

In What Name Then Shall We Baptize?

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Jesus commanded His disciples to “Go and make disciples of all nations, and to baptize them, “in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”. Matthew 28:19.

On the Day of Pentecost, Peter commanded those who responded to his preaching, “to repent and to be baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins”. Acts 2:38.

(When Peter told the people to repent, he was telling them to confess their sins, turn from their sins, and surrender totally to the Lordship and rule of Jesus Christ. “God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” Acts 2:36.)

Other references to water baptism occur in Acts 8:12, 16, (in the Name of the Lord Jesus), Acts 10:48, (in the Name of the Lord), Acts 19:5, (in the Name of the Lord Jesus), and Galatians 3:27, (into Christ).

Jesus said, “The Scripture cannot be broken”. John 10:35. This statement from Jesus means that you may not interpret one passage of Scripture, so that it contradicts another passage of Scripture.

God’s Word is all truth and it is consistent. John 17:17, Matthew 24:35.

If one passage appears to say something contrary to another passage, then both are true, and there is a balance between the two apparent opposites.

For example: God’s sovereignty and man’s freewill are both taught in the Word of God and both are true. But the mind of man cannot fully understand or grasp this.

God’s sovereignty: John 6:44, 2Timothy 1:9, Ephesians 1:4..... Man’s free will: Luke 10:42, Proverbs 1:29, Deuteronomy 30:19.

So it is with water baptism.

The Matthew command, Matthew 28:19, is the truth, and so is the way people were baptized in the Book of Acts. Both are truth.

The way we come to the Father is through Jesus. Jesus said so. John 14:6.

The way we are to receive the Holy Spirit, is through Jesus. John 4:10, 14, 7:37-39,

And the way we are to be baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire, is through Jesus. Matthew 3:11, Luke 3:16.

(The baptism with “fire” is Jesus’ baptism with the fire of God’s Word. Jeremiah 23:29, 20:9, 5:14.)

For these reasons, when the apostles and their helpers, baptized new converts into the Name of Jesus Christ, or the Name of the Lord Jesus, or the Name of the Lord, they were baptizing them into the Name of the whole Godhead; the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.