

# DOCTRINE OF BAPTISMS

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## INTRODUCTION:

Water baptism is one of the two ordinances given to the church and instituted by our Lord. In short, water baptism is an outward act of an inward reality. One is not a Christian because he is water baptized, he is water baptized because he is a Christian.

## HEBREWS 6:1-2

The doctrine of baptisms is one of the six fundamental principles of the doctrine of Christ. There are three major baptisms with which we all should be familiar.

1. Into the Body of Christ by the Spirit. **1 CORINTHIANS 12:13**
2. In water by ministers. **MATTHEW 28:19**
3. In the Spirit by Jesus. **MATTHEW 3:11, MARK 1:8, LUKE 3:16, JOHN 1:33** – Throughout the book of Acts, all three baptisms were preached and experienced.

## SIGNIFICANCE OF WATER BAPTISM

1. An act of obedience to our Lord's command. **MATTHEW 28:18-20**
2. Follow our Lord's example. **MATTHEW 3:13-17**
3. A public demonstration of faith in Christ. **ACTS 8:36-38**
4. Symbolizes the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, and our identification with those truths. **ROMANS 6:3-7**
5. A symbol of cleansing from sin. **ACTS 22:16**
6. Demonstrates faith in the works of Christ, not ours. **EPHESIANS 2:8**
7. Symbolizes our entrance into the Body of Christ. **1 CORINTHIANS 12:13**
8. A one-time act to remind us we are disciples of Christ.

**JOHN 15:13** – Jesus loved us by laying down His life for us.

**JOHN 14:21** – We love Him by obeying His commandments.