

Following Jesus in Baptism

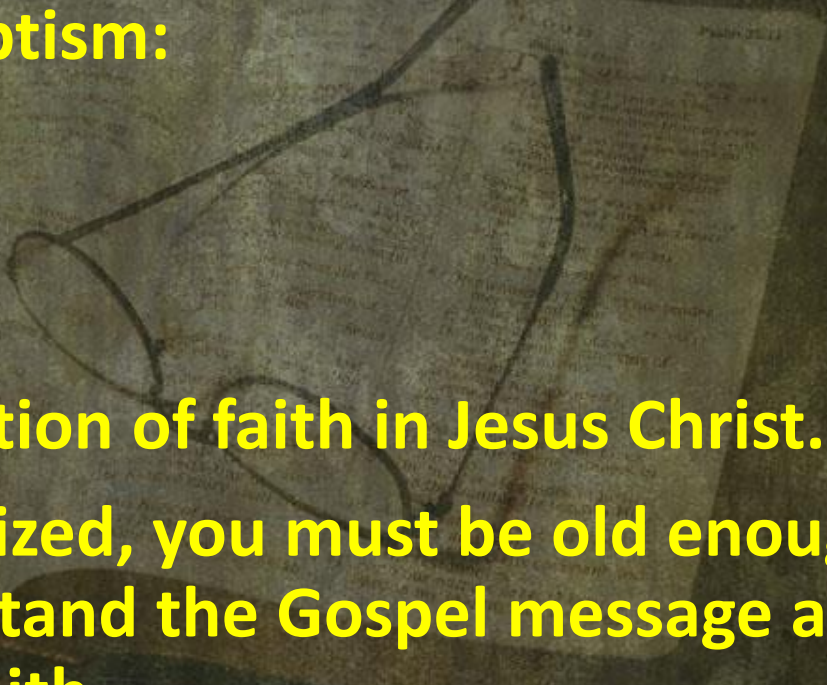
Mark 1:4-10



Baptism Does Not Save

- The New Testament teaches that a person is saved by faith in Jesus Christ, plus nothing, minus nothing.
- John preached a baptism of repentance, the remission of sins being the consequence of the repentance, not the baptism.
- Jesus was not a sinner, therefore, He never needed to repent, and if baptism was for salvation, there was no reason for Him to be baptized.
- Jesus was baptized to *“fulfill all righteousness.”*
- Jesus set the example for us to be baptized.

Baptism Is Subsequent To Salvation

- The sequence of baptism:
 - Repentance
 - Belief (Salvation)
 - Baptism
 - Baptism is a declaration of faith in Jesus Christ.
 - To be biblically baptized, you must be old enough to be able to understand the Gospel message and to respond to it in faith.
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- An open book with a pair of glasses resting on it, set against a dark, textured background. The book is open to two pages, and the glasses are placed over the text. The background is a dark, mottled green and brown, suggesting a stone or wood surface.

Baptism Involves Full Immersion

- Baptism is a way to publicly declare your faith in the central tenets of the Gospel.
- When someone is baptized, they are identifying with Christ's death, burial and resurrection.
- The word baptize means to "dip, dunk, sink, plunge, immerse or submerge" and was used of those who dyed cloth.
- When a ship sank in the sea, it was said to have been "baptized" (sunk).
- The Book of Acts says that when people were baptized they "went down into the water" and "came up out of the water."

Baptism Is A Declaration Of Faith

- Baptism is meant to be public.
- Baptism is the outward witness of inward faith in the Gospel.
- In New Testament times, as long as you gathered with Christians, you were tolerated, but once baptized, you were persecuted, hated, and despised.
- When baptized, you are publicly identifying with Christ and the message of His death, burial and resurrection.
- Whenever a person is baptized, he is advertising that he is a follower of Jesus.

Conclusion

- **Baptism will not save you, and it won't make you more accepted to God.**
- **If you are a believer in Jesus Christ, have you followed the Lord's example by being baptized by immersion after your salvation to publicly declare your faith in Christ's death, burial and resurrection?**
- **Jesus traveled 60 miles by foot in the desert to get to John and be baptized as an example for us.**
- **The Great Commission has not been fulfilled in your life personally until you have followed the Lord's example by being baptized.**