rom.2:1-11; 6:17-23; 10:16-17 see James1:21-27 and 2:14-26; 2Cor.10:1-7; 2Thes.1:1-10; Heb. 2:7-18; 5:1-14; 1Pet.1:22-25 and 2:1-5**). This same Christ has been made the builder; Chief Corner Stone; the head of the body the church, (**Matt.16:13-18; 21:42; Acts4:10-12; 1Cor.11:1-3; Eph.5:20-33; Col.1:1-29; 2:1-23; 1Pet.2:1-25**). So again the Lord doesn't need our input, so far as rules are concerned, we need him. What he need of us is REPENTENCE and the OBEDIENCE to his word, through his apostles, (**Matt.28:16-20; 2Pet.3:1-18**); that is if we want GRACE and SALVATION, (**Acts20:32; James1:21-27**). As was stated before, some that teach baptism teach different types, such as: pouring, sprinkling, immersing which is submersing, remember the truth says one baptism (**Eph.4:5**). There are scriptures backing immersing which is submersing, but

none for pouring or sprinkling. As for infant baptism, we find no scriptural backing for such either, but rather scripture to the contrary. According to the truth, one must be taught (**Matt.28:18-20, 15:8-10, Rom.10:12-14-16&17**); must believe (**John3:13-18, Rom.10:14, James1:22, James2:19-24**); must repent (**Luke 13:3**); must confess (**Rom.10:8-10**), to the point of accepting, and wanting to be buried with Christ in baptism, for the remission of sin, (**Mark16:16, Acts2:41-42; 18:8; 22:15-16; Col.2:10-12**); thereby putting on CHRIST, (Gal.3:26-29). This then makes us NEW SPIRITUAL CREATURES according to scripture, (Rom. 12:1-2; 2Cor.5:16-17; 10:1-18; Eph.4:1-32; Col.3:1-17; 2Tim2:1-26). These are all impossible tasks for infants that know not even their names, let alone anything else. Some of us have heard this term, "Out of the mouth of babes" usually babes cry when the sprinkling or pouring is being done, maybe this should clue us, that they do not want it or for sure they do not understand it. Remember one **MUST** understand what is going on, to be right with God, according to the word which is **TRUTH**.

We must be careful when baptizing anyone, and for sure young ones, that they truly believe through thorough teaching, knowing what they are about to be a part of, knowing the responsibilities that goes with it (**Matt.16:24, Luke9:22-24, 57-62**). For an example, when one has to be escorted and or carried by a parent or any one else for that matter, to be buried with Christ in baptism, or one that has to be made to go to worship, this should be a clue, that one might not be ready for such a step. We must be careful that it is the belief in Christ that motivates one, which means they must be ready to suffer for Christ's sake (**Phil.1:27-30**), and not because their sister, brother, friend, father, or mother etc., was baptized. Not even because of the wants of the parents, or anyone else, but because they are ready to suffer and live Christ, so that death will be gain (**Phil.1:20-21**).

Why would anyone, especially those proclaiming Christianity, ignore the command of baptism? It is for the remission of sin, it is what puts us in Christ, it is how we put on Christ (**Acts 2:38; Rom.6:3-4; Gal.3:26-29**), and it also now one of the many things that saves us, according to the truth (**1Pet.3:21-22**). To ignore Baptism or to administer it in any other fashion than what the scriptures teach, is false doctrine, and is leading precious souls in the wrong direction. To administer Baptism to anyone that is not taught, or is too young to be taught, that does not or cannot believe, because they will not or cannot hear, repent, and confess, is not of the Apostle's doctrine, thereby being false. Baptism, just as all things pertaining to Christ, must be done by the instructions given by Christ through his Apostles, because when it is of man's instructions, it leads to many souls being lost. We must examine the scriptures (**Acts17:11**), and ourselves to see if we are **in THE faith (2Cor.13:5)**. We must remember that Saul /Paul was a Pharisee born a Roman citizen, that strictly believed in the Old Law, before conversion, which was given to the Jews by Moses, (**Acts22:3 27&28, 26:4-5, Gal.1:13-14, Phlp.3:4-7, Deut.4: 44-45, 5:1-3, John1:17-18**). After conversion, out of the Old Law, even Paul was baptized into Christ, washing away his sins (**Acts9: 18-20, Acts22:3-16**). Paul also being one of our examples gives the order of things (**1Cor.11:1-3**). See also the Ethiopian eunuch (**Acts8:29-39**). Cornelius, a devout man according to scripture, had to be taught and then be baptized (**Acts10:1-6, 24-27, 44-48**), just as **ALL** nations **MUST** do (**Matt.28:18-20**), to be right (righteous) with God, according to **the TRUTH**.

See most referenced scriptures below. Please get your bibles and follow this study!

Matt 17:4 Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. **5** While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. **6** And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid. **7** And Jesus came and touched

them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid. **8** And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only. (KJV)

Matt 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

John 14:5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? **6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (KJV)

Heb 9:27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: **28** So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation. (see also **James 2:26**)

2 Cor 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. **11** Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences. (see also **Matt 12:36-37; John 5:28-29; Rev 21:7-8**)

Acts 2:37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? **38** 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. **39** For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Acts 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. **36** 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? **37** 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. **38** 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. **39** And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing. (see also **Acts 16:14-15**)

Acts 16:30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? **31** And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. **32** And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. **33** And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. **34** And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house.(KJV)

Matt 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. **19** Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: **20** 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. (see also **Matt 15:8-10, Mark 16:14-16**)

John 17:16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. **17** Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.(KJV)

Gal 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. **27** For as many of you as

have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. **28** There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. **29** And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.(KJV)

1 Cor 1:10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.(KJV)

Phil 3:16 Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing. **17** Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. (see also verses 18-20)

John 17:20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; **21** That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. **22** And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:(KJV)

Matt 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: **14** Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. **15** Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. (see also Matt 22:14)

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.(KJV)

John 5:26 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; **27** And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man. **28** Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, **29** And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.(KJV)

John 12:48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.(KJV)

John 17:20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;(KJV)

2 Pet 3:1 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: **2** That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour:(KJV)

John 9:31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.(KJV)

Eph 4:5 One Lord, one faith, one (1)baptism, (see also verses 4&6)

Definition:(1)baptism-908 baptisma (bap'-tis-mah); from 907; immersion, submersion, baptism (technically or figuratively): KJV-- baptism. 907 baptizo (bap-tid'-zo); from a derivative of 911; to immerse, submerge; to make overwhelmed (i.e. fully wet); used only (in the N. T.) of ceremonial ablution, especially (technically) of the ordinance of Christian baptism: KJV-- Baptist, baptize, wash.

Rom 10:14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? **15** And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! **16** But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report? **17** So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.(KJV)

James 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. (see also **James 2:17-24**)

Luke 13:3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.(KJV)

Rom 10:8 But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; **9** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **10** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.(KJV)

Mark 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. (see also **Acts 2:41-42**)

Acts 18:8 And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized. (see also **Col 2:10-12 Buried with him in baptism**)

Luke 9:22 Saying, The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day. **23** And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. **24** For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. (see also **Matt 16:24**)

Luke 9:57 And it came to pass, that, as they went in the way, a certain man said unto him, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. **58** And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head. (see also verses 59-62)

Phil 1:27 Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; **28** And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God. **29** For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake; **30** Having the same conflict which ye saw in me, and now hear to be in me.(KJV)

Phil 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. **21** For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.(KJV)

Rom 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? **4** Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. (see also **Gal.3:27**)

1 Pet 3:21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away

of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: **22** Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.(KJV)

2 Cor 13:5 Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? (see also **Acts 17:11**)

Deut 5:1 And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them. **2** The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. **3** The LORD made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day. (see **Deut 4:44-45**)

Acts 22:3 I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day. (see also **Acts 22:27-28**)

Acts 26:4 My manner of life from my youth, which was at the first among mine own nation at Jerusalem, know all the Jews; **5** Which knew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.(KJV)

Gal 1:13 For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it: **14** And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.(KJV)

Phil 3:4 Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: **5** Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; **6** Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. **7** But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. **8** Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I **may win Christ**, **9** And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: **10** That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;(KJV)

John 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. **18** No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.(KJV)

We Must Remember The Order of Things, given by the Apostle Paul!

1 Cor 11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. **2** Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you. **3** But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.(KJV)

Acts 22:15 For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. **16** And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord. (see also **Acts 9:18-20**)

Acts 10:1 There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called

the Italian band, **2** A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway. **3** He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius. **4** And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God. **5** And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter: **6** He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do. (KJV)

Acts 10:47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? **48** And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.(KJV)

Acts 11:1 And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. (KJV)

Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were **(1)baptized:** and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. **42** And **(2)they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.**(KJV)

Definition: (1)baptized-907 baptizo (bap-tid'-zo);from a derivative of 911; to immerse, submerge; to make overwhelmed (i.e. fully wet); used only (in the N. T.) of ceremonial ablution, especially (technically) of the ordinance of Christian baptism: KJV-- Baptist, baptize, wash.

(2)they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine-4342 proskartereo (pros-kar-ter-eh'-o); from 4314 and 2594; to be earnest towards, i.e. (to a thing) to persevere, be constantly diligent, or (in a place) to attend assiduously all the exercises, or (to a person) to adhere closely to (as a servitor), 1) to adhere to one, to be his adherent, to be devoted or constant to one 2) to be steadfastly attentive unto, to give unremitting care to a thing 3) to continue all the time in a place 4) to persevere and not to faint 5) to show oneself courageous for 6) to be in constant readiness for one, to wait on constantly: KJV-- attend (giveself) continually (upon), continue (in, instant in, with), wait on (continually).

Col 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do **all** in the **(1)name** of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.(KJV)

(1)name of the Lord Jesus-3686 onoma (on'-om-ah);from a presumed derivative of the base of 1097 (compare 3685); a "name" (literally or figuratively) [**authority, character**] 2) the name is used for everything which the name covers, everything the thought or feeling of which is aroused in the mind by mentioning, hearing, remembering, the name, that is, for one's rank, authority, interests, pleasure, command, excellences, deeds etc. : KJV-- called, (+sur-) name (-d).

Dear reader as always, the purpose of these articles is to seek the TRUTH according to THE WORD, thereby exposing ERROR, for the purpose of saving our souls. We believe this is best done by definitions and the preponderance of scriptures; which is having superior weight, force, importance, or influence of scripture. Again we believe this allows SCRIPTURE to INTERPRET SCRIPTURE, thereby allowing a better understanding on that topic. Again, thank you so much for your interest in the WORD of TRUTH; GRACE and SALVATION; John 17:17-21; Acts 20:29-32; James1:21-25. After all it is our MAP to HEAVEN and away from HELL!

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