

Salvation's Independence

All Scripture is King James 1611 Authorized Version: Matthew 28:19

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY?

Many questions that I heard and saw on Christian media forums was on a debate on salvation and baptism.

The continuous stream of questions was about Salvation and Baptism.

1. **The question asked was do you have to be Baptized to be Saved?**
2. **And the argument was that you needed to be Baptized to be saved?**
3. **And many Christians recognised their date of salvation as when they were baptised.**

I was amazed by the various unbiblical answers that were given by the pastor of that forum, and I was also surprised by the many claims that the Christians participating in the discussion gave as their view on this subject.

Therefore I felt the need to answer this question which has been asked time and time again with no biblical answers given but only people's points of view.

- ✚ **The consensus of that discussion was that you needed to be Baptized to be Saved and that was also the view that the Pastor was claiming.**
- ✚ **But is that Biblically correct?**

1. To even attempt to be biblically correct you first have to define their terms and your terms on which you are engaging.
 2. In other words what bible versions were they using whilst we are using the King James Version (KJV).
- ✓ However this was not even brought up in their debate.

The people seemed unaware including the pastor that all bible versions are NOT the same, and therefore all bibles cannot all claim that it is the Word of God. And therefore, their doctrine will be different according to the different bible versions like the NIV or ESV or NASB etc.

- ✚ Every version of Bible cannot ALL BE CLASSIFIED AS THE VERY WORD OF GOD, because the texts are different, and say different things.
- ✚ NO....There can only be one Word of God that can be true and that is the KING JAMES BIBLE 1611 AUTHORISED VERSION because of its validity of the underlying manuscripts that it was translated from. This is not to say that the King James Bible cannot be translated into many other languages and still be true.
- ✚ However, the modern versions of the Bibles are not so because they are translated from different underlying manuscripts so those bibles will say something different or even be silent on some matters of doctrine.

The point that I would like to make is that a vast amount of Christians and many Pastors especially are not aware of the dangers these modern bible versions pose and these modern bibles are having on their ministry.

In the process of time these modern bible versions are slowly leading people into heretical Doctrine and they are completely unaware of it. There are approximately more than 200 modern bible versions now, like the NIV, CSB, YLT, NASB, ESV, and the list goes on which includes the NKJV.

- ✚ By not addressing the point of AUTHORITY because that is what the true bible is which is the King James Version (KJV), then any Hermeneutics which is the study of God's Word will be futile, and incorrect. This of course then leads to many doctrinal errors and is the downfall of many pastors not just Christians.

The modern bible versions open up the doorway of Leavin (heresy or poor doctrine) in the church. Resulting in the violation of many of Gods standards for His church, such as the ordination of woman pastors, and being allowed to preach in the church. These modern versions of the bible also softens the existence of Hell and removes the deity of Jesus Christ our Lord.

- ✚ **Therefore, in order to defend a doctrine the bible is what determines the argument.**
 1. There can only be one truth, so we had better get it right the first time.
 2. At the time when God spoke to Jeremiah they had the book of Jeremiah and look what God said to Jeremiah the prophet in the Old Testament.

Jeremiah 26:2 King James Version

2 Thus saith the LORD; Stand in the court of the LORD's house, and speak unto all the cities of Judah, which come to worship in the LORD's house, all the words that I command thee to speak unto them; diminish not a word:

- ✚ How would that be possible today if every person is using one of the approximately 200 different bibles versions?
 1. A question that we can all ask ourselves at this stage is which "WORDS" or (Bible Version) was JESUS referring to when he said this statement recorded for us in the book of Matthew 24:25.
 2. Which "WORDS" is JESUS going to fulfil because they all say something different?
- ✚ **If the bible is supposed to be the "spoken word of God", then which version did God speak?**
- ✚ **Because "many words" have been either taken out or changed in the modern bible versions.**

Look what Jesus said about his WORD'S (plural).

Matthew 24:35

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but **my words shall not pass away.**

- ✚ It's actually ridiculous that people could think that somehow Jesus forgot about what He said, and that people somehow had to really scratch for a better more modern updated version of the bible to keep it modern.

Now whilst the issue involving the different bible versions is another message in which I have addressed these false bibles.

However because many people are too casual they get tripped into buying what they think is the latest word of God, like it's a software upgrade that needs an update every now and then.

Well, it's not like that because the KJV bible says that heaven and earth will pass away but his word will never pass away.

So why are people getting sucked into the devil's scheme who comes silently to steal Gods word away from them.

- ✚ Please remember this statement that I am going to make next.
 - ✚ With regards to doctrine. People who don't care what bible version they have cannot be serious about the matters of the Lord.
 - ✚ Whilst it is perfectly ok to have different bible versions to see what errors they have and to use these false bible versions to show others what to avoid.
 - ✚ But the King James Version is only where we need to go to get true doctrine. (Thus sayeth the Lord).
- ✓ From the outset by God we are all called to examine the scriptures whether it to be so, and therefore we should not take "anyone's" word for it and need to check "what does the bible have to say"

Acts 17:10-12 King James Version

¹⁰ And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

¹¹ These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, **and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.** ¹² **Therefore many of them believed;** also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.

1. Whenever you see the word **therefore** in scripture ask yourself this question?
2. What is the word there for?
3. Well if you read it has just made an explanation statement in the verse before it.
4. This verse tells us that because they "searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" **therefore many of them believed.**

- ✚ Don't rely on others to tell you the context read it with you own eyes.

5. Secondly don't rely on commentaries or study bibles to tell you what to believe.
 6. If you are saved you have the Holy Spirit within you which is your guide and teacher, and you have the whole of the proper bible (KJV) which is God's Word to be your source of information and your dictionary, and to explain every word by comparing scripture with scripture and you know that God does not make a mistake at all like people.
- ✚ Don't approach scripture with the view that God is wrong or made a mistake. If you can't see it, it means you have made the mistake in understanding what God has written.
7. With the other modern bible versions like the NIV (New International Version) you cannot apply this rule, because those bibles are full of mistakes, errors, contradictions and omissions.
- ✓ Apart from the "Word of God" the "true word" man cannot be saved because what is man's understanding, and who is he supposed to call upon to be saved.
 - ✓ The Book of Romans 10 tells us that apart from the scriptures no one can be saved.

Romans 10:13-15 King James Version

13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

- ✚ **The bible is very clear about salvation**, and rightly so because it is the central theme of the bible and it is the very reason why Jesus took on the sins of the whole world and died on the cross, and His soul was made an "offering" for sin. For all men, and His resurrection is a testament to His power over death and sin.
1. So being such a major doctrine there are major verses telling us clearly how to be saved.
 2. They are not obscure verses that you have to try and bend or twist to make the plan of salvation work.

No.....

1. Scripture is very clear on Salvation
 2. Even every seminary student studies this Doctrine called **Soteriology**; Which simply means the study of salvation.
- ✚ There are countless scriptures about salvation which don't mention baptism at all for salvation just like in our text from Romans 10:13

3. Remember before the cross there was no Baptism, so if those people believed in God and never got Baptised that would mean that they were not saved. But that's not the case.
 4. Baptism is to identify a person's belief in Jesus. Baptism is after a person believes and is saved and sealed by the Holy Spirit.
- ✓ Buried in the likeness of His death and risen to a newness in life in Jesus.

Romans 10: ¹³ For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

1. So, whosoever will call upon the name of the Lord Jesus will be saved.
2. There is nothing else to do for you to receive the salvation of eternal life.
3. Nothing because Jesus he paid it all.
4. And he gave it to you as a free gift. Yes it is a GIFT and it's free.

✚ Where people get the theology on salvation wrong, is because they think that they have to do something to earn salvation.

Ephesians 2:8-9 King James Version ⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast.

1. Salvation is a gift from God to the Person who believes in Jesus's death burial and resurrection. Which is the message of the gospel.
2. Because Jesus Paid the price with his own soul as an offering for our sin at his death.
3. We only have to believe in Jesus nothing more. We have to believe in His death burial and resurrection which is the gospel that saves.

✚ But Baptism depicts this image of salvation very clearly. When you stand in the water it's like standing in the living water of salvation that Jesus spoke of to the woman at the well, And now when you die you still in the living water but buried completely, and then there is the resurrection to the newness of life for eternity with a new body at the resurrection.

✚ So Baptism is just a symbol of obedience to the death burial and resurrection that we can relate to what Jesus did for us for salvation, and when we do get baptised it shows our willingness to be associated with his death burial and resurrection.

✚ But Baptism does not save, and People who want to believe that will search for scriptures out of context to build a case.

1. If baptism was necessary for salvation the Lord would have sought to include it in every single verse that speaks of how to get saved or how to have eternal life would you not agree.
2. But there are many verses that say believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou wilt be saved.
3. Such as the thief on the cross he believed but was not baptized and yet Jesus said to him today, thou shalt be with me in paradise.

Luke 23:42-44 King James Version ⁴² And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. ⁴³ And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.

- ✚ **No, baptism is not necessary for salvation.**
- ✚ **Baptism is an ordinance that Jesus set forward to do after salvation to be in obedience to him,**

In Romans 6 we see the Apostle Paul giving the saved people a lesson in sanctification.

- ✚ Paul referred to the fact that now as we have eternal life and we have been baptized it is not a reason for the saved to wilfully sin, even though God will forgive them, but that they are not to use the occasion to sin. Referring to the fact that a baptized believer should have the mind of Christ and be living for Christ.

Romans 6 King James Version

1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 3 **Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?**

4 **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.** 5 **For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:** 6 **Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.**

7 For he that is dead is freed from sin. 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. 11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- ✚ Romans 6 above is just telling us of the baptism but it does not say baptism saves you or that it is part of salvation.

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Let's break this verse down to see what it is actually saying.

1. Repent is the same word that John the Baptist used as in (Matthew 3:2)
2. The word repent is also the word Peter and John both used as the word to turn to Jesus for the Kingdom of God is at hand.

3. So first came salvation at turning to Jesus, and then came Baptism in that order.
4. Salvation is separate from baptism.

Let me ask you this Question:

- ✓ **If Baptism was necessary for Salvation, then why did Jesus get Baptized?**
- ✓ Did Jesus need Salvation? And then get Baptized? No that would be a foolish thing to say.
- ✓ Jesus was showing by the example of how to identify yourself to God.
- ✚ Baptism is simply an identification with Jesus. When Jesus was Baptized by John the Baptist, Jesus was showing the believer how to be identified with Jesus.
- ✚ Remember in that same scripture where it was said by God, when there came a voice from heaven saying....said "this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased?"
- ✚ Well that's how we are identified by Jesus.
- ✓ Some people will try and use this passage of scripture in Mark 1 to show salvation requires Baptism. But his is not what John the Baptist was doing as recorded by the scriptures in (Mark Chapter 1).

Mark 1 King James Version

1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God;

² **As it is written in the prophets,** Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

³ **The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.**

⁴ **John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.**

1. Remember this is before the cross.
2. There was no death burial and resurrection yet.
3. John was preparing the way of the Lord.

⁵ **And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.**

1. John was Baptizing with water.

2. John was not Baptizing with the Holy Ghost, that's what John told the people.
3. John said that there will come another after him that will baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

⁶ And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey; ⁷ **And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me,** the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose.

⁸ I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

⁹ And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan. ¹⁰ And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him: ¹¹ And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

1. Yes, they confessed their sins. But John said he was baptizing with water. But when the Holy Ghost was come it would be a different Baptism.
 2. John's baptism was to prepare the way forward for Jesus.
 3. Once you understand what the word "Repentance" means you will see that all of the scriptures will open up the door for you to a clear understanding of what God is saying.
 4. Repentance does not mean to "repent of you sins" but simple means to change or turn from a thought or action of intent.
- Notice that they did NOT GET BAPTIZED IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, THE SON AND THE HOLY GHOST as we see in Matthew 28:19.

Matthew 28:19 King James Version ¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, **baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:**

1. John was baptizing with water because HE DID NOT HAVE THE AUTHORITY YET to confirm like it does by Jesus in Matthew 28:19.

2. Because it was before the cross John could not say **BURRIED IN THE LIKENESS OF HIS DEATH AND RISEN TO A NEWNESS IN LIFE.**
3. So the people were confessing their sins but the Baptism of water was to draw them to a point where John the Baptist could tell them about the one who would come after him, which was Jesus, and so John was preparing the way.

✚ People got saved and get saved, only by believing in God, but not because of a “Water Baptism”.

✓ Always remember “repent” does not mean repent of your sins.

1. This doctrine of the word “**repent**” when meaning it to be of Sin, is not what the King James Bible says and teaches. “Repent” does not mean to repent from sin.
2. Because the KJV bible shows us that even that word “repent” is used of Gods action towards man.

✚ Here are a few examples from the Scriptures related to the word “Repent”.

Jeremiah 26:13 Authorized (King James) Version

¹³ Therefore now amend your ways and your doings, and obey the voice of the LORD your God; **and the LORD will repent him of the evil that he hath pronounced against you.**

1. This does not mean God repented of sin. Because God has no sin, and cannot sin or lie.
2. This simply means that God will stop the “judgement” that he had pronounced against those he was speaking of. His judgement was righteous. Evil here simply means a judgement.
3. Evil is a word that simply means something bad and not as we would think of always as something satanic or connected to a bad spirit.

✚ Here is another example.

1 Chronicles 21:15 - Authorized (King James) Version

¹⁵ And God sent an angel unto Jerusalem to destroy it: and as he was destroying, **the LORD beheld, and he repented him of the evil,** and **said to the angel that**

destroyed, It is enough, stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD stood by the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite.

- ✚ Again we see the judgment of God, and the LORD staying his hand of that evil. Which was (the judgement).
 - ✚ Again repented does not mean from sin because God is without sin and cannot sin or lie.
 - ✚ Repented simply means God stayed his judgment.
3. This is because the “word” repent means to turn to or to “change one’s mind” or “decision”. It does not refer to sin, otherwise it would be saying that God sins and that is Blasphemy.

✚ **This doctrine of the word “repentance referring to sin” is unscriptural and is the result because of the modern heretical bible versions like the NIV which has taken out the word repent every time where Gods said he repented in the Old Testament and replaced it with the word “Relented” in the modern bible versions. This has led to the “False Doctrine of Repentance to mean of Sin”.**

- ✓ Check out please the KJV and compare it to the NIV or modern bible versions. Try looking up Isaiah 59:20 and see for yourself what changes you will find.

KJV

And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and **unto them that turn from transgression** in Jacob, saith the LORD.

NIV

“The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob **who repent of their sins,**” declares the LORD.

- ✓ Do a word search on repentance in the KJV and then do a word search on the NIV or these modern bibles and you will see for yourself the changes that have been made by the NIV and these modern bibles.
4. Don't believe what people or pastors preach just because of their position.
5. Check it yourself; it is Your Soul which is at stake here, your destiny.

- ✓ I will post two verses here for you to see the changes from KJV to NIV, just as an example for you to see but there are hundreds of Changes made by the NIV.

The King James shows that the NIV verses below have changed the word “Repented” to the word “Relented”, and this is only two examples.

1 Chronicles 21:15 King James Version

And God sent an angel unto Jerusalem to destroy it: and as he was destroying, **the LORD beheld, and he repented him of the evil**, and said to the angel that destroyed, It is enough, stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD stood by the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite.

1 Chronicles 21:15 (NIV) New International Version

¹⁵ And God sent an angel to destroy Jerusalem. But as the angel was doing so, **the LORD saw it and relented concerning the disaster** and said to the angel who was destroying the people, “Enough! Withdraw your hand.” The angel of the LORD was then standing at the threshing floor of Araunah^[a] the Jebusite.

Amos 7:6 (KJV) King James Version

The LORD repented for this: This also shall not be, saith the Lord GOD

Amos 7:6 (NIV) New International Version **6 So the LORD relented.** “This will not happen either,” the Sovereign LORD said.

✚ **The reason why they have changed the word Repented is simply so that they can create a new doctrine of repentance to mean from sin.**

- ✓ You might see this as harmless in the beginning. But if you realize we don’t **“repent of our sins to get saved”**. (manmade self-righteousness not of God).
- ✓ **We get saved by calling on Jesus Christ to get saved**. We believe in Jesus to get saved. That is a big difference in the “doctrine of Salvation”. (Calling on Jesus is a divine intervention).

✚ **Because repenting of your sins leaves Jesus and the Work of the cross out of the Picture. And this false view of salvation is what eventually leads people to think that you have to repent of your sins and get Baptized to be saved.**

- ✓ It’s not the same thing. Calling upon Jesus is the only salvation.
- ✓ **John 3:15-18 could not be clearer than it is, yet people don’t believe what it says.**

John 3:15-18 King James Version

15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that **he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world **through him might be saved.**

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but **he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.**

1. Jesus never told the thief on the cross anything about sin, or repenting of your sins to be saved.
2. And neither does John 3:15-18 tells us anything about sin, or repenting of our sins to be saved.
3. That's because salvation is of Jesus Christ. Jesus is God, and he alone is the one who saves us in our sin, and he knows that, and it is for that reason why he made His Soul and offering for Sin.
4. Yes, we are sinners in need of a Saviour and that is exactly what Jesus is. He is our Saviour of the World for whosoever will believe in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.
5. As a saved person we can ask Jesus to forgive us even on a daily basis because we continue to sin, but it does not save us again but we draw closer to God acknowledging our sin.

✚ Salvation is a free gift which does not involve our work to receive it. It only takes faith in Jesus Christ to believe in and on Him and His finished work of the cross.

Baptism is an ordinance from Jesus, for our obedience to Him, but it does not play a part in our salvation.

1. If you believe in Jesus and call upon His name you are saved and sealed and have eternal life.
2. In John 3:15-18 those three verses it is repeated that if you believe you are saved.
3. And in the last verse it says that he that believeth not is condemned.
4. Know where in these famous passages of scripture does it say that you have to be baptised to be saved.

So really this subject "cannot" be dealt with if everyone is using a different bible version.

This probably is the reason why there are so many different answers on this subject because there are so many (200 and counting) bible versions being used by people.

✚ After Salvation we have our marching orders from Jesus.

Matthew 28:19 ¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

- ✚ And that verse is only possible if the people have Believed.
- ✚ Because you cannot Baptize anyone who has not believed in Jesus. Therefore you would not be able to use those names of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

The last lesson and the last command that the Lord Jesus gave to his followers was the great commission, which is found in Matthew 28:19.

If Jesus could have said it differently he would have told us.

But what he wanted us all to remember was his death, burial and resurrection. Because this is the gift of life that represents all that Jesus has done for the believer on the cross.

Just like Jesus has taken away our sin through believing in him, he reminds us that through baptism, which is the picture of his death burial and resurrection of Jesus; then we like him are buried in him in our death.

But Jesus did not stop there, he told the believer that as the believer is buried in him, so too shall the believer arise to walk in the newness of life.

1. Jesus, who is our Saviour and the Saviour of the whole world, has set forth the example for us to follow him, through being obedient to his commands and to follow after him.
2. The picture of baptism is a symbolic picture of the old man who has died. And now the new man has risen, to follow after Jesus.
3. So baptism, although it does not save us, reminds the believer of his obedience to the Lord, and fills a picture of the old man who is buried, and because of Jesus who took all our sins upon him, has commanded us to rise and to walk in the newness of life.

- ✚ I find that, if anyone who will not be baptized is not only being disobedient to the Lord, but in his whole life he will carry on being disobedient to other matters concerning the Lord.

The bible carries much instruction for the believer to be baptized, but will a person honor the Lord and follow that instruction.

1. Many people will not get baptized by reason of that it has nothing to do with salvation. Which is true? But will you carry on being disobedient to the Lord?
2. You choose?

So what does the bible have to say?

Firstly we all get to participate in being a witness to the Lord, and witnessing those who want to follow the Lord in scriptural baptism.

The church has been ordained by God, to carry out two ordinances as the church follows after the Lord, and is in obedience unto him.

1. The first ordinance of the local New Testament church is that of observing the Lords supper.
2. The second ordinance is that of Baptism. Those being baptized the bible says were added unto the church.

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

1. When Jesus gave the great commission unto the disciples, they in turn gave it unto those who had believed the Lord as their savior.
2. So the last will and testament from Jesus to believers is found here in the scriptures, especially here in Matthew 28:19.

Matthew 28:19 ¹⁹ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

✚ As a believer is commissioned by the Lord he is told to teach others. In fact the believer is to teach All Nations, which is a command to not to limit the teaching and preaching, of God's word only to certain groups of peoples, or certain privileged groups of people. No, the command was that we should teach the whole council of the word of the Lord to all manners of people.

1. If we are going to attempt great things for the Lord, then surely we should be in obedience to him before we can attempt those things for him?
2. Because imagine for a moment that you want to do those things for the Lord, and yet you have not been obedient to him even in baptism?

Can you see how that will affect your cause to follow his command of going forth to teach and to tell others that they should be baptized?

3. Because if you not doing it? Or have not done it? Then how can you expect that your testimony is going to carry any authority to others?

Now that we have understood the Lords command to be Baptized lets visit the scriptures on how that is to be carried out?

1. The bible commands that Baptism is the full emersion into a body of water, and not just a sprinkling of water on someone's head?
2. The bible also tells us that a person is to be baptized once they have received the Lord in faith, and have understood the gospel message.
3. Therefore how can babies be sprinkled? This of course is unscriptural and is never once commanded in the bible.
4. With many bible verses showing proof that baptism is only after salvation and that Baptism is full emersion how can it be anything else?

John 1:28

These things were done in Bethabara beyond Jordan, where John was **baptizing**.

5. With verses and passages of scripture explaining what Baptism is; it is then our example to do the same. Such as when John was Baptizing in the Jordan where there was much water. John 3:23.

John 3:23

And John also was **baptizing** in Aenon near to Salim, **because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized.**

6. How about in the book of acts when the Ethiopian Eunuch got saved. Acts 8.

Acts 8:36-39 ³⁶ 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?**

³⁷ **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.**

³⁸ 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.**

³⁹ And when **they were come up out of the water,** the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing.

1. Acts 8:36-39 is a great example of obedience to the word of God,
2. the confession of his faith,
3. and the obedience to be baptized,
4. and the means of that baptism
5. As well as method of baptism.

- A person who does not know the Lord as their savior cannot be baptized, and if he did it means he only got wet, as in the case of babes being sprinkled.
- There has to be first knowledge of the savior, then confession of his salvation, then obedience to want to be baptized because of that knowledge of salvation.

Sometimes people equate their salvation to include Baptism. But this of course is false and not the case. They may use verses like Mark 16:16 to prove their case, but this is a misunderstanding of that verse as is many others that they may use.

Mark 16:16 He that **believeth** and is **baptized shall be saved;** but **he that believeth not shall be damned.**

You see that even the second half of Mark 16:16 answers its own statement. It is those who don't believe that are damned, not the ones who don't get baptized.

- Jesus says in many scriptures that those who call upon his name shall be saved, or those who believe in him shall be saved. Salvation is by Jesus alone, and not by anything that we do, or otherwise it would not be by faith and his grace that we would be saved as Ephesians 2:8-9 states. Then it would be of works.
- ❖ Another great example of Baptism not being sprinkling is observed in the scriptures by our Lord giving us his example of Baptism.

Matthew 3:16 **And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water:** and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

1. Again we see Jesus in the water, and then coming up out of the water, the same as the Ethiopian Eunuch in Acts 8:41.
2. Jesus did not need to get saved. He only was baptized to show his obedience to His Father.
3. He was also showing that we need to be obedient to him as well, and also to His Father.

When John the Baptist was baptizing in the River Jordan he was showing the way forward to the cross, to the day in which Jesus would take the sin upon him of the whole world. And John was Baptizing for repentance which was before the cross, that is why we see John say this in the early scriptures before Jesus was crucified.

Mark 1:8 I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

4. John's baptism was pointing the way to the cross, whereas Jesus baptism would be with the Holy Ghost.
 5. When we are saved we are sealed with the Holy Spirit. That's what John was saying and referring to.
- ❖ Mark 1:8 was again repeated in Acts 1:5. It was when the church had assembled as Jesus had told them, and that they were to wait for the Holy Ghost.

Acts 1:5

For **John truly baptized with water;** but **ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost** not many days hence.

- ✚ In the scriptures Just as Matthew 28:19, gave instruction, a person needs to turn to Jesus and believe in Him first and then be baptized.

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, **Repent,** and **be baptized** every one of you in the name of **Jesus Christ for the remission of sins,** and **ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.**

1. The act of repentance in Acts 2:38 is to turn from your paganism and to believe in the Lord Jesus by faith. It is then that you can be baptized.
2. There is nothing hindering you at that stage to get baptized. There is no work worthy other than to believe in Jesus.
3. The Holy Ghost is the gift of salvation that a believer receives freely.
4. True Baptism, is a mark to show that you have believed. It does not bring salvation, but is a mark to show your salvation in being obedient to the Lord.

- ✚ That is why Paul quoted this verse to the congregation in Acts.

Acts 19:4 Then said Paul, **John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance,** saying unto the **people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.**

One of the most inspiring scriptures to us of the whole of the NT is Romans 6:3-5. It tells us of our hope to be resurrected with the Lord one day. It reminds the believer of Jesus being our savior and King and God.

It reminds us of the reasons why we have the hope that is within each believer. And it seals the promises of God to us as believers in Jesus.

This is Romans 6:3-5.

Romans 6:3-5 ³ Know ye not, that so many of us as **were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?**

⁴ 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.

⁵ For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

❖ Do you want to be obedient to your Lord?

✚ Today is the day?

Ephesians 4:5 One Lord, one faith, one **baptism**,

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.

1 Peter 3:20-22

²⁰ Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

²¹ The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, **but the answer of a good conscience toward God,**) **by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:**

²² Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

1. These verse from 1 Peter 3:2-22, are reminding us that just as in the days of Noah, when they were waiting for the ark to be prepared, they were being obedient to what God had told Noah; and that was to build an ark.
2. So just as the ark was being prepared, so Peter is saying that we as believers are being prepared, (**²¹ The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us.**)
3. He is not saying that it is the baptism that is going to save us. No. He is saying that in the "like figure".
4. In other words, he is saying that as the ark could float away and save those that were within, it was because of their obedience to prepare themselves by the Word of the Lord, it is what saved them.

5. So the baptism of the believer is as the scripture says.....it is not the putting away of the flesh, but it is the answer **but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:**
6. It is the good conscience the scripture says, that the believer will have and should have a good conscience to what the Lord God has told them. Like having a good conscience to follow the Lord in scriptural baptism.
7. A good conscience is when you are “prepared to do everything that the Lord has commanded you”

Galatians 3:27 For as many of you as **have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.**

- ✚ So Baptism is having a good conscience towards the Lord.
- ✚ Baptism is not salvation.

1 Corinthians 1:17 **For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel:** not with wisdom of words, **lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.**

- ❖ Salvation is a gift by faith in Jesus.
- ❖ Baptism is the obedience to Jesus by faith in Him

PRAYER.....CLOSE