

# ***Solid Foundation***

## ***Pillars of Christianity***

### ***Lesson Two***

#### **“Spiritual Obedience”**

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

Obedience has always been a key to receiving the blessings of God. Isaiah 1:19 promises that, *“If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land.”* Even Mary, the mother of Jesus, emphasized the importance of obedience when she said to the servants at the wedding of Cana, *“Do whatever He tells you”* (John 2:5).

Now that we have been saved, we literally belong to God. I Corinthians 6:19-20 tells us, *“. . . you are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.”*

- \* We \_\_\_\_\_ God by \_\_\_\_\_ God.
- \* The first thing God asks us to do after being saved is to be \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **Matthew 28:18-20**

*. . . All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

#### **Acts 2:37-38**

*When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other Apostles, brothers, what shall we do? Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

**Question: “What Is The Purpose Of Water Baptism?”**

- \* Baptize (Baptizo – Greek): \_\_\_\_\_
- \* John’s Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Matthew 3:16**

*As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water.”*

## Revelation 19:13

*He is dressed in a robe dipped (baptizo) in blood. . .*

### History of Baptism

The Ordinance of Baptism is not something new. It has been around for a long, long time. As far back as when the Law was given to Moses, you will find the Ordinance of Baptism.

The Levitical Law required all priests to be consecrated when they were about 30 years old. This consecration was two-fold. First: the washing (baptism), second: the anointing. Exodus 29:4,7—*Bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and wash them with water . . . Take the anointing oil and anoint him by pouring it on his head.*

When Jesus came to John the Baptist to be baptized, He was coming in obedience to God. He was partaking in an act of “ceremonial righteousness”: which was necessary for His public entrance into ministry. Matthew 3:13-17—*Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter Him, saying, “I need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?” Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.*

#### \* Now, Notice What Happened:

1. Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Matthew 3:16-17

*As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on Him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.”*

- \* Baptism represents the \_\_\_\_\_ of one thing and the \_\_\_\_\_ of something new.
- \* Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ His ministry.
- \* We are \_\_\_\_\_ our new life in Christ.

**Question: Do I Have To Be Baptized To Be Saved? (Did Jesus get baptized in order to get saved? NO! Then neither do you.)**

- \* Baptism is an \_\_\_\_\_ expression of an \_\_\_\_\_ change.
- \* Baptism starts in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- \* The \_\_\_\_\_ is a baptism.

**I Corinthians 12:13**

*For we were all baptized by one spirit into one body. . .*

**II Corinthians 5:17**

*Therefore, if any man is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.*

- \* We are not baptized in water to \_\_\_\_\_ saved; we are baptized in water because we \_\_\_\_\_ saved.

- **Two Examples:**

1. The Thief on the cross:

**Luke 23:42-43**

*Then He said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into you kingdom. Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise."*

2. The Ethiopian Eunuch:

**Acts 8:35-37**

*Then Phillip began with that very passage of scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized."*

<b>Question: "Is It Necessary To Be Baptized More Than Once?"</b>
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- \* This is more a \_\_\_\_\_ conviction than a \_\_\_\_\_ requirement.
- \* Remember what "*baptism*" signifies?
  - "The \_\_\_\_\_ of one thing and the \_\_\_\_\_ of something new."
- \* **Reasons For Being Baptized Again:**
  1. Too young to understand the importance of baptism.
  2. Was not serious about "being saved."
  3. Rededicated life to the Lord.
  4. Was "sprinkled" versus being "baptized."

5. Experiencing a “new day in the Lord”, a “change in direction”, or a “new door of ministry.”

## **CONCLUSION:**

Baptism is a simple act of obedience. If we are quick to obey the Lord in the things He asks us to do, it is proof that He will be able to trust us to obey in greater things. But the greater things in the future will not come without obedience in the present. If you have not been baptized in water, you are not waiting on God; He is waiting on you. There is a fresh anointing awaiting you!

## **HOMEWORK:**

**Make an appointment with the Pastor to schedule a time for you to be baptized.**