



Baptism

Baptism / bap-tis-mah, From G907 (Strong's); *baptism* (technically or figuratively): - baptism.

Baptize / bap-tid-zo, From a derivative of G911 (Strong's); to *make whelmed* (that is, *fully wet*); used only (in the New Testament) of ceremonial *ablution*, especially (technically) of the ordinance of Christian *baptism*: - baptist, baptize, wash.

I'm writing on the following subject, inspired by the Holy Spirit, using the means necessary to prove that baptism (as it is known in the Word of God) cannot be compared to sprinkling an infant and that there is no correlation between baptism and sprinkling...

We need to understand also that the Bible is a Jewish book and that we cannot ignore the Jewish Midrash (enquiring into in Hebrew), (the way the Rabbi's, including Jesus, interpreted the Bible). Therefore I am writing on this matter using the original Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek literature. We are caught up in the western world's interpretation of the Bible, which off course has some truth in it, but it's only part of the truth... In many cases it is not even true at all because there is no Biblical basis for it...

Please note that we will only look at water baptism and the role it plays in a believer's life:

What is Baptism?

Someone is baptized when they are immersed (completely under water). The first baptism took place in the NT and was performed by John (*the Lord is Gracious*) the Baptist as a sign of repentance. Later on apostles baptized new converts in the name of Jesus (Christ, *the Lord saves, Anointed One, Messiah*). Baptism is also viewed as a symbol of identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection according to *Rom 6:1*

"What then shall we say? Shall we persist in sin that grace may abound? Of course not! **2** How can we who died to sin yet live in it? **3** Or are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? **4** We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. **5** For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection. **6** We know that our old self was crucified with him, so that our sinful body might be done away with, that we might no longer be in slavery to sin."

According to the reading above we are "buried" in water with baptism – symbolizing the death and burial of the old way of life... while coming out of the water symbolizes the "resurrection" to new life in Christ... Therefore we are free from the bondage of sin and

the hold that it had on us... Now that we are saved we are no longer slaves to sin – Now we can choose NOT to sin and live for Christ...

We as Christians proclaim to believe that there is one God who gives eternal life according to Eph 4:5

“one Lord, one faith, one baptism;” **One Lord, Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all... One faith is the Christian faith we take on when we accept Jesus... Once we have accepted Jesus we are baptized (with water) to show that we identify in His suffering.**

Peter makes it very clear in Acts 2: 38 “Peter (said) to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. “ **We have to repent before we want to follow Jesus. We can only repent if we understand that we have sinned... We cannot live in sin and do God’s will (Rom 6:2)...**

Jesus also says in Matt 28:19 “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

In order to make disciples, we need to preach the Gospel and tell people the truth about the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross and that He became the only atonement for our sins... In order to become disciples, they have to make the choice to accept Jesus... Babies cannot make that choice yet... therefore God’s word says clearly in 1 Co 7:14

“For the unbelieving husband is made holy through his wife and the unbelieving wife is made holy through the brother. Otherwise your children would be unclean, whereas in fact they are holy. “

This means that if one of the parents are saved (while still married), the children are holy (physically pure and morally blameless) until they (children) are old enough to decide for themselves...

Just how old that is will be different for each individual, that’s exactly why the parents are responsible for teaching their children about Jesus... One could argue that as soon as they can distinguish between right and wrong as well as understand that they have to take responsibility for their actions they are old enough to accept Jesus...

In the following two instances where the households were baptized, one CANNOT assume that there were *infants* that were baptized (the way we have come to know “baptism” through sprinkling), because it is not written... we cannot read into things that have no Biblical basis and therefore make up our own doctrine (teachings)... there may have been *children* that were baptized due to the fact that they were believers...

Acts 16:15 “After she and her household had been baptized, she offered us an invitation, "If you consider me a believer in the Lord, come and stay at my home, and she prevailed on us.”

1 Co 1:16 "I baptized the household of Stephanas also; beyond that I do not know whether I baptized anyone else."

Sprinkle / zaw-rak, A primitive root; to *sprinkle* (fluid or solid particles): - be here and there, scatter, sprinkle, strew.

naw-zaw, A primitive root; to *spirt*, that is, *besprinkle* (especially in expiation): - sprinkle.

hran-tid-zo, From a derivative of rhainō (to *sprinkle*); to *render besprinkled*, that is, *asperse* (ceremonially or figuratively): - sprinkle.

No where is it written in the Word of God that an infant is sprinkled and therefore receives the Kingdom of God... Below it clearly shows in what context the word sprinkle is used...

Ex 29:16 "And thou shalt slay the ram, and thou shalt take his blood, and **sprinkle (zaw-rak)** it round about upon the altar."

Lev 4:6 "where, dipping his finger in the blood, he shall **sprinkle (naw-zaw)** it seven times before the LORD, toward the veil of the sanctuary."

Lev 4:17 "and dipping his finger in the blood, he shall **sprinkle (naw-zaw)** it seven times before the LORD, toward the veil."

Lev 14:16 "then, dipping his right forefinger in it, he shall **sprinkle (naw-zaw)** it seven times before the LORD."

Heb 9:19 "When every commandment had been proclaimed by Moses to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves (and goats), together with water and crimson wool and hyssop, and **sprinkled (hran-tid-zo)** both the book itself and all the people, 20 saying, "This is 'the blood of the covenant which God has enjoined upon you.'" 21 In the same way, he **sprinkled (hran-tid-zo)** also the tabernacle and all the vessels of worship with blood.

Heb 10:22 "let us approach with a sincere heart and in absolute trust, with our hearts **sprinkled (hran-tid-zo)** clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water."

Scatter / zaw-raw, A primitive root (compare H2114); to toss about; by implication to *diffuse*, *winnow*: - cast away, compass, disperse, fan, scatter (away), spread, strew, winnow.

This further proves that even if you use a synonym for sprinkle there is still no correlation between sprinkle and baptism... Even the word scatter is used in a different context...

Lev 26:33 “And I will **scatter (zaw-raw)** you among the heathen, and will draw out a sword after you: and your land shall be desolate, and your cities waste.”

Job 18:15 “It shall dwell in his tabernacle, because *it is* none of his: brimstone shall be **scattered (zaw-raw)** upon his habitation.”

Matt 21:44 “ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; but on whomever it falls, it will **scatter (zaw-raw)** him like dust.”

I sincerely hope that each one of you reading this will be inspired to study God’s Word even more heartily and that you will test what I have written according to God’s Word... Never accept what is said about the Word of God without testing it and remember that “The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.” (**Ps 12:6**).

Also read the following scripture which joins with the above passage:

Pro 30:5 “Every word of God is tested; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Add nothing to his words, lest he reprove you, and you be exposed as a deceiver.”

The Lord also says in His Word in **Rev 22:18** “I warn everyone who hears the prophetic words in this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words in this prophetic book, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city described in this book. “

The question remains... Do you believe that God’s Word is perfect...?

I pray that our Lord, Jesus Christ will call your name and that you will answer to His call and accept Him as your Savior and by believing in Him you will have eternal life... Amen.