

Born of Water and of the Spirit

5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Jn 3:5

Entirely too simple! The New Birth is not complicated enough for this generation. There is no interpretation of this verse. It says what it says, and means what it says.

There is only One Baptism into the body of Christ.

5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

Eph 4:5

It is the Spirit, the water, and the blood that agree into one baptism into the body
(1Jn 5:8)

Jesus said that entrance into the Kingdom would only be by water and Spirit. The Apostles only baptized in water by immersion in the Name of Jesus in Acts chapters 2, 8, 10, 19. It is also to be noted that in these same accounts in the book of Acts that the Spirit of God or the Holy Ghost was poured out also. All through the book of Acts it is water and Spirit.

Born of Water and of the Spirit			
Scripture	Baptized in Jesus name	Filled with the Holy Ghost	Who is Involved
Acts 2:38	x	x	Jews
Acts 8:12-17	x	x	Samaritans
Acts 9:17	x	x	The Apostle Paul
Acts 10:43-48	x	x	Gentiles
Acts 19:1-6	x	x	Disciples of John

27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Gal 3:27

13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free

1 Cor 12:13

Many have said that Water Baptism is not necessary or that it is a good work. Some say that faith alone is all that is necessary for salvation. The Word of God categorically declares these two statements as false!

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

Mk 16:16

A person with faith will be baptized! The unbeliever will not be baptized!
Jesus commanded His disciples to baptize! Not only so but Jesus and His disciples
were baptizing before Jesus died!

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

John's baptism was a water baptism by immersion and it became known to the
Pharisees that the disciples of Jesus were baptizing more people than John the
Baptist. The reason that John said that Jesus baptized is because that the disciples
were baptizing in His name.

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:
1 Pet 3:20-21

Then and Now! Noah was saved by water when the Ark that he built floated. We are
saved by water when we are baptized in the name of Jesus for the remission of sins.
The putting away of the filth of the flesh is repentance. Which is the prerequisite for
baptism in Jesus name, how can sin be remitted if people are not turned from it.

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you,
which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2 By which also ye are saved, if
ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.
3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died
for our sins according to the scriptures; 4 And that he was buried, and that he rose
again the third day according to the scriptures:
1Cor 15:1-4

According to the Apostle Paul, the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ is the
Gospel! The only Gospel!!

Baptism is by immersion

Baptize – (Thayer) to dip , to immerge, submerge – to cleanse by dipping or
submerging

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death:
Rom 6:4

12 Buried with him in baptism,
Col 2:12

- 1) We only bury the dead
- 2) The dead have no argument as to how they are buried

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. 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.
Acts 8:27-39

They went down both into the water and they came up out of the water. We do not bury by sprinkling! Also, in order for a person to be a candidate for baptism there must be repentance. Therefore, a candidate for baptism must be cognizant of their sin understanding that baptism marks the beginning of a permanent change of direction and purpose in life.

Notice the message of death, burial, and resurrection in the Epistle to the Romans chapter 6 verse 4:

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.

Compare Romans 6:4 with 2 Cor 5:17

17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

The old way of thinking and living must pass away or die.

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? ... 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.

Rom 6:1-6

Jesus taught His disciples that repentance and remission of sins were to be preached in His name – ie. We repent in Jesus name, and our sins are remitted in Jesus name.

Compare these verses:

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:

Matt 28:19

“teach all nations” – see Born Again Chart on page 1

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name
among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.
Lk 24:47

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.
Acts 2:38

The man with the “keys” buried converts in Jesus name; not in the titles.

Peter commanded Cornelius and his house to be baptized.

48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed
they him to tarry certain days.
Acts 10:48

Paul RE-baptized the disciples of John.

Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain
disciples, 2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?
And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy
Ghost. 3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said,
Unto John's baptism. 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. 5 When they heard this, they were baptized
in the name of the Lord Jesus.
Acts 19:1-5

Both Apostles Peter and Paul commanded baptism of their converts in Jesus name.

The Name of Jesus

The Name of Jesus Christ has power. To the believer that is a legitimate Heir – ie
born of Water and Spirit – the name of Jesus is sacred and a source of comfort in this
corrupt world that we are surrounded by in these last days. Jesus is the saving name
that God has given us for Himself.

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under
heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.
Acts 4:10-12

Salvation is through the Name of Jesus! Entirely too simple for this fast paced
computer generation in which we live.

11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are
justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.
1 Cor 6:9-11

Washed, Sanctified, and Justified in the Name of Jesus!

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?

Rom 10:13-14

Obviously, there is more to being saved than simply speaking the Name of Jesus. We must be instructed by a God called, God sent ministry.

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. ... 36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

Jn 3:16-18

Believing in the Name of Jesus is confidence in the character and purpose of the possessor of the Name.

14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named

Eph 3:14-15

God's family in heaven and earth is named Jesus.

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Col 3:17

The Name of Jesus brings Glory to God.

6 Therefore my people shall know my name: therefore they shall know in that day that ***I am he*** that doth speak: behold, it is I.

Is 52:6

Prophecy that God would make His Name known.

24 I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that ***I am he***, ye shall die in your sins.

Jn 8:24

Who is speaking here? It would appear that the I AM HE of Isaiah 52 is speaking!

The Name of the Father

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Is 9:6

43 I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive.

Jn 5:43

3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. ... 6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: ... 26 And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it:

Jn 17

4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

Heb1:4

How did Christ “obtain” His name? By inheritance from His Father!

13 Let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven.

Ps 148:13

Hebrews 1:4 says that the name of Jesus is “more excellent” than the angels.

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Phil 2:9-11

“Above every name” – (Thayer) the name superior to every other name

Just a little more concerning the Son and His inheritance from His Father:

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for (**ie the reason for the Name is...**) he shall save his people from their sins. 22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Matt 1:21-23

“God with us” is concerning the son that the virgin would bring forth. Jesus got his name from his Father – Jesus is God with us.

37 And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen; 38 Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.

Lk 19:37-38

Power in the Name

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Mk 16:17-18

Cast out devils

17 And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.

Lk 10:17

18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

Acts 16:18

13 Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. 14 And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. 15 And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?

Acts 19:13-15

One of the benefits of being a joint-heir with Christ is power in the spirit world through the Name of Jesus.

Healing

16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

Acts 3:16

30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

Acts 4:30

Notice – “by the name” ie through. Signs and wonders are done through the name of Jesus.

Remission of sins

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: 47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.
Lk 24:46-47

43 To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.
Acts 10:43

And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.
Acts 22:16

The privilege of prayer

10 The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.
Pro 18:10

13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.
Jn 14:13-14

16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.
Jn 15:16

Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. 24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.
Jn 16:23-24

Born of the Spirit

Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. ... 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. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

The Promise of the Father.

And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.
Luke 24:49

Where did God promise that one day man would have His Almighty Spirit in him to comfort and empower, enlighten and heal. Let's take a look at the OT for a few moments to see what the God said about the NT.

But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh
Acts 2:16-17

Peter quoted Joel 2:28

A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Eze 36:26-27

The Word will be in us.

Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.

Heb10:16-17

The Spirit is a witness to the Word.

But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jer 31:33

The NT will bring rest from the turmoil of sin.

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.

For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

Is 28:9-12

For thus saith the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not

Is 30:15

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light

Matt 11:28-30

There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.

Heb 4:9-10

The teaching of repentance from the world and sin and entering into God's rest is necessary in understanding NT salvation. We rest or cease from the works of the flesh (Gal 5:19) just as God ceased from the work of creation. Repentance ushers us into God's world. Walking in the Spirit is keeping the Sabbath in the NT.

The Power of the Holy Ghost

And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Luke 24:49

The Apostles were tarrying in Jerusalem until they received power from on high.

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 1:8

And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost ...
And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus:
and great grace was upon them all.

Acts 4:31-33

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

Rom 15:13

Compare these two verses:

For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.

1Cor 4:20

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For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Rom 14:17

Speaking in Tongues

Jesus said that one of the "signs of the believers" is that they would speak with new tongues (Mk 16:17-18). The New Testament teaching of the experience of receiving the Holy Ghost is accompanied by speaking in tongues.

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:1-4

They began to speak with other tongues – as the Spirit gave them utterance. The tongues were not directed by their own understanding, but by the Spirit of God. It should also be understood that this was a new experience for the apostles; however there was no doubt as to what it was that was happening to them. It should also be noted that after all of the people heard them speak in their own tongues about the wonderful works of God, that Peter began to preach in the standard language of the Roman Empire which was Greek. Peter did not continue to speak in other tongues during the message that day.

The Jews from Pentecost associated speaking in tongues with the infilling of the Holy Ghost.

While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God.

Acts 10:44-46

The Jews recognized that the Gentiles had received the Holy Ghost because they heard them speak with tongues. Now let's go into chapter 11 and read Peter's account of what happened:

And, behold, immediately there were three men already come unto the house where I was, sent from Caesarea unto me. And the Spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house: And he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter; Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved. And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning. Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost. Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?

Acts 11:11-17

Peter is saying here that the Gentiles received the Spirit in the same manner as they did on the day of Pentecost. Now let's go to some of Paul's works in chapter 19 of the book of Acts:

And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus:and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. 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. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

Acts 19:1-6

These Apostles were looking for the same experience in their converts that they themselves had received.

Jesus said that we must be born again – Repentance, Water and Spirit baptism.

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Acts 19:1-6	x	x	Disciples of John