

# **Benefits Of Bible Baptism**

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Before returning to heaven the Lord commanded his disciples to bring the good news of salvation to the lost world. Baptism was tied in with the good news. Both Matthew and Mark mention baptism where Luke called attention to the purpose of baptism being “remission of sins” (Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 16:16; Luke 24:46-47). Bible baptism is preceded by hearing the gospel (Rom. 10:17), believing the gospel (Rom. 10:9-10), repenting of the love and practice of sin (Rom. 2:1-4), and confessing Christ (Rom. 10:9-10).

## **Born Again**

Before a person can enter into the kingdom of heaven he must be born again: “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again” (John 3:3-7). Believers are begotten by the gospel truth (I Cor. 4:15; Jas. 1:18). Baptized believers are born into the family of God (Matt. 28:19-20; Eph. 3:15).

## **Blood of Christ**

Blood has always been connected with atonement for sin (Lev. 17:11). Before the foundation of the world the precious blood of Christ was foreordained for redeeming man out of sin (I Pet. 1:18-20). Baptism is the point at which the blood of Christ is applied against the sinful soul and remission of sins occurs (Rom. 6:3, 7, 11-12, 18; Col. 2:12-13). Bold is the comparison between the washing of baptism and the blood of Christ washing away sins in the book of Revelation: “Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood” (Rev. 1:5b). “By the washing of regeneration” salvation comes as an expression of the mercy of God (Titus 3:5).

## **Brand New Life**

Burial with Christ in baptism brings about a whole new life: “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” (Rom. 6:4). Based on being buried with Christ, the body of sin is destroyed, and the new life with Christ begins (Rom. 6:6-11).

## **Brought Into Christ**

Both Bible passages that tell how to get “into Christ” are connected with baptism. Baptism is the point at which a believer is brought into Christ: “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?” (Rom. 6:3), and “For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ” (Gal. 3:27). Being brought into Christ means that all spiritual blessings in heavenly places are bestowed on the Christian (Eph. 1:3).

## **Brought Into the Body of Christ**

By the instrumentality of the words of the Holy Spirit, baptized believers are brought into the body or church of Christ: “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit” (I Cor. 12:13). Blessings abound in Christ, even as Paul emphatically stated, “For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us” (II Cor. 1:20). Benefits of Bible baptism beckon believers to obey the beautiful gospel of Christ.

## **Conclusion**

Before we close, the mission of the church of Christ summarized is to go teach and preach the gospel, baptize people, and teach them the whole counsel of God (Matt. 28:18-20). The benefits to them from learning and practicing what the Bible teaches about baptism should motivate them to obey the gospel and continue as active and faithful members of the church of Christ.