

### Origins of the word

- ‘**Baptizo**’ = to dip repeatedly, to immerse, to submerge (of vessels sunk).
- Specific distinction in original with ‘**Bapto**’ which means ‘to dip’
- English equivalents of the one word ‘baptise’ are drench, dip, duck, dunk, douse, deluge, soak, sink, swamp, steep, saturate - i.e. producing a permanent change
- Baptism is **Total & Transformational**



### Matthew 3: 1-2, 5-8

*1 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the Desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." .....*

*5 People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the Jordan River. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptising, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance."*

- Baptism was a symbolic act showing an internal cleansing.
- Similarly to a wedding, an outward sign of an inward transformation that is taking place
- John looked for evidence of change before baptising the Pharisees (v7).

### Jesus Baptism

- In his baptism, Jesus identified with everyday people – humbly and quietly
- Jesus baptism went further than confession of sin & repentance - not just what was stopping, but what was starting
- His message was death to the old & also new life in God. As he preached this message, his followers continued to baptise people (and still do today)

### Examples of Baptism in the Gospels & Acts

*John 3:5 I tell you the truth, no one can see the Kingdom of God unless he is **born of water** and the Spirit.*

*Matt 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, **baptising** them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*

*Acts 2:38 Repent and **be baptised** every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. (Peter's challenge at Pentecost)*

*Acts 9:18 Immediately something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was **baptised**.*

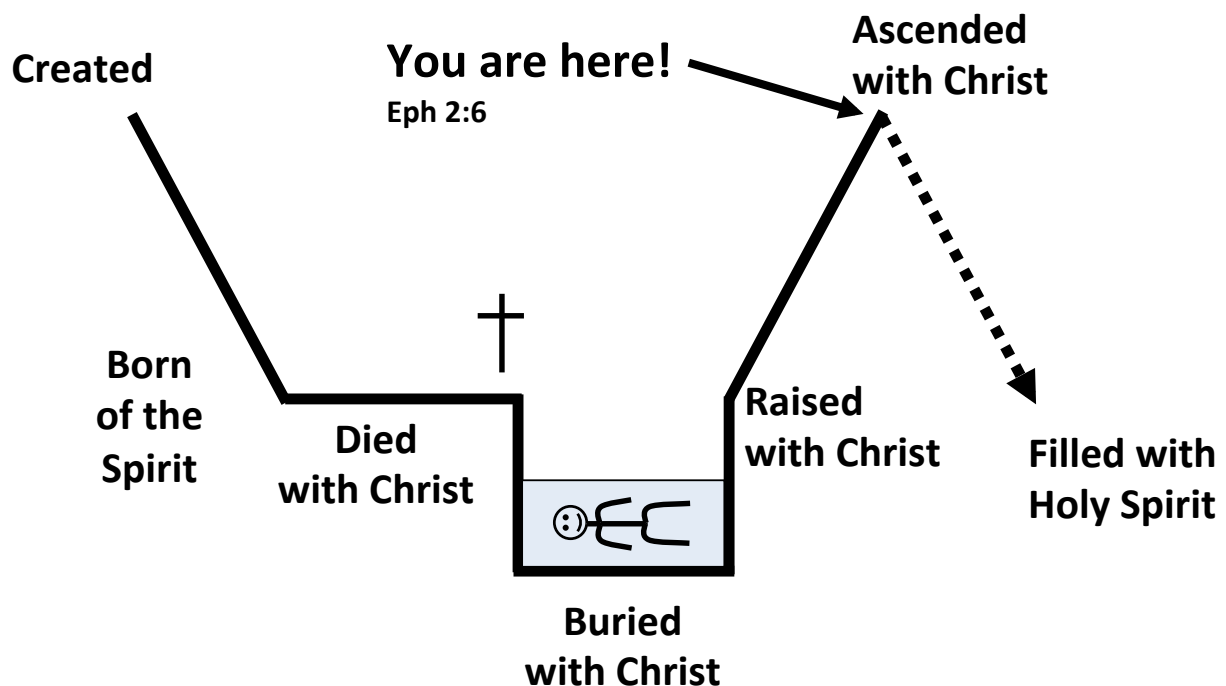
### Romans 6:1-14 (Message)

*1-3 So what do we do? Keep on sinning so God can keep on forgiving? I should hope not! If we've left the country where sin is sovereign, how can we still live in our old house there? Or didn't you realise we packed up and left there for good? That is what happened in baptism. When we went under the water, we left the old country of sin behind; when we came up out of the water, we entered into the new country of grace—a new life in a new land!*

3-5 *That's what baptism into the life of Jesus means. When we are lowered into the water, it is like the burial of Jesus; when we are raised up out of the water, it is like the resurrection of Jesus. Each of us is raised into a light-filled world by our Father so that we can see where we're going in our new grace-sovereign country.*

6-11 *Could it be any clearer? Our old way of life was nailed to the cross with Christ, a decisive end to that sin-miserable life—no longer at sin's every beck and call! What we believe is this: If we get included in Christ's sin-conquering death, we also get included in his life-saving resurrection. We know that when Jesus was raised from the dead it was a signal of the end of death-as-the-end. Never again will death have the last word. When Jesus died, he took sin down with him, but alive he brings God down to us. From now on, think of it this way: Sin speaks a dead language that means nothing to you; God speaks your mother tongue, and you hang on every word. You are dead to sin and alive to God. That's what Jesus did.*

- We turn away from sin - move to a different place.
- The act of baptism is one of identifying with Jesus' death, burial & resurrection.
- Jesus defeated sin & death when he rose from the dead – defeated the enemy
- Baptism is the symbolic expression of our death to sin and burying our old life.



**David Pawson: “A lot of Christians wouldn’t need a ministry of deliverance if they saw what their baptism had done. As Pharaoh’s troops were drowned in the waters of the Red Sea, so are Satan’s demons drowned in the waters of baptism and sin has no more dominion over you”**

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