WORLD OUTREACH CHURCH

SERMON DATE
August 15, 2026

Accepting God's Invitations
Baptism

I. When did baptism begin, and why?

A. The New Testament Record — with John the Baptizer

Matthew 3:5-6 (NIV®)

People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan.
6 Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

Matthew 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."

B. A Baptism of Repentance

Matthew 3:6-8 (NIV®)

Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 **Produce fruit in keeping with repentance**."

C. "Into" Repentance — Therefore, you must be in repentance before I baptize you into repentance.

D. Christian Baptism — A Baptism "Into Christ"

Galatians 3:26–27 (NIV®)

You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, 27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

E. In the Hebrew Bible / Old Testament

F. In the New Covenant / New Testament

G. God's Response to Baptism

Luke 3:21-23 (NIV®)

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened 22 and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." 23 Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph

Luke 4:1-2 (NIV®)

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry.

Luke 4:14-15 (NIV®)
Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. 15 He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

II. Baptism in the New Testament?

A. How Much Water?

John 3:23 (NIV®)
Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were constantly coming to be baptized.

Acts 8:38 (NIV®) — The Ethiopian Eunuch
And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

B. Baptism in the New Testament has a double meaning:

1) Cleansing — A bath for those who are dirty
2) Burial — A burial for those who are dead; the death of an old way of life

Romans 6:3-4 (NIV®)
Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

III. Why was it done?

Mark 16:15-16 (NIV®)
He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. 16 **Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved**, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

John 3:3-5 (NIV®)
In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." 4 "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!" 5 Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is **born of water and the Spirit."**

Acts 2:38 (NIV®)
Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ **for the forgiveness of your sins**. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Acts 22:15-16 (NIV®) — Annanias to Paul
You will be his witness to all men of what you have seen and heard. 16 And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.'

Mark 16:16 (NIV®)
Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

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