

# **WATER BAPTISM**

## **SUMMARY**

### **Scriptural Exposition**

#### **1. WHY?**

- *Because it is Commanded to Repent, Believe & Be Baptised*
- *Because Repentance, Faith & Baptism are Foundational, Basic First Principles*

#### **2. WHO?**

- *Those Who are Truly Repentant*
- *Those Who Believe with the Whole Heart*
- *Those Who are Willing*
- *Those Who are Disciples/Followers*

#### **3. HOW?**

- *With Water*
- *By Total Immersion in the Water*

#### **4. IN WHAT NAME?**

- *In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ*
- *Just as the Bride Takes her Bridegroom's Name*

#### **5. WHAT DOES IT SYMBOLISE?**

- *Baptism does Not Itself Regenerate/Give New Birth; it is an External Symbol of the Internal Regenerating Work of the Spirit & the Word*
- *Likewise, it also Symbolises the Washing Away & Remission/Forgiveness of Past Sins*
- *Baptism also Symbolises our Being Baptised by the Spirit into Christ & into the Body of Christ*
- *Going Under the Water Symbolises the Crucifixion, Death & Burial of our Old Man with Christ*
- *Rising Back out of the Water Symbolises our Quickening & Resurrection with Christ to Walk in Newness of Life*
- *But Baptism is Only a Symbol; a Symbol Does Not Automatically Effect the Reality*

#### **6. WHEN?**

- *Without Delay*
- *So, then...*

#### **7. AFTER BAPTISM, WHAT?**

- *Ye Shall Receive the Gift of the Holy Ghost*
- *Let us Go on to Perfection*

## Quotations of Brother Branham

### WHY?

- *Because it is Commanded to Repent, Believe & Be Baptised*

### WHO?

- *Those Who are Truly Repentant*
- *Those Who are Disciples/Followers*

### HOW?

- *By Total Immersion*

### IN WHAT NAME?

- *In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ*
- *Just as the Bride Takes her Bridegroom's Name*

### WHAT DOES IT SYMBOLISE?

- *Though Baptism is Essential to Salvation...*
- *...Baptism Does Not Save, but Faith*
- *Nor does Baptism Regenerate; it is only a Symbol of Regeneration*
- *It is also a Symbol of the Washing Away & Remission/Forgiveness of Past Sins*
- *But it is Only the Blood that Can Truly Forgive & Cleanse Sins*
- *Baptism is also a Symbol of our Being Baptised by the Spirit into Christ & into the Body of Christ*
- *Being Buried in the Water Symbolises the Crucifixion, Death & Burial of our Old Man with Christ & Rising from the Water our Quickening & Resurrection with Him to Walk in Newness of Life*
- *But Baptism is Only a Symbol; a Symbol Does Not Automatically Effect the Reality*

### AFTER BAPTISM, WHAT?

- *Ye Shall Receive the Gift of the Holy Ghost*

### APPENDIX 1

#### In the Name of the Lord Jesus

- *In the Name of the Lord Jesus or in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost?*
- *In the Name of, or on the Authority of, Jesus?*
- *Do all Things in the Name of the Lord Jesus*

### APPENDIX 2

#### A Brief Historical Outline of Baptism in the Name of the Lord Jesus

- *The New Testament*
- *1<sup>st</sup> C (Ephesus Church Age)*
- *2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> C (Smyrna Church Age)*
- *From the 4<sup>th</sup> C to the 15<sup>th</sup> C (Pergamos & Thyatira Church Ages)*
- *16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> C, The Reformation Period (Sardis Church Age)*
- *20<sup>th</sup> C (Laodicea Church Age)*

# WATER BAPTISM

## Scriptural Exposition

### 1.

#### WHY?

##### ***Because it is Commanded to Repent, Believe & Be Baptised***

- **Mk 16:15-16** Preach the gospel to every creature. ***He that believeth and is baptised*** shall be saved
- **Acts 2:38** ***Repent and be baptised***

##### ***Because Repentance, Faith & Baptism are Foundational, Basic First Principles***

- **Heb 6:1-2** ***Leaving the principles*** (= the elementary beginnings, the ABC) of the doctrine of Christ... not laying again ***the foundation of repentance*** from dead works, and ***of faith*** toward God, ***of the doctrine of baptisms***

### 2.

#### WHO?

##### ***Those Who are Truly Repentant***

- **Mk 1:4** John did preach ***the baptism of repentance*** (Cp Acts 19.4)
- **Lk 3:7-14** Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptised... ***Bring forth fruits worthy of repentance***... and the people asked... What shall we do...?
- **Mt 3:6** And were baptised... ***confessing their sins***
- **Acts 2:38** ***Repent*** and be baptised

##### ***Those Who Believe with the Whole Heart***

- **Acts 2:41** ***They that gladly received*** his word were baptised
- **Acts 8:37** ***If thou believest with all thine heart*** thou mayest

##### ***Those Who are Willing***

- **Acts 8:35-36** Philip... preached unto him Jesus... And the eunuch said, See, here is water; ***what doth hinder me to be baptised?***

##### ***Those Who are Disciples/Followers***

- **Jn 4:1** Jesus ***made and baptised*** more ***disciples*** than John
- **Mt 28:19-20** Go... teach (= ***make disciples*** of) all nations, ***baptising them***... teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you

### 3.

#### HOW?

##### ***With Water***

- **Jn 1:31** Therefore am I come baptising ***with water***

##### ***By Total Immersion in the Water***

- **Jn 3:23** John... was baptising in Aenon... ***because there was much water there***
- **Acts 8:36-39** here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptised? ... and they ***went down both into the water***... and when they were ***come up out of the water***...

- Ro 6:3-4 we are **buried** with him by baptism
- Col 2:12 **buried** with him in baptism

#### 4.

#### IN WHAT NAME?

##### *In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ*

- Acts 2:38 Be baptised... **in the name of Jesus Christ** for the remission of sins
- Acts 8:16 They were baptised **in the name of the Lord Jesus**
- Acts 10:48 He commanded them to be baptised **in the name of the Lord**
- Acts 19:5 They were baptised **in the name of the Lord Jesus**
- Acts 22:16 Arise and be baptised and wash away thy sins (*How are we washed? In the name of the Lord Jesus, 1 Cor 6.11*)
- 1 Cor 1:13 Was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptised in the name of Paul? (*The answer to the rhetorical question is, No; they were baptised in the name of the one who was crucified for them, Jesus Christ, not Paul.*)

##### *Just as the Bride Takes her Bridegroom's Name*

- Isa 62:2,5 **thou shalt be called by a new name**, which the mouth of the Lord shall name... as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee
- Jer 33:16 **this is the name wherewith she shall be called**, the LORD our righteousness (*i.e. Christ Jesus, 1 Cor 1:30*)
- Rev 22:4 **his name** shall be in their foreheads
- Eph 3:14-15 **our Lord Jesus Christ**, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named

#### 5.

#### WHAT DOES IT SYMBOLISE?

##### *Baptism does not Itself Regenerate/Give New Birth; it is an External Symbol of the Internal Regenerating Work of the Word & the Spirit*

- Jn 3:5 Except a man be **born of water** (*not literal water but the water of the Word; cp Eph 5:26*) **and the Spirit**, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
- Ti 3:5 he saved us by **the washing of regeneration... of the Holy Ghost**
- 1 P 1:23 Being **born again... by the Word of God**

*Cp The birth of the 1<sup>st</sup> man was also by the Word (Gen 1:26-27) & by the Spirit (Gen 2:7).*

##### *Likewise, it also Symbolises the Washing Away & Remission/Forgiveness of Past Sins*

- Mk 1:4 John did... preach the baptism of repentance **for the remission of sins**
- Acts 2:38 Repent and be baptised... **for the remission of sins**
- Acts 22:16 Arise and be baptised and **wash away thy sins**

*NB It not water but blood that remits sins (Lev 17:11; Heb 9:22; Rev 1:5).*

##### *Baptism also Symbolises our Being Baptised by the Spirit into Christ & into the Body of Christ*

- Ro 6:3 (*we*) were **baptised into Jesus Christ**
- Gal 3:27 As many of you as have been **baptised into Christ** have put on Christ
- 1 Cor 12:12-13 **as the body is one... so also is Christ**. For by one Spirit we are all **baptised into one body**

**Going Under the Water Symbolises the Crucifixion, Death & Burial of our Old Man with Christ**

- Col 2:12 **buried with him** in baptism
- Ro 6:3-6 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptised into Jesus Christ were baptised into His death? Therefore we are **buried with him** by baptism **into death**... we have been planted together in the likeness of his death... **our old man is crucified** with him, **that the body of sin might be destroyed**

**Rising Back out of the Water Symbolises our Quickening & Resurrection with Christ to Walk in Newness of Life**

- Col 2:12 buried with him in baptism, wherein also **ye are risen with him** through the faith of the operation of God
- Ro 6:4-5,8 buried with him by baptism into death that... we should **walk in newness of life**. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also **in the likeness of his resurrection**... Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that **we shall also live with him**

**But Baptism is Only a Symbol; a Symbol Does Not Automatically Effect the Reality**

- Acts 8:13, 22-23 Simon... believed and... was baptised... (*but, Peter later said,*) Repent... of this thy wickedness... I perceive thou art in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity.

**6.  
WHEN?**

**Without Delay**

- Acts 8:36 See, here is water; **what doth hinder me** to be baptised? ...
- Acts 16:31-33 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ... And he... was baptised... **straightway**
- Acts 22:16 **Why tarriest thou?** Arise and be baptised

**So, then...**

- Acts 2:38 **Repent and be baptised**
- Acts 8:36 **what doth hinder me** to be baptised?
- 1 P 3:21 baptism... **the answer** (= *the approving response*) **of a good conscience** toward God

**7.  
AFTER BAPTISM, WHAT?**

**Ye Shall Receive the Gift of the Holy Ghost**

- Acts 2:38-39 Repent, and **be baptised**... in the name of Jesus Christ... **and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost**. For the promise is unto ... as many as the Lord our God shall call.
- Acts 19:1-6 ... **they were baptised** in the name of the Lord Jesus. **And** when Paul had laid his hands upon them, **the Holy Ghost came on them**...

**Let us Go on to Perfection**

- Heb 6:1-2 Therefore, **leaving the principles** of the doctrine of Christ, **let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation** of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, **of the doctrine of baptisms**

# Quotations of Brother Branham

Collected from *The Table*, & categorized under the headings of the Scriptural Exposition above.

## WHY?

### **Because it is Commanded to Repent, Believe & Be Baptised**

- ***I wouldn't want to say it isn't essential...*** Every commandment of God is essential... Jesus gave this statement in... Mark 16, "he that believeth and is baptised shall be saved." **54-0103M, par 30,33**
- Now, also the Church must teach baptism. You must be baptised. ***That was the commission.*** **60-0911E, par 117**
- "He that believeth and is baptised shall be saved, and he that believeth not shall be damned (*Mk 16.16*)." See, ***you have to enter this baptism here.*** **61-0108, par 356**
- You say, "Well, baptism don't make any difference." ***Well, then, why was it written?*** Why did it make a difference to Paul? Why did it make a difference to all the rest of them? **63-1124M, par 136**

## WHO?

### **Those Who are Truly Repentant**

- ***You've got to thoroughly be sorry for your sins.*** Then when you know that you're sorry for your sins and ***then repentance*** and be baptised in the Name of Jesus Christ... **61-0108, par 189**
- Now, ***the first step is "repentance towards God." And then follows after that, is water baptism...*** "Repent, and be baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ." See, ***water baptism follows, showing that repentance was genuine...*** **64-0802, par 87**
- ***When you repent... you're a candidate then for the baptism.*** **62-0204, par 53**
- Peter said, "Repent (Acts 2.38)", first... ***Do that first!*** And your baptism in water is only ***an outward profession of something that's been done inside of you.*** **62-1007, par 115**
- I could baptize and baptize, but you only go down a dry sinner, come up a wet one; see, ***until you have thoroughly repented. Repent, and then be baptized*** in the Name of Jesus Christ. See? ... ***Repentance, and then be baptized*** in the Name of Jesus Christ. **65-1128E, par 300**
- She said, "Well, I finally decided for you to go down and dunk me... You're going to fix me up this afternoon and dunk me, aren't you?" I said, "No ma'am. ***Before I do that you got to get your heart right with God.*** I wouldn't baptize you on no conditions; ***you're still alive in the world yet. You got to be dead. We only bury dead people,*** those who are dead in Christ and ready to rise to new life." **60-0610, par 58**

### **Those Who are Disciples/Followers**

- ***My first duty is my pledged love to Jesus Christ*** when I was buried with him in baptism. **52-0715, par 5**
- If we say, "We believe on Jesus Christ, He saved us from sin, and we are baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ," why, we bring disgrace to Him, we do the things that's wrong and we'll have to pay for that... when we do that, ***we are trying to profess one thing and do another.*** **65-1212, par 58**

## HOW?

### By Total Immersion

- The word “baptizo” (= the Greek word for “to baptise”)... means **to be buried and covered up**. **59-0823, par 188**
- In the Scriptures you are baptised **by immersing down under water... covered over**. Jesus was completely sealed away. He was put down in the ground... **Buried... 59-0329, par 49-50**
- So I believe that the pattern has been laid down... **Never was anybody ever sprinkled; they were all immersed. 64-0823M, par 99**

## IN WHAT NAME?

### In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ

- There’s a true baptism, there’s a false baptism. **53-0609A, par 44**
- **Thus saith the Lord**, the baptism using the title of Father, Son and Holy Ghost is false. **Thus saith the Lord**. I command every one of you... that hasn’t been baptised in the Name of Jesus Christ, be baptized again in the Name of Jesus Christ. **61-1112, par 157**
- **We stand today with Thus saith the Lord, that the water baptism in the last days is to be in the Name of Jesus Christ. 65-0725M, par 155**
- Now, watch closely. “Go ye therefore, teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son (Mt 28.19)...”  
Now, not, “**in the name of** the Father, **in the name of** the Son, **in the name of** the Holy Ghost.” That’s the way people baptize... That’s wrong. That’s not Scriptural. And it isn’t, “the **names** of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.” It’s, “in the **Name**,” n-a-m-e, singular; Name... Now... we realize, then, there has to be one Name there, ’cause it said one Name.  
Well, I want to ask you, which one of them names should we baptize in, then? Now, is “father” a name? No, so we couldn’t baptize in the name of the Father ’cause “father” isn’t a name, is it? ... Is “son” a name? ... “Son” is not a name, is it? Well, “Holy Ghost” then... is it a name? No... See? ... **there’s three titles**, then, isn’t it? ... **they’re not names**. So you couldn’t use that for a name, ’cause there’s no name to it at all to begin with... They are not names... I’m a father, I’m a son, I’m a human; but my name is William Branham. But reverend, prophet, or, reverend, elder, and minister, that’s titles that belong to me... So when anyone says they was baptized in the name of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, if they’d only think, it’s not even... mentally right: a name of Father, Son, Holy Ghost.  
Now... that you’ll see that Peter had the revelation I’m trying to tell you, now look... Father, Son, Holy Ghost. That’s what Matthew said. Ten days later Peter said, “Lord Jesus Christ.” Now, see if these three titles isn’t three names, or, the one Name of the three titles **61-0120, par 74-76,80-81,181**
- that same group of men (*i.e. the Chicago Ministerial Association*) said, “Brother Branham, if the Angel of the Lord told you... that, well, we’ll believe it.” I said, “If the Angel of the Lord said something contrary to that Word, it wouldn’t be the Angel of the Lord. **62-0422, par 296-297**
- If you have took the titles, Father, Son, Holy Ghost... I say this with reverence and respect, but, to my way of seeing it, you are not baptised. You are not, for **you haven’t carried out what He said. 63-1124M, par 221**
- So I believe that the pattern has been laid down. **Every person in the Bible was baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ**. Never one time was anybody ever baptized in the name of the Father, Son, Holy Ghost. See? **64-0823M, par 99**
- **Question: Is the Name of Jesus Christ alright for baptism or have to be in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ?**

Either one. I take it Lord Jesus Christ... Now, **just** the name of Jesus, like some of our brethren baptise, I differ there... **64-0823M, par 198-199**

- Now, when you Oneness brethren just baptize in the Name of Jesus, there's just many Jesuses... **61-0120, par 180**

(See also "Questions & Answers on Hebrews", 57-0925, Q56 (re Mt 28.19), par 101-177)

### **Just as the Bride Takes her Bridegroom's Name**

- I know that there is many women in the world tonight, fine women... There is one of them that's my wife. She goes home with me. She wasn't my wife, to begin with; but **how she become my wife, she took my name**. He is coming. There is a lot of women, churches, in the world, but **He is coming for His Wife. She is called by His Name. 63-0323, par 378-379**
- I pray that all that will receive You at this time, in their hearts, will settle it forever... that they've finished with sin, that they will arise and make preparations now for public confession of baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ... **to show** they believe God has forgiven them, and **they take on the name of Jesus Christ. 63-0323, par 390**

## **WHAT DOES IT SYMBOLISE?**

### **Though Baptism is Essential to Salvation...**

- **I wouldn't want to say it isn't essential...** Every commandment of God is essential... Jesus gave this statement in... Mark 16, "he that believeth and is baptised shall be saved." **54-0103M, par 30,33**
- If anyone here, that has not been baptized in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, let me say to you, as God's servant, **baptism is essential to salvation**. "He that believeth and is baptised shall be saved (Mk 16.16)." **61-1105, par 294**

### **...Baptism Does Not Save, but Faith**

- **You are not saved by water baptism. 54 -1024,150**
- **Water baptism does not save you... (it) is a commemoration** of the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord. **57- 0418, par 59**
- **I don't mean that the water baptism in Jesus' Name saves you... you're saved by faith...** through Christ. **61-0117, par 72**

### **Nor does Baptism Regenerate; it is only a Symbol of Regeneration**

- I believe that different from what they (*i.e. the Oneness Pentecostals*) do. **They baptise in the Name of Jesus... for regeneration... I don't believe that**. I believe regeneration comes by the Blood of Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit... **Baptism is only an outward act to the inward work of 'generation of that done been done. 60-1206, par 96**
- I do not believe in being baptised in water to regeneration... because that omits the Blood. See? **You are baptised in water to show that regeneration has taken place. See? That's just a symbol of regeneration... 64-0823M, par 67**
- **I don't believe in water baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ unto regeneration;** I believe the Blood is regeneration, see, not the water... And **that's where I differ with the Oneness movement. Not baptizing to regeneration, no 65-1128E, par 300**
- **to be baptised for regeneration, no, I don't believe that. 65-1212, par 69**

### **Baptism is also a Symbol of the Washing Away & Remission/Forgiveness of Past Sins**

- We'll be burying people here in this baptismal pool, **for the remission of their sins. 53-0329, par 104**
- You've got to thoroughly be sorry for your sins. Then when you know that you're sorry for your sins and then repentance and be baptised in the Name of Jesus Christ **for**



- **remission of your sins, and you shall receive forgiveness... 61-0108, par 189**
- Now, if you... have believed on Him and confessed your sins, come forward... and you can be baptised in the Name of Jesus Christ **for the remission of your sins. 61-1105, par 294**
- water baptism follows, showing that repentance was genuine. Or, **to “remit” our past sins, that has nothing to do with future sin.** It only remits. “Repent, and be baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ.” What for? “Remission.” **Taking away of past sin has nothing to do with the future. Just, your sin has been chopped off, what you did. 64-0802, par 87**
- **Water does not remit sins;** it’s an answering towards a good conscience (1 P 1.21)... I believe you are... saved by accepting Jesus Christ. **64-0823M, par 71**

#### **But it is Only the Blood that Can Truly Forgive & Cleanse Sins**

- All our forms of baptism has nothing to do with it. **Without the shedding of Blood, there is no remission. It is the Blood of Christ that cleanses us. 51-0727, par 50**
- I could go up here take each one of you and baptize you in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, that won’t remit your sins. No, no!... I believe **it’s the Blood that cleanses, not the water.** See? **65-1128E, par 300**
- Neither do I believe that the baptism of Jesus Christ (in the Name of Jesus Christ) in water does forgive your sins... **I do not believe that the water forgives sins.** Or, if it was, then Jesus died in vain... **It’s only an ordinance of God to show you that you have been forgiven. 65-1212, par 69**

#### **Baptism is also a Symbol of our Being Baptised by the Spirit into Christ & into the Body of Christ**

- ... not come in by letter, handshake, water baptism. But... **By one Spirit you are baptised into one Body. 51 -0727, par 43**
- How do you get in that Body? ... By water baptism? No, sir... **By one Spirit we are all baptized into one Body,** and become members of that Body. **56-0603, par 150-1**
- By water baptism we are brought into a fellowship (*i.e. the fellowship of fellow believers*). But **by the baptism of the Holy Ghost we are brought into... being members of the Body of Christ. 58-1007, par 14-15**
- You might put them in the church by water baptism, but **you’ll never put them into Christ by water baptism. 61-0129, par 20**

#### **Being Buried in the Water Symbolises the Crucifixion, Death & Burial of our Old Man with Christ & Rising from the Water our Quickening & Resurrection with Him to Walk in Newness of Life**

- How do you become identified with Jesus Christ? First, you repent of what you’ve already done. And then you’re identified with Him here in the pool... in baptism. For if **we are buried in Christ, we are identified to His death, burial and resurrection...** And if we be planted in His likeness, in His death, God gave us a promise: we’ll be like him in the resurrection. **59-1220E, par 74**
- And what a beautiful time it is for baptism! Oh, my! The resurrection! **That’s why we are baptised because that he raised again. 60-0417S, par 5**
- **We are buried with the Lord in baptism... As He died, we are buried into His death; raised to His resurrection, to walk in newness of life. 60-1211, par 344**
- **We follow Jesus to His death, burial... and resurrection...** through baptism... **We die out to the things of the world...** Buried with him in baptism, raised with Him in resurrection. **Our spirits live up above the things of the world. 62-0513E, par 125**
- When we accept Him as a personal Saviour, then **we go to the grave with Him** in baptism, and we die with Him. If you don’t, you shouldn’t be buried. So when you’re...

buried with Christ in baptism, **we are also risen with Him in the resurrection... raised up from a life of sin and setting with Him in heavenly places. 62-0518, par 57**

- And then identifying the yourself with Him in baptism, that, as He died and rose again, so are **you buried in His Name, to rise in newness of life, to walk as a new creature in Christ. 63-1028, par 81**
- Just like the ceremony for baptism, and **you're buried with him then, and you rise and walk away with a new life.** See? You might not feel like it, but you believe it. Just keeps staying with it; finally, after a while, you find out you got a new life. **64-0412, par 277**

#### **But Baptism is Only a Symbol; a Symbol Does Not Automatically Effect the Reality**

- **The baptism is only a form** to show the world (or the congregation that you're with) that you before witnesses have believed... **54-0103M, par 30,33**
- Baptism is **an outward expression that an inward work of grace has been done. 59-0329, par 9**
- These (*i.e. the emblems in the communion service*) are **symbols just like baptism. 59-0628E, par 57**
- Now, you remember, your baptism is **only an outward expression** that something has happened down here. **60-1211, par 341**
- Peter said, "Repent (Acts 2.38)", first... Do that first! And your **baptism in water is only an outward profession of something that's been done inside of you. 62-1007, par 115**
- And **water baptism is an outward expression to show that something inwardly has happened, because water has no virtue; it's just a symbol...** There'll be thousands there that's been baptized in Jesus' Name. You just go down a dry sinner and come up a wet one... I believe that **it's only in an outward expression showing that a inward work of grace has been done. 64-0823M, par 87,100**
- I could baptize and baptize, but you only go down a dry sinner, come up a wet one; see... **65-1128E, par 300**

### **AFTER BAPTISM, WHAT?**

#### **Ye Shall Receive the Gift of the Holy Ghost**

- You don't have to be baptised to receive the Holy Ghost, because **you can receive the Holy Ghost when the heart's right...** because on Acts 2 Peter gave a formula... But then in Acts 10.49, God... give the Gentiles the baptism (*i.e. of the Holy Ghost*) before they were ever baptised... So... it's the condition of your heart. **54-0103M, par 42**
- There are those that are to enter into the baptism of water. And we pray that Your Holy Spirit will fill them with his presence if they haven't already received such. May they become sealed away from the things of the world, and filled with the Spirit of God, in divine love of God and with fellowship with all men. **59-0823, par 28**
- Grant, Lord, that those who goes into the water, not one of them will go into the water tonight without coming out with the baptism of the Holy Ghost. **60-1126, par 57**
- And you might **receive Christian baptism, that you might receive the Holy Ghost. 61-0219, par 78**
- when you know that you're sorry for your sins and then repentance and be baptised in the Name of Jesus Christ for remission of your sins, **and you shall** receive forgiveness, **receive the Holy Ghost. 61-0108, par 189**

## APPENDIX 1

### IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS

#### **In the Name of the Lord Jesus or in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost?**

Shortly after the resurrection, on a mountain in Galilee, Jesus told Peter and the other disciples to, "Go and teach all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (Mt 28:19). Some therefore say that baptism should be in the trinitarian formula.

But this does not stand up to closer investigation.

Why did Peter exhort the penitent listeners on the day of Pentecost to be baptised in the name of the Jesus Christ? How do we reconcile Matthew 28.19 and Acts 2.38? The Bible cannot contradict itself.

It is unthinkable that Peter should blatantly and consciously disobey the clear command given by the resurrected Lord only a few days before. So, was his theology all mixed up? Was this the impetuous act of misguided, unthinking self-will?

No. Peter knew exactly what he was doing.

- Shortly before Pentecost, he had been given the revelation of Who Jesus was, that He was the Christ. At that same time Jesus said He would give Peter the keys of the kingdom of heaven (Mt 16.16-18).
- On the day of Pentecost, he was filled with the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of truth, Whom Jesus had promised would guide His disciples into all truth (Jn 16.13).

Why, then, on the day of Pentecost, in apparent contradiction of Jesus' express command to baptise in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, did he command the Jews to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ?

Because Peter had the revelation of what the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost was.

- Firstly, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are not **names** but **titles**.
- Secondly, "name" in Matthew 28.19 is **singular, not plural**. This means that the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost must be **one**.
- So, when Peter baptised in the name of Jesus Christ, he was in effect saying that Jesus Christ was that one name referred to in Matthew 29.19.

One final observation. On the resurrection evening, speaking of that same worldwide evangelistic ministry later spoken of again in Matthew 28.19, Jesus said that repentance and remission of sins should be preached **in His name** among all nations (Lk 24:46-47). This tallies with Acts 2:38 where remission of sins is explicitly linked with repentance and baptism **in the name of Jesus Christ**.

#### **In the Name of the Lord Jesus or on the Authority of the Lord Jesus?**

To explain the apparent contradiction between the practice of the early church and Matthew 28.19, some claim "in the name of" means "on the authority of" Jesus, without the need to actually quote His name when baptising.

But this is clearly refuted by Acts 19.13.

Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them **to call over them** which had evil spirits **the name of the Lord Jesus**, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth.

These exorcists were copying Paul, so he must have audibly called over the demon possessed the name of the Lord Jesus.

Now, if Paul cast out devils in Ephesus by audibly declaring the name of the Lord Jesus (as opposed to on the authority of that Name), why would it be any different when in the selfsame location he baptised the Ephesian believers **“in the name of the Lord Jesus”** (Acts 19.5)?

### **Do All Things in the Name of the Lord Jesus**

Water baptism and exorcisms are not the only things in the New Testament to be done in the name of Jesus. That name is the highest name, the only name by which we receive salvation and remission of sins (Acts 4:12; 10:43; Phil 2:9-11). In fact, Colossians 3:17 says, **“whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.”**

Some examples are listed below.

#### **Meeting/Gathering**

- **Mt 18:20** For where two or three are **gathered together in my name**

#### **Praying**

- **Jn 14:13-14** whatsoever ye shall **ask in my name...** If ye shall **ask** any thing **in my name**, I will do it.
- **Jn 15:16** I have chosen you, and ordained you... that whatsoever ye shall **ask** of the Father **in my name**, he may give it you.
- **Jn 16:23-24,26** Whatsoever ye shall **ask** the Father **in my name**, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye **asked** nothing **in my name**: ask, and ye shall receive... At that day ye shall **ask in my name**

#### **Speaking/Preaching/Teaching**

- **Lk 24:47** that repentance and remission of sins should be **preached in his name**
- **Acts 4:17-18** let us straitly threaten them, that they **speak** henceforth to no man **in this name**. And they called them, and commanded them not **to speak** at all nor **teach in the name of Jesus**.
- **Acts 5:28** Did not we straitly command you that ye should not **teach in this name**?
- **Acts 5:40** when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not **speak in the name of Jesus**
- **Acts 9:27** Barnabas... declared unto them how... he had **preached** boldly at Damascus **in the name of Jesus**.
- **Acts 9:29** And he **spake** boldly **in the name of the Lord Jesus**

#### **Healing/Praying for the sick**

- **Acts 3:6,16** Peter said... **In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk ...** And **his name** through faith in his name **hath made this man strong**
- **Acts 4:7,10** they asked, By what power, or **by what name, have ye done this?** ... Be it known unto you all... that **by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth...** even by him **doth this man stand here before you whole.** ...
- **Jas 5:14** Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them **pray** over him, **anointing** him **with oil in the name of the Lord:**

### **Casting out devils**

- **Mt 7:22** Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not... ***in thy name...cast out devils?***
- **Mk 16:17** ***In my name shall they cast out devils***
- **Lk 9:49** Master, we saw one ***casting out devils in thy name;***
- **Lk 10:17** Lord, even ***the devils are subject unto us through thy name.***
- **Acts 16:18** Paul, being grieved, turned and ***said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out*** of her.

### **Signs & Wonders**

- **Mt 7:22** Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not ***prophesied in thy name?*** ... and ***in thy name done many wonderful works?***
- **Mk 9:38-39** John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one ***casting out devils in thy name,*** and he followeth not us: and we forbid him, because he followeth not us. But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall ***do a miracle in my name,*** that can lightly speak evil of me
- **Acts 4:30** By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that ***signs and wonders*** may be ***done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.***

### **Other Examples**

- **Mt 18:5** whoso shall ***receive one such little child in my name*** receiveth me.
- **Mk 9:41** whosoever shall ***give you a cup of water to drink in my name,*** because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward.
- **Acts 4:12** Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is ***none other name*** under heaven given among men, ***whereby we must be saved.***
- **1 Cor 1:10** Now I ***beseech*** you, brethren, ***by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,*** that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you
- **1 Cor 5:4-5** ***In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,*** when ye are ***gathered together...*** with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, ***to deliver such an one unto Satan***
- **1 Cor 6:11** ye are ***washed,*** but ye are ***sanctified,*** but ye are ***justified in the name of the Lord Jesus,*** and by the Spirit of our God.
- **Eph 5:20** ***Giving thanks*** always for all things unto God and the Father ***in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;***
- **2 Th 3:6** we ***command*** you, brethren, ***in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,*** that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.

## APPENDIX 2

### A BRIEF HISTORICAL OUTLINE OF BAPTISM IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS

#### ***The New Testament***

- All examples of baptisms, where a formula is specified, are in the name of Jesus Christ or the Lord Jesus.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> C (Ephesus Church Age)**

- Outside the New Testament, there are no historical examples in the 1<sup>st</sup> C of any other formula than the name of the Lord Jesus.
- An example of a baptism in Rome in AD 100 in that name was reported in Time Magazine, 5 December 1955 ("The Oldtime Religion"):

*The deacon raised his hand, and Publius Decius stepped through the baptistry door. Standing waist-deep in the pool was Marcus Vasca the wood-seller. He was smiling as Publius waded into the pool beside him. "Credis (Do you believe)...?" he asked. "Credo (I believe)," responded Publius. "I believe that my salvation comes from Jesus the Christ, Who was crucified under Pontius Pilate. With Him I die that with Him I may have Eternal Life." Then he felt strong arms supporting him ~ he let himself fall backward into the pool, and heard Marcus' voice in his ear - "**I baptize you in the Name of the Lord Jesus**"— as the cold water closed over him.*

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> C (Smyrna Church Age)**

- Baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus was widespread up until the 3<sup>rd</sup> C.
- In fact, all historical authorities agree that baptism using the trinitarian formula was a later development and that the New Testament practice of baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ continued into the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> C and even beyond alongside the rise and growing spread of the trinitarian formula.

#### **From the 4<sup>th</sup> C to the 15<sup>th</sup> C (Pergamos & Thyatira Church Ages)**

- The Catholic Church said only baptisms using the trinitarian formula were valid.
- It did accept, however, that early theologians considered baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus to be acceptable. For example, Thomas Aquinas claimed that the apostles baptised in the name of Jesus alone "by special dispensation." He even mentioned those who baptised in His name.
- The 1964 Vatican II edition of English Catholic Bible Catechism states that only in the 4<sup>th</sup> C did the formula, "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" become customary.
- In the 4<sup>th</sup> C, however, the followers of Priscillian baptised in Jesus' name. Priscillian was executed by the secular authorities at the instigation of the official church, to the great distress of the godly Martin of Tours. But his influence continued in the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> C.
- The death penalty was declared in the Byzantine (Eastern Roman) Empire in 529AD for those who baptised in Jesus' name.
- In the 11<sup>th</sup> C a schism resulted in the formation of the Orthodox Church. Until the Reformation, the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church in western Europe and the Orthodox in the east prevailed.)

### **16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> C, The Reformation Period (Sardis Church Age)**

- The mainstream Reformation denominations (Anglican, Lutheran and the Calvinist Presbyterian Reformed) generally carried over the use of the trinitarian formula, although some early 16<sup>th</sup> C Lutherans baptised in name of Jesus Christ. Indeed, Martin Luther argued for acceptance of baptisms in that name if carried out with proper intent.
- In the 17<sup>th</sup> C, many early Baptists, such as Francis Cornwell, were baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Indeed, the 1660 Baptist Standard Confession of Faith declared baptisms in that name to be valid. <http://www.reformedreader.org/ccf/tsc.htm>,

*XI. That the right and only way, of gathering Churches, (according to Christ's appointment, Mat. 28.19- 20) is first to teach, or preach the Gospel, Mk 16.16 to the Sons and Daughters of men; and then to Baptise (that is in English to Dip) in the name of the Father, Son, and holy Spirit, **or in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ**; such only of them, as profess repentance towards God, and faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ, Acts. 2.38, 8.12, 18 8.*

### **18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> C (Philadelphia Church Age)**

- Some 18<sup>th</sup> C and early 19<sup>th</sup> C Baptists, along with many 19<sup>th</sup> C Plymouth Brethren and New England Congregationalists, taught baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus.

### **20<sup>th</sup> C (Laodicea Church Age)**

- Charles Parham, a key figure in early Pentecostalism, is recorded to have baptised new believers in Jesus' name during the Azusa Street revival.
- A significant number of early US Pentecostals, later called Oneness believers, baptised in the name of Jesus. The belief that baptism should be "in Jesus' name" or "in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ," rather than in the more usual trinitarian formula, was called the "New Issue". It resulted in a major split among Pentecostals in the 1910s.
- In 1932, after his conversion, William Branham had begun attending a local Missionary Baptist church. Realising his need of baptism, he concluded that if anyone knew what Jesus meant in Matthew 28.19, it would be the disciples after being filled with the Spirit on the day of Pentecost. So, although at that time ignorant of the Oneness Pentecostals and their beliefs, he asked to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ, according to Acts 2.38. Even though contrary to the doctrine of the Missionary Baptist denomination, the pastor consented. (Perhaps he was influenced by the early Baptist acceptance, described earlier, of the validity of baptism in Jesus' name.)

When Bro Branham later began his own pastoral ministry, and subsequently his itinerant evangelistic/healing/teaching ministry, he continued to proclaim this truth strongly. He explained it as one of the truths lost to the Church over the ages and now being restored in these last days. In 1965, for example, he said, "We stand today with Thus saith the Lord, that water baptism in the last days is to be in the Name of Jesus Christ."