

T – Two ordinances (and only two ordinances)

Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: **Matthew 28:20** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

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. **Acts 2:42** And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and **in breaking of bread**, and in prayers.

1 Corinthians 11:23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: **1 Corinthians 11:24** And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. **1 Corinthians 11:25** After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. **1 Corinthians 11:26** For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

1 Corinthians 11:1 Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ. **1 Corinthians 11:2** Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the **ordinances** (*παραδόσεις*), **as I delivered** (*καθὼς παρέδωκα*) them to you.

2 Thessalonians 2:15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the **traditions** (*τὰς παραδόσεις*) which ye have been taught, whether **by word** (*διὰ λόγου*), or our **epistle** (*δι' ἐπιστολῆς*).

Baptists, at least in the USA, have almost always used the language of ordinances.

- **What Christ has ordained**
- **What Paul has delivered &/ handed down**

Some / much of this was to avoid sacramental language and the 7 sacraments.

It was **also** done to avoid various extremes, aberrations, and primitivisms of Baptists.

So what did Christ Himself ordain?

I. The **Initial Ordinance / Rite: Baptism**

Baptists have always found their understanding of Baptism in the NT as opposed to tradition.

1. **Baptism of believers**

This was the first concept (re)discovered by Anabaptists and then Baptists.

Credo-Baptists ↔ **Paedobaptists** **Believer's baptism** ↔ **unbeliever's baptism**

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

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.

Acts 8:30 And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, **Understandest thou what thou readest?** **Acts 8:31** And he said, **How can I, except some man should guide me?** And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. **Acts 8:32** The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth: **Acts 8:33** In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth. **Acts 8:34** And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, **of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man?** **Acts 8:35** Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and **preached unto him Jesus.** **Acts 8:36** 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?** **Acts 8:37** 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. **Acts 8:38** And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and **they went down** (*κατέβησαν*) **both** (*ἀμφότεροι*) **into the water** (*εἰς τὸ ὕδωρ*), both Philip and the eunuch; **and he baptized him** (*καὶ ἐβάπτισεν αὐτόν*). **Acts 8:39** And when **they were come up** (*ἀνέβησαν*) **out of** (*ἐκ τοῦ ὕδατος*) **the water**, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing. **Acts 16:14** And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, **that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.** **Acts 16:15** And when she was baptized,

and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.

Acts 16:33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; **and was baptized**, he and all his, straightway.

Acts 16:34 And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, **believing in God with all his house**.

Acts 18:8 And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, **believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized**.

2. Baptism of believers by immersion

This concept was (re)discovered second from Scripture and from the Greek language!

The Greek NT has 3 related words – all dealing with immersing

- **βαπτίζω**: to dip, plunge, submerge, immerse
- **βαπτισμός**: dipping, plunging, immersing
- **βάπτισμα**: dipping, plunging, immersing

The Greek NT has perfectly good words for sprinkling!

- **ῥαντίζω**: to sprinkle
- **ῥαντισμός**: sprinkling

Matthew 3:6 And were baptized of him in Jordan (**ἐβαπτίζοντο ἐν τῷ Ἰορδάνῃ**), confessing their sins.

Mark 1:4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. **Mark 1:5** 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** (**ἐν τῷ Ἰορδάνῃ ποταμῷ**), confessing their sins.

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

Mark 1:9 And it came to pass in those days, that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John **in Jordan** (**εἰς τὸν Ἰορδάνην**).

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

The Greek Orthodox Church still baptizes by immersion!

3. Baptism of believers by immersion in water

This will reflect backward and forward: #2 ←----- 3 ----→ #4

Matthew 3:6 And were baptized of him in Jordan (**ἐβαπτίζοντο ἐν τῷ Ἰορδάνῃ**), **confessing** (**ἐξομολογούμενοι**) their sins.

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

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

John 4:1 When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John, **John 4:2** (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,) **John 4:3** He left Judaea, and departed again into Galilee.

Acts 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, **and preached unto him Jesus**. **Acts 8:36** 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?** **Acts 8:37** 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. **Acts 8:38** And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and **they went down** (**κατέβησαν**) **both** (**ἀμφότερου**) **into the water** (**εἰς τὸ ὕδωρ**), both Philip and the eunuch; **and he baptized him** (**καὶ ἐβάπτισεν αὐτόν**). **Acts 8:39** And when **they were come up** (**ἀνέβησαν**) **out of** (**ἐκ τοῦ ὕδατος**) **the water....**

Why do you need much water / a river?

If sprinkling was ok for Baptism, everyone carried a canteen-like container for water. Sprinkling would only require that.

4. Baptism of believers by immersion in water as a symbol and not salvific.

For the Greek Orthodox Church – Baptism is by immersion of children for salvation!!!

According to their official website: “It signifies the day you truly become a Christian.”

Romans 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were **baptized into his death?** **Romans 6:4** **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.**

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

1 Corinthians 10:2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

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.

Baptism is a symbol of:

- **Our union with Christ**
- **Identification with Christ**
- **Participation of the benefits / blessings of Christ’s death, burial, & resurrection**
- **(public) Profession of Christ and being gathered to the church**