

Baptism is one of the Ordinances in the Church of Christ, along with Communion, Fasting, Tithing, Offerings, Laying on of Hands, etc.

1. **MAT 3:1** In those days **John the BAPTIST came preaching in the wilderness of Judea,** 2 and **saying, “REPENT, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”** 3 For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; Make His paths straight.’ ” 4 And John himself was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. 5 Then **Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him** 6 and were **BAPTIZED by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins.** 7 But **when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his BAPTISM, he said to them, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 “Therefore bear fruits worthy of REPENTANCE,** 9 “and do not think to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. 10 “And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. **Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.**
2. **MAT 3:11** **“I indeed BAPTIZE you with water unto REPENTANCE, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will BAPTIZE you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 12 “His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”** 13 Then **Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be BAPTIZED by him.** 14 And **John tried to prevent Him, saying, “I need to be BAPTIZED by You, and are You coming to me?”** 15 But **Jesus answered and said to him, “Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.”** Then he allowed Him. 16 **When He had been BAPTIZED, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.** 17 And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”
3. **MAT 20:22** But Jesus answered and said, “You do not know what you ask. **Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be BAPTIZED with the BAPTISM that I am BAPTIZED with?”** They said to Him, “**We are able.**” 23 So **He said to them, “You will indeed drink My cup, and be BAPTIZED with the BAPTISM that I am BAPTIZED with;** but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father.”
4. **MAT 21:23** Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, “By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?” 24 But **Jesus answered and said to them, “I also will ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I likewise will tell you by what authority I do these things: 25 “The BAPTISM of John—where was it from? From heaven or from men?”** And they reasoned among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ He will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’
5. **MAR 1:4** **John came BAPTIZING in the wilderness and preaching a BAPTISM of repentance (metanoia) for the remission (aphesis) of sins (hamartia).** 5 Then **all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all BAPTIZED by him in the Jordan River, CONFESSING THEIR SINS.**
6. **MAR 16:15** And He said to them, **‘Go into all the world & preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who believes & is BAPTIZED will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.** 17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will take up serpents; & if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, & they will recover.’
7. **LUK 3:12** Then **tax collectors also came to be BAPTIZED, and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?”** 13 And **he (John) said to them, “Collect no more than what is appointed for you.”** (etc.)
8. **LUK 7:28** **“For I say to you, among those born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the BAPTIST; but he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”** 29 And **when all the people heard Him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been BAPTIZED with the BAPTISM of John.** 30 **But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, NOT having been BAPTIZED by him.**
9. **LUK 12:49** **“I came to send FIRE on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! 50 “But I have a BAPTISM to be BAPTIZED with, and how distressed I am till it is accomplished! 51 “Do you suppose that I came to give peace on earth? I tell you, not at all, but rather division.**
10. **JOH 1:25** And **they asked him, saying, “Why then do you BAPTIZE if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?”** 26 **John answered them, saying, “I BAPTIZE with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know.** 27 “It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose.” 28 **These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was BAPTIZING.** 29 The next day **John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! 30 “This is He of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.’ 31 “I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came BAPTIZING with water.”** 32 And **John bore witness, saying, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him.** 33 “I did not know Him, **but He who sent me to BAPTIZE with water said to me, ‘Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ 34 “And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.”**

11. **JOH 3:5** Jesus answered, **“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of WATER and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.**
12. **JOH 4:1** Therefore, **when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and BAPTIZED more disciples than John 2 (though Jesus Himself did not BAPTIZE, but His disciples), 3 He left Judea and departed again to Galilee. 5 So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. 6 Now Jacob’s well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. 10 Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.” 13 Jesus answered and said to her, “Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, 14 “but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”**
13. **JOH 7:37** **On the last day, that great day of the feast (of Tabernacles), Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.**
14. **ACT 1:4** And **being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; 5 “for John truly BAPTIZED with water, but you shall be BAPTIZED with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” 6** Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 “But **you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”**
15. **ACT 2:37** Now **when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” 38 Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be BAPTIZED in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 “For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.” 41 Then those who gladly received his word were BAPTIZED;** and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.
16. **ACT 8:12** But **when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were BAPTIZED.**
17. **ACT 8:14** Now **when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, 15 who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been BAPTIZED in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.**
18. **ACT 8:36** Now **as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, “See, here is water. What hinders me from being BAPTIZED?” 37 Then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” 38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he BAPTIZED him. 39 Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.**
19. **ACT 9:17** And **Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” 18 Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was BAPTIZED.**
20. **ACT 10:34** Then Peter opened his mouth and said: “In truth I perceive that **God shows no partiality. 35 “But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. 36 “The WORD which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord of all— 37 “that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the BAPTISM which John preached: 38 “how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.**
21. **ACT 10:44** **While Peter was still speaking these words (to Cornelius and his family), the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. 45 And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. 46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, 47 “Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be BAPTIZED who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” 48 And he commanded them to be BAPTIZED in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.**
22. **ACT 16:14** Now **a certain woman named LYDIA heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. 15 And when she and her household were BAPTIZED, she begged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” So she persuaded us.**
23. **ACT 16:30** And **he (the jailer) brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” 31 So they (Paul and Silas) said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.” 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. 33 And he (the jailer) took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were BAPTIZED.**

24. **ACT 18:24** Now a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man and mighty in the Scriptures, came to Ephesus. 25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord, though he knew only the BAPTISM of John. 26 So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.
25. **ACT 19:1** And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that **Paul**, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples 2 he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” 3 And he said to them, “Into what then were you BAPTIZED?” So they said, “Into John’s BAPTISM.” 4 Then **Paul said**, “John indeed BAPTIZED with a BAPTISM of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.” 5 When they heard this, they were BAPTIZED in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.
26. **ROM 6:1** What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not! How shall we who DIED TO SIN live any longer in it? 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were BAPTIZED into Christ Jesus were BAPTIZED into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through BAPTISM INTO DEATH, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.
27. **1CO 1:13** Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you BAPTIZED in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I BAPTIZED none of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15 lest anyone should say that I had BAPTIZED in my own name. 16 Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas. Besides, I do not know whether I baptized any other. 17 For Christ did not send me to BAPTIZE, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect.
28. **1CO 10:1** Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, 2 all were BAPTIZED into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3 all ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.
29. **1CO 12:12** For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit we were all BAPTIZED into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many.
30. **1CO 15:28** Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all. 29 Otherwise, what will they do who are BAPTIZED for the dead, if the dead do not rise at all? Why then are they BAPTIZED for the dead? 30 And why do we stand in jeopardy every hour? 31 I affirm, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.
31. **GAL 3:26** For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were BAPTIZED into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.
32. **EPH 4:4** There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one BAPTISM; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.
33. **TIT 3:4** But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the WASHING of regeneration & RENEWING of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.
34. **COL 2:10** and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power. 11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, 12 buried with Him in BAPTISM, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.
35. **HEB 6:1** Therefore, leaving the discussion of the ELEMENTARY PRINCIPLES of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, 2 of the doctrine of BAPTISMS, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. 3 And this we will do if God permits.
36. **1PE 3:18** For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, 19 by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, 20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. 21 There is also an ANTITYPE which now saves us—BAPTISM (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

Redeeming the First Born and Dedication of Children

37. **NUM 18:15** “Everything that first opens the womb of all flesh, which they bring to the Lord, whether man or beast, shall be yours; nevertheless the FIRSTBORN of man you shall surely redeem, and the firstborn of unclean animals you shall redeem.” 16 “And those redeemed of the devoted things you shall redeem when one month old, according to your valuation, for five shekels of silver, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, which is twenty gerahs.
38. **LUK 2:22** Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, **they brought Him (Jesus) to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord** 23 **(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”)**, 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, “A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

Redeeming the Firstborn. Since all firstborn were God’s possession, it was necessary for the family to redeem, or buy back, that firstborn infant from God. The redemption price was five shekels of silver, given to the priests when the child was one month old (Num. 18:15–16).

Scripture doesn’t tell us about the redemption ceremony itself, but by rabbinic times the following procedure had been established. The joyous occasion was celebrated on the 31st day of the child’s life. (If the 31st day happened to fall on the Sabbath, the ceremony was delayed for one day.) The celebration took place in the infant’s home, with a priest and other guests present. The rite began as the father presented the infant to the priest. The priest asked the father, “Do you wish to redeem the child or do you want to leave him with me?” The father then answered that he would redeem the child, and he handed the five silver coins to the priest. As the infant was returned, the father gave thanks to God. The priest responded by declaring to the father, “Your son is redeemed! Your son is redeemed! Your son is redeemed!” After the priest pronounced a blessing on the child, he joined the invited guests at a banquet table.

If a child was an orphan at birth, the duty of redeeming him fell to one of the child’s male relatives. The child had survived those first critical weeks. His parents had named him and performed all the essential rites. The mother would continue to nurse the child until he was two or three years old. At that time, he would be weaned and would cross the line that separated infancy from childhood.

Old Testament Scriptures That Pertain to Baptism

39. **EXO 19:10** Then the Lord said to Moses, **“Go to the people and CONSECRATE them today and tomorrow, and let them WASH their clothes.**” 11 **“And let them be ready for THE THIRD DAY. For on THE THIRD DAY the Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.**
40. **LEV 8:5** And Moses said to the congregation, **“This is what the Lord commanded to be done.”** 6 Then **Moses brought Aaron and his sons and WASHED them with water.**
41. **LEV 11:36** “Nevertheless a spring or a cistern, in which there is plenty of water, shall be clean, but whatever touches any such carcass becomes unclean.
42. **LEV 14:4** “then the priest shall command to take for him who is to be cleansed two living and clean birds, cedar wood, scarlet, and hyssop. 5 “And **the priest shall command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over RUNNING WATER.** 6 **“As for the living bird, he shall take it, the cedar wood and the scarlet and the hyssop, and DIP them and the living bird IN THE BLOOD of the bird that was killed over the running water.** 7 **“And he shall sprinkle it seven times on him who is to be CLEANSED FROM THE LEPROSY, and shall pronounce him clean, and shall let the living bird loose in the open field.** 8 **“He who is to be cleansed shall WASH his clothes, shave off all his hair, and WASH HIMSELF IN WATER, that he may be clean. After that he shall come into the camp, and shall stay outside his tent seven days.** 9 “But on the seventh day he shall shave all the hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows—all his hair he shall shave off. **He shall WASH his clothes and WASH his body in water, and he shall be clean.**
43. **NUM 8:5** Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying:6 **“Take the Levites from among the children of Israel and cleanse them ceremonially.** 7 **“Thus you shall do to them to cleanse them: Sprinkle water of purification on them, and let them shave all their body, and let them wash their clothes, and so make themselves clean.**
44. **NUM 19:17** ‘And **for an unclean person they shall take some of the ashes of the heifer burnt for purification from sin, and running water shall be put on them in a vessel.** 18 ‘A clean person shall take hyssop and dip it in the water, sprinkle it on the tent, on all the vessels, on the persons who were there, or on the one who touched a bone, the slain, the dead, or a grave. 19 ‘The clean person shall sprinkle the unclean on the third day and on the seventh day; and on the seventh day he shall purify himself, wash his clothes, and bathe in water; and at evening he shall be clean. 20 ‘But the man who is unclean and does not purify himself, that person shall be cut off from among the assembly, because he has defiled the sanctuary of the Lord. The water of purification has not been sprinkled on him; he is unclean. 21 ‘It shall be a perpetual statute for them. He who sprinkles the water of purification shall wash his clothes; and he who touches the water of purification shall be unclean until evening.

45. **NUM 31:21** Then **Eleazar (“God who helps”) the priest said to the men of war** who had gone to the battle, **“This is the ordinance of the law which the Lord commanded Moses:** 22 **“Only the gold, the silver, the bronze, the iron, the tin, and the lead, 23 “everything that can endure fire, you shall put through the fire, and it shall be clean; and it shall be purified with THE WATER OF PURIFICATION. But all that cannot endure fire you shall put through water.** 24 **“And you shall WASH your clothes on the seventh day and be clean, and afterward you may come into the camp.”**