

BELIEVE AND BE BAPTIZED

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INTRODUCTION:

The first thing Jesus did before starting His public ministry was to be baptized in water in order to fulfill what is right. The last thing Jesus talked about to His disciples was making disciples, Water Baptism and teaching believers to observe His teachings. Water Baptism is something important to God and should be to all who profess faith in Jesus Christ.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What is Water Baptism?
 - A. One of the two ordinances of the church. **MATT. 28:18-20**
 - B. An act of obedience. **MATTHEW 3:13-15**
 - C. An act that pleases God. **MATTHEW 3:16-17**
 - D. A burial. **ROMANS 6:3-4, EPHESIANS 2:11-18 (ESV)**
 - E. An expression of belief. **MARK 16:15-16**
 - A man who was baptized came up out of the water, and said to his wife, “I hope you are satisfied!”
 - F. An outward sign of an inward work of grace.
2. Who should be baptized?
 - A. Everyone who professes faith in Christ. **ACTS 2:37-41**
 - B. Examples include: **ACTS 8:12, 9:17-18, 10:47, 19:3-6**
3. When should one be baptized?
 - A. At the soonest point after salvation. **ACTS 8:36-38**
 - B. Not as an infant.
 - An infant can't believe, confess Christ or repent.
 - Jesus never baptized an infant.
 - The Apostles never baptized an infant.
 - It contradicts the Gospel of salvation by grace through faith.
4. Why should one be baptized?
 - A. It's an ordinance, decree or command.
 - B. It's a matter of obedience and disobedience.
 - C. We're not better than Jesus.

CONCLUSION: Water Baptism should never be taken lightly. In some countries it meant imprisonment. In others it meant death. In some, a Christian's body couldn't be buried because it would desecrate the land.

Jesus gave His life for us. He left us with two ordinances to obey: The Lord's Supper and Water Baptism. Shouldn't we all do what He commanded us to do?