

Here is the outline on Baptism 2/17/2026

The quiz for this section will be postponed until next week

The Significance of Water Baptism

A. Why Baptism is Essential for Salvation

1. Connecting baptism to remission of sins
2. Baptism as part of the "new birth" experience

B. Symbolism of Baptism

1. Identification with Christ's death, burial, and resurrection (Romans 6:3-5)
2. Washing away of sins (Acts 22:16)
3. A public declaration of inward faith

II. The Scriptural Mode of Baptism: Immersion

A. The Greek meaning of "baptizo" (to immerse, dip, submerge)

B. Biblical examples of immersion (e.g., Jesus' baptism, the Ethiopian eunuch)

C. Why sprinkling or pouring does not align with biblical symbolism

III. The Baptismal Formula: In Jesus' Name

A. Examination of New Testament examples

1. Acts 2:38 ("be baptized...in the name of Jesus Christ")
2. Acts 8:16 ("baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus")
3. Acts 10:48 ("be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ")
4. Acts 19:5 ("baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus")

B. Reconciliation with Matthew 28:19 ("Father, Son, and Holy Spirit")

1. The "name" in Matthew 28:19 refers to the singular divine authority of Jesus
2. Jesus is the manifestation of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
3. The apostles' practice in Acts as the proper interpretation

IV. Prerequisites for Baptism

A. Repentance from sin

B. Faith in Jesus Christ

V. The Order of New Birth Elements

A. How water baptism relates to receiving the Holy Spirit

B. Addressing instances where the Holy Spirit was received before water baptism (e.g., Cornelius in Acts 10) and the subsequent command to be water baptized.

Reasons and Significance of Baptism in Jesus' Name (Continued)

A. Fulfillment of Matthew 28:19

1. "The Name" refers to Jesus Christ: Argument that "name" in Matthew 28:19 (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) is singular and refers to the one saving name of Jesus, which embodies the totality of the Godhead.
2. Apostolic Practice as Interpretation: The apostles, who heard Jesus' command directly, consistently baptized in Jesus' name, demonstrating their understanding of how to fulfill Matthew 28:19.
3. Jesus as the Full Revelation: Jesus is the full manifestation of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, making His name comprehensive.

B. Scriptural Precedent and Command in Acts

1. Direct Commands and Examples: Reinforcing the weight of the repeated commands and examples in Acts (Acts 2:38, 8:16, 10:48, 19:5) as prescriptive for the church.
2. Consistency of Apostolic Ministry: Highlighting that across various geographical locations and audiences, the apostles uniformly baptized in Jesus' Name.

C. Theological Significance of the Name of Jesus

1. Authority and Power: Baptism in Jesus' Name invokes His divine authority and power for the forgiveness of sins and impartation of salvation.
2. Identification with Jesus: It signifies personal identification with Jesus Christ – His person, His saving work, and His ownership over the believer.
3. Access to Salvation: The Name of Jesus is the means by which salvation and the blessings of the new covenant are accessed (Acts 4:12).
4. Uniqueness of the New Covenant: Distinguishing Christian baptism from other forms of ritual cleansing by its direct connection to the person and work of Jesus.

D. Distinction from Trinitarian Formulas (Historical and Theological Discussion)

1. Early Church Practice: Examination of historical evidence that suggests "Jesus Name" baptism was prevalent in the early church.
2. Theological Implications: How the "Jesus Name" formula aligns with Oneness theology's understanding of God.