

1. The Baptism of Jesus

A There was a mutual validation that took place in the Baptism of Jesus.

B. Jesus was identified as the Kinsman Redeemer. Notice: I am not worthy to untie his sandals (Mark 1:7, Luke 3:16; John 1:27; Acts 13:25 — — — Deuteronomy 25:5-10, Ruth 4:8) The Son of God

C. Identify with us....so we can identify with Him. (Romans 6:4)

2. John's Baptism

A. John's baptism was temporary, pivotal, and introductory. See what Isaiah said! Isaiah 40:3-5, Matthew 3:3, Malachi 3:1

B. The mechanics of John's baptism - dipping.

C. Turning from sin and toward the Messiah that would make his appearance in the middle of John's ministry!

3. The Mikveh

A. Ritual cleansing took on a number of forms in the OT and was used with Tabernacle and Temple worship. (Matt 23:25–28; Mark 7:1–23; Luke 11:37–44; John 2:6)

B. Mt. 3:16 Ko(V)meh - Rising, standing tall.

C. Obviously this is not Christian Baptism! Parallels with what we do:

- Water (We hope its clean)
- Immersion
- Pronouncement - Something is said!
- Picture of either birth from womb/ burial and resurrection.
- Change of status: Not just purification but elevation

D. The Mikveh is a PICTURE of what obeying God accomplishes legally/ internally. *Remember a picture can paint a thousand words.*

E. Following a Rabbi. Rabbinical Judaism 135 AD to 1750 AD

I will do everything you teach me to do. Dip ones' self/Act of will

I will teach you everything I know and become your spiritual father

4. A. As we look at baptism in the name of...This may explain further of the attempt to identify John the Baptist and Jesus by the various crowds.

You are Elijah, Jeremiah, one of the prophets. They wanted to know who they were following, whose name they were being baptized in.

Remember Jesus's disciples started baptizing shortly after Jesus was baptized by John and folks left John and followed Jesus.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17 Paul is glad folks can't say they were baptized in his name. 1 Corinthians 10:2 Baptized into Moses.

B. Follow this Rabbi now! For he is the embodiment of God (Colossians 2:9). The promise of 39 is to all that are afar off, even all that believe.

Acts 8 - **Samaritans baptized in the name of Jesus**

Acts 9 - Paul is baptized several days after he believed. **Believing comes first.** But baptism WILL follow if you believe (Mark 16)

Acts 10 - Cornelius and his family. Probably his whole family tree.

Acts 19 - Believers that had only the baptism of John (Acts 1:22). They didn't know about the baptism of the Holy Spirit and so were commanded to be baptized (mikveh) in the name of Jesus!

In the NT. We see that every time baptism happened the pattern was by immersion (tevilah) in the name of the ultimate Rabbi, the Messiah, Yeshua of Nazareth.

5. A. A person is justified by faith (Ro. 3: 26,28; Gal. 3:8)

However baptism is NOT optional (James 2:17,18; Mk. 16:16)! It is not just a nice thing to do. It is integral to one having true faith . Persons in the NT that has true faith were always baptized. Of course there were those that were baptized that did not have true faith, like *Simon the Sorcerer!*?

B It is a washing but remember that the blood of Jesus is what remits your sin, not the water (Hebrews 10:22)

- It is an initiation. Like circumcision. In the NT circumcision is of the heart! But the visible act is replaced by baptism (Colossians 2:11-15).

- It is a burial. (Romans 6:1-4) but it is figure

- It figures birth but the regeneration takes place in your spirit (2 Co. 5:17). You have a new nature. This is illustrated by baptism vividly.

- The water by itself, does not do the work. The water is a visible means of conveying the truth of what God does inside you. It is a testimony to God, The Church, The World and The Enemy that you belong to Jesus (Romans 4:9-12)

- **It is the appeal (pledge) of a good conscience(loyalties) toward God (1 Peter 3:21). Covenant!**