

BAPTISM IN WATER: AN ACT OF OBEDIENCE TO CHRIST

It never ceases to amaze me that when it comes to even the basic acts of **submission to our savior**, we find all kinds of hindrances and excuses.

Why should a simple step in Obedience, like Water Baptism, cause us so much turmoil inside? Why shouldn't it be an occasion of great Joy, a monumental step forward into **Life in CHRIST**?

Some will say, well I was baptized as a baby, why do I need to be Baptized again?

Others will ask, "do I have to be baptized to go to heaven?"

And there are ones who use the rare incident of the thief beside **JESUS** on the cross. This man was dying, all he could do is to believe in **JESUS**. He had no chance to get down off his cross and asked to be Baptized First, before his crucifixion.

So, Yes, **JESUS** took him to Paradise. And there is always these strange situations, where People put their Faith in **CHRIST**, even in the process of dying, and do not get to take the **next step in Obedience to CHRIST**.

But that is the exceptions to the Way John, **CHRIST**, and HIS Apostles Believed.

I have Researched The Bible for over 30 Years, and I have never seen **Water Baptism** being treated as unnecessary there. Not the way many treat it today!

Let's allow the Truth to set us Free, Today, as we search the Scripture:

JESUS asked this Question: "The Baptism Of John, from who's authority was it? From Heaven or of men?"

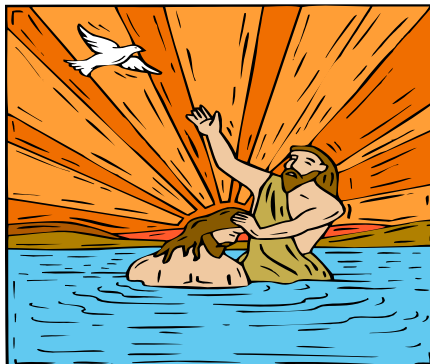
Matt 21:25. (A Baptism of Repentance for the forgiveness of sins).

The Baptism by John, was so important, that **even JESUS Submitted to it as an example, and refused to be talked out of it** by John.

In fact **JESUS** Said "We must Fulfill **All Righteousness**" **JESUS** would let no one, even John the Baptist himself, hinder His act of **Obedience to GOD**. No facet of **CHRIST'S Obedience** would be deemed unnecessary, He would fulfill **ALL** of it.

Matt 3:13-15.

As Christians, or would be Christians, we should have this same Commitment to **CHRIST**, that He had for us, in His Baptism.



Some of **JESUS** last words before Ascending into Heaven: "He that Believes and is Baptized shall be Saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned"

Mark 16:16.

Certainly **JESUS CHRIST Taught Believing and Baptism as important to Salvation.**

In the Early Acts of the Apostles, Philip, helps an Ethiopian understand **Christ**, from the book of **Isaiah 53**. He Preaches **JESUS** to him, and the Ethiopian Believes. And as they went on their way, they came upon water, and the Ethiopian said, "See, here is Water; what hinders me from being Baptized?" and 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.**"

And they both went down into the Water, both Philip and the Ethiopian; and Philip Baptized him.

(read Acts 8:26-38).