

## My Burial

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Baptism / Baptism / Romans 6:3–6

When it comes to baptism there are so many confusing myths that need to be dispelled. We will read the bible and get the simple truth about baptism and preparation for it.

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- After death of Jesus
- Christian Persecuted
- As a result

### **Acts 8:4 ESV**

Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word.

- They would not have left
  - without persecution
- After they remembered
  - Jesus' Promise
  - At His Ascension

### **Acts 1:8 ESV**

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end

of the earth.”

- Philip was one who went

**Acts 8:26 ESV**

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place.

- Gaza – is on the coast,
- southwest of Jerusalem.

**Acts 8:27 ESV**

And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship

- Eunuch –
  - they were often nobles
  - from other countries
- He was
  - wealthy and influential

- “in charge of all her treasury”
  - (working among wealthy)
- But he was
  - no pagan.
  - He came to worship.

**Acts 8:28–30 ESV**

and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

- Reading from Isaiah
  - Not just anywhere
    - Isaiah 53
- Most famous messianic prophecy
- Philip talks to him
  - This is one of the hardest things to do
- Ask that question

# OFFER UNSOLICITED SPIRITUAL HELP

- We are scared

## School Supplies

- We make the excuse
- God commanded Phillip
- He commands us
  - Great Commission for All

### **Matthew 28:18–19** ESV

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

- We should fear not
- Yes, there will be rejections
  - But we must do it anyway

### **Acts 8:31** ESV

And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

- The invitation is accepted.
- They study the Bible

**Acts 8:32–33 ESV**

Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter  
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he opens not his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

- Thoughtful question...

**Acts 8:34 ESV**

And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”

- Some may be thinking
  - That is obvious
  - It’s about Jesus

- Remember the context
  - Jesus recently killed
  - Many never even heard
  - Messiah supposed to be a king
  - Not a sufferer
- Passage not understood by Rabbis
- I like Philip's answer

**Acts 8:35 ESV**

Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.

- I get questions all the time
  - Who is the Antichrist?
    - (similarity of the question)
  - Why don't you guys eat pork?
  - What is the problem with lots of jewelry?
- What to do...?
  - Start with the scripture

- Do not give your opinion
- Give them God's word
- Especially, if controversial
  - Read directly from Bible

## Next-door Neighbor

- Reading God's Word:
  - People are impressed
  - People are empowered
  - People are changed
  - People are born again
- The Baptisms Today
- the same
  - Denisa
- Read Gods word
- And were converted

### **Acts 8:36–38 ESV**

And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.

- This is what we are here
  - To celebrate today
- By the way,
  - This leads me to
    - an important point

## Dispel Myths:

The story is told about the baptism of King Aengus by St. Patrick in the middle of the fifth century. Sometime during the rite, St. Patrick leaned on his sharp-pointed staff and inadvertently stabbed the king's foot. After the baptism was over, St. Patrick looked down at all the blood, realized what he had done, and begged the king's forgiveness. Why did you suffer this pain in silence, the Saint wanted to know. The king replied, "I thought it was part of the ritual."

## What Baptism Is Not...



## **Holy Water**

- No physical change
- not magic

## **Temptation**

- Temptation is still there
- Jesus tempted immediately after Baptism

## **Required for Salvation?**

### **Mark 16:16 ESV**

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

- physical act required for salvation

## **Infant baptism?**

- Let me explain
  - what baptism is
- Then I'll answer
  - this question.

# What Baptism Is

## Three Requirements

### Teaching

- Eunich

### Matthew 28:19–20 **ESV**

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

## Conversion

There were four country churches in a small Texas town: The Presbyterian church, the Baptist church, the Methodist church, and the Catholic church. Each church was overrun with pesky squirrels.

One day, the Presbyterian church called a meeting to decide what to do about the squirrels.

After much prayer and consideration they determined that the squirrels were predestined to be there and they shouldn't interfere with God's divine will.

In the Methodist church the squirrels had taken up habitation in the baptistery

bowl. The deacons met and decided to put a cover on the baptismal bowl and drown the squirrels in it. The squirrels escaped somehow and there were twice as many there the next week.

The Catholic group got together and decided that they were not in a position to harm any of God's creation. So, they humanely trapped the squirrels and set them free a few miles outside of town. Three days later, the squirrels were back.

The Baptist church came up with the best and most effective solution. They baptized the squirrels and registered them as members of the church. Now they only see them on Christmas and Easter.

- Belief
- Repentance

**Mark 16:16 ESV**

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

and

**Acts 2:38 ESV**

And Peter said to them, "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.

**Immersion**

**John 3:23 ESV**

John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized

- Needed Much water

Although Jane was raised a Methodist, she started attending a Baptist church when she moved to a new community. One day she was helping a group of women clean the church kitchen. She emptied the large electric coffeepot and handed it to the lady washing dishes.

The lady washing dishes asked, “Can this be washed like everything else?”

“No,” Jane replied. “This is a Methodist coffeepot. It says right here, DO NOT IMMERSE.”

- Eunuch

[Acts 8:38–39](#) (ESV)

And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both **went down into the water**, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they **came up out of the water**, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away...

## Infants?

A father was talking to his oldest son about the boy’s upcoming baptism. Wanting him to understand the significance of the event, he took great care to

communicate with him. While they were talking, the boy's younger brother, a little four-year-old, left the room. He seemed visibly upset so the father followed him to see what was wrong. Tearfully, the little guy confessed, "I want to be alphabetized with my brother."

- Study?
- Believe?
- Immerse?

## **Marriage**

- Ceremony of recognition
- Pre-requisite to Church Membership

## **Membership**

### **Acts 2:41 ESV**

So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

## **Burial**

### **Romans 6:1-6 ESV**

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us

who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.

## **Wedding**

- Whole Process
  - Get to Know Jesus
  - Fall in Love
  - Promise of Commitment
  - Public Ceremony
  - Vows

Buried Alive