

# *Anchorage Missionary Baptist Mission*

## Baptism



### **King James Version**

#### **Matthew 28:19-20**

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

#### **Romans 6:1-4**

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

#### **Acts 8:35-38**

Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

#### **Acts 2:41-42**

Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

### **New American Standard Bible**

#### **Matthew 28:19-20**

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

#### **Romans 6:1-4**

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

#### **Acts 8:35-38**

Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him. As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents 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 he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him.

#### **Acts 2:41-42**

So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

# *Anchorage Missionary Baptist Mission*

## Baptism



### **New International Version**

#### **Matthew 28:19-20**

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

#### **Romans 6:1-4**

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

#### **Acts 8:35-39**

Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?" And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

#### **Acts 2:41-42**

Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

### **Living Bible**

#### **Matthew 28:19-20**

Therefore go and make disciples in all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and then teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you; and be sure of this-that I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

#### **Romans 6:1-4**

Well then, shall we keep on sinning so that God can keep on showing us more and more kindness and forgiveness? Of course not! Should we keep on sinning when we don't have to? For sin's power over us was broken when we became Christians and were baptized to become a part of Jesus Christ; through his death the power of your sinful nature was shattered. Your old sin-loving nature was buried with him by baptism when he died; and when God the Father, with glorious power, brought him back to life again, you were given his wonderful new life to enjoy.

#### **Acts 8:35-38**

So Philip began with this same Scripture and then used many others to tell him about Jesus. As they rode along, they came to a small body of water, and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! Why can't I be baptized?" "You can," Philip answered, "if you believe with all your heart." And the eunuch replied, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." He stopped the chariot, and they went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

#### **Acts 2:41-42**

And those who believed Peter were baptized-about three thousand in all! They joined with the other believers in regular attendance at the apostles' teaching sessions and at the Communion services and prayer meetings.

# Anchorage Missionary Baptist Mission

## Baptism



### Background

The truth about baptism has been convoluted and contorted since its inception during the time of John the Baptist. Even within the early church, people were misunderstanding the issue of baptism and placing importance on who baptized them. Within this lesson, we will try to uncover the truth about this subject and bring it into perspective.

### What is Baptism?

Baptism is **immersion** in water

It comes from the Greek word, "Baptizo", which means: **to immerse, dip, plunge**

*John 3:22-23* – "After these things came Jesus and his disciples into the land of Judaea; and there he tarried with them, and baptized. And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized."

Christian Baptism is done in the name of the **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit**

See *Matthew 28:19* on your handout

### What does Baptism represent?

Read Romans 6:1-4 and correlate these concepts

#### Us

**Before salvation we were full of sin**

*Ephesians 2:1-2* – "and you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked ..." (NASB)

**When we are saved we die to sin**

*Romans 6:11* – "Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus." (NASB)

**In Baptism we are symbolically buried under water (like Christ)**

*Romans 6:3-4* – "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (KJV)

**In Baptism, we are raised out of the water to signify our new life and walk with Christ**

See *previous passage* and:

*Colossians 2:12* – "Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead." (KJV)

#### Christ

**He took upon Himself our sins**

*2 Corinthians 5:21* – "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." (KJV)

**Having become sin, He died for us**

*1 Corinthians 15:3* – "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;" (KJV)

**After death, He was buried in a tomb**

*Matthew 27:58-60* – "He went to Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be delivered. And when Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed." (KJV)

**On the third day, He was resurrected in a new and glorious body**

*Mark 16:5-6* – "And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him." (KJV)

# Anchorage Missionary Baptist Mission

## Baptism



### Who can be Baptized?

Along with significant controversy over HOW to baptize someone, there is also a lot of controversy over WHO should be baptized. Several denominations baptize infants, while others (like us) are completely opposed to baptizing infants. Let's start with looking at the Biblical requirements for baptism and then we will move on to look at infant baptism.

A Candidate for Baptism must be **Saved**.

*Matthew 3:4-8* - Now John himself had a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist; and his food was locusts and wild honey. 5 Then Jerusalem was going out to him, and all Judea and all the district around the Jordan; 6 and they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River, as they confessed their sins. 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 "Therefore bear fruit in keeping with repentance; (NASU)

Does John baptize anyone who wants to be baptized? What is his requirement?  
**They must show evidence of true repentance!**

Read *Acts 8:35-38*. What did Philip require before baptizing the eunuch?  
**He required a testimony of faith in Christ!**

Looking back to the previous page's notes on what baptism represents, why does it make sense that you must be saved before you can be baptized?

**One who has not been saved has not died to sin prior to their symbolic burial and resurrection!**

A Candidate for Baptism must express a **desire** to **serve** Christ.

*John 4:1-2* – "When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John, (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,"

**Disciple** – ἰσχυρισμός – **Learner or Student**

See *Matthew 28:19-20* on your handout. What does the command in verse 20 assume about the people who follow the command in verse 19?

**It assumes that they are willing to learn all things about Christ. There is no room for being baptized and then deciding not to follow Christ.**

*Acts 2:41-42* – "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers."

### What about Infant Baptism?

Those who baptize infants usually believe that baptism is a part of salvation. We will discuss that issue later. However, they rely on loosely interpreted scriptures, their interpretation of history, and tradition to justify their acts. Let's discuss their "scriptural proof".

Read the following passages: *Acts 2:38-39*, *Acts 16:15, 33*; *Acts 18:8*

What assumption do they make in these passages?

**They assume that "household" included the children**

How can this assumption be clearly refuted?

**It mentions that the household believed. The underage children could not believe.**

# *Anchorage Missionary Baptist Mission*

## Baptism



### *Who should Baptize the Individual?*

There are two levels to this question. First, we must consider the institution that baptizes and then we must also consider the individual that performs the baptism. The reason that these two issues are important is because of the need for authority.

### The Need for Authority

John the Baptist baptized because he was **sent** from God.

*John 1:32-33* – “And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.”

Jesus performed His ministry because He was **sent** from God.

*John 5:30* – “I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.”

Those who attempted to act on behalf of God without divine **authority** ultimately **failed**.

Read *Acts 19:8-16*

### An Institution with Authority

Jesus prophesied to His disciples that He would give them **authority** to administer His **kingdom**

Read *Matthew 16:13-20* and *18:15-20*

Christ eventually gave this authority to His **church** with the **Great Commission**.

Read *Matthew 28:18-20*

What does the church have authority to do?  
**Evangelize, Baptize, Teach** – *Matthew 28:18-20*

Administer the **Entrance** and **Exit** of the Kingdom – *Matthew 18:15-20*

*1 Corinthians 5* – **The unrepentant brother was excluded from the church**

*2 Corinthians 2:5-11* – **After he repented, he was brought back into the church**

Baptism marks our entrance into the **church / kingdom**

*Acts 2:41* – “Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.”

### An Individual operating on behalf of the Church

Typically, we only see pastors performing baptisms today. In scriptures, we see examples of pastors and even a deacon performing baptisms.

Read *Acts 8:38* (Philip, the deacon)

Ultimately, the church has the authority to baptize. I believe it may choose whoever it sees fit to perform the baptism on its behalf.

# Anchorage Missionary Baptist Mission

## Baptism



*Why should we be Baptized?*

To be **obedient** to your Savior and His **teachings**

Christ **commanded** that His disciples (students) be baptized.

*2 Corinthians 5:15* – “And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.”

*Acts 2:41-42* – “Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”

Read Matthew 28:19-20 (The Great Commission)

To **identify** yourself with Christ

Based on our study of baptism, we can conclude that baptism is all about **Christ**.

1. It comes after having **saving faith** in Christ
2. It comes after **publicly** professing your **faith** in Christ
3. It is in obedience to Christ's **command**
4. It is conducted under the **authority** given by Christ
5. It is symbolic of Christ's death, **burial**, and **resurrection**

*Colossians 2:12* – “Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.”

*Philippians 3:9-10* – “And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;”

To join the **church**

There is no Scriptural example of an individual being part of the church without baptism.

*Acts 2:41* – “Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.”

**Why is this?**

The church is an assembly of like-minded people, working together towards a common goal. These similarities are marked by baptism.

Those who have been baptized should have a common **salvation**.

Those who have been baptized should have a common **commitment** to Christ.

Baptism is the scriptural ordinance, which is performed after an individual testifies of salvation and a desire to serve Christ. Therefore, it logically fits as the ordinance that administers our entrance into the church.