

Understanding Baptism

Text: John 1:24-34, 4:1-2, Matt 3:1-17

Main Idea: All true believers are invisibly united with Christ through Spirit baptism & are commanded to be visibly identified with Christ through water baptism.

- 1. For Israel:** A unique ceremony that called Israel to prepare their hearts to receive the Messiah evidenced by _____ & _____. (v. 24-26, 31, Matt 3:1-12, Acts 19:4)
- 2. For Jesus:** A ceremony that was fitting as an _____ & to fulfill all _____. (v. 32-33, Matt 3:13-17, Is 53:11)
- 3. For Us:** An _____ & _____ ceremony that unites & identifies us with Christ & the Church. (v. 33c, Matt 28:19)
 - **By Grace - Spirit baptism** is performed by Jesus immersing _____ true believers into the body of Christ & filling them with the Holy Spirit in _____! (v. 33c, Matt 3:11, 1 Cor 12:13-14, Acts 2:32, Rom 8:9-10, Gal 3:26-28, Jn 7:37-39)
 - **By Obedience - Water baptism** is performed by the Church for those who truly repent & believe in Christ (NOT INFANTS), not as a saving act but an act of obedience _____ union with Christ in His death, burial & resurrection! (4:1-2, Acts 2:38-41, 8:12, 10:47-48, Rom 6:3, Col 2:12)

True Believer: Why haven't you been baptized?

- Because of _____.
- Because of _____.
- Because of _____.
- Because of _____.
- Because you are _____ (unsaved).

The next baptism at Ebenezer is March 25. Contact either Pastor Tim (tim@aplaceforyou.org) or Pastor Dick (dick@aplaceforyou.org) if you desire to be baptized.