

How Baptism Saves You

1 Pet 3:21 — To be baptized into the Body (1 Cor 12:12-13) “saves you” in that it sets you apart from the world (1 Cor 1:2; 2 Cor 6:17-18) in order to become “saints” — i.e., become holy. This is what Paul was describing in 1 Cor 1:2, and this happens in every place that is as verse 10, not verse 13 (Mal 1:11; 1 Ths 1:8; 1 Tim 2:8, etc.), where all who have true faith are saved from the penalty of sin. That faith is the persuasion of the Holy Spirit (Rom 10:8-10,13,16,17; 1 Cor 12:13; Rom 6:3-11), and those who have that faith are no longer slaves of selfishness (Acts 2:44; 2 Cor 5:15; Mt 28:19-20; Acts 2:38).

Acts 8:36-37 — What the Ethiopian meant here was true baptism, as Philip had explained it to him on the way, since he needed a sent one to explain it (Acts 8:28-31, as in Acts 2:40-41). So for a long time Philip explained to him what Peter had said to the multitudes on the day of Pentecost before they could be baptized into Messiah and His Body on earth (Acts 8:12-13; 16:15,33; 18:8; 19:3-5; 22:16; Rom 6:3; 1 Cor 10:2; Gal 3:27).

Baptism is the response of faith, which faith saves you (Eph 2:8-10), being the initial confession of the faith one has heard and received (Rom 10:17, as Mt 13:15). *Received* means to come into possession of faith, the persuasion of the Holy Spirit, and accept it as truth. All who believed obeyed 100%, with their hands and feet, eyes and ears, heart, mind, and mouth. Full and total participation in the Community is not optional, as in Acts 2:42-45. It was *all* who believed or received faith (the persuasion of the Holy Spirit) who lived together and were one Body. That produces *synergy*, with no independence on the part of those truly baptized (Mk 16:16, #907) into the Body (1 Cor 12:12; Eph 2:10; 4:16; Col 2:19).

Acts 2:40-42,44-46 — All who *believed* in verse 44 were as those in Acts 4:32-34. *Believe* is #4100, which is from #4102, which is from #3982, which means to be

persuaded (Acts 13:43), which is to be moved in spirit and soul to obey the gospel message (Acts 5:32; 2 Ths 1:8; Jn 3:36). To “believe not” in Jn 3:36, KJV (#544), means to not be persuaded, hence to *disobey* the Word. Those in Acts 14:1 *were* persuaded to obey, but the Jews in verse 2 *were not* persuaded to obey, being stiff-necked and disobedient (Rom 10:21; Heb 3:18; Rom 2:8; 1 Pet 3:20; Jn 3:36).

Baptism means being joined to those who are sanctified in Messiah Yahshua and called to become holy (1 Cor 1:2). In 1 Pet 3:20, all who got on the Ark were saved, and verse 21 is the antitype, the visible representation of being delivered from sin and death by being immersed into Messiah’s Body (1 Cor 12:13). Being immersed is being fully identified with the One who has delivered them (Rom 6:3-5). Mk 16:16 — He that believes and is baptized shall be saved, but he that disobeys shall be condemned. Jn 3:18 and 36 make this perfectly clear for all who, after they have heard, refuse to be persuaded. *Disbelieve* in Mk 16:16 is #569, to put no confidence in what is heard.