

# WHY WE BAPTIZE IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

By John M. Bell

When we baptize converts, we baptize them by immersion in the Name of Jesus Christ. We do so because we sincerely believe this is the Scriptural way to be baptized.

**FIRST**, this is the only way the Apostles baptized in the Book of Acts.

Acts 2:38, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins . . ."

Acts 8:16, ". . . only they were baptized in the Name of the Lord."

Acts 10:48, "And he commanded them to be baptized in the Name of the Lord."

Acts 19:5, "When they heard this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus."

**SECONDLY**, we find no where in the Bible where the commonly used formula of "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost" was ever used or where anyone was ever baptized by this formula. The disciples used the NAME and not the TITLES.

**THIRDLY**, according to Church History the use of the titles "Father, Son, and Holy Ghost" in baptism was not known in the first two centuries of the Church, but was instituted in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries after the development of the DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY. Thus, it becomes TRADITION as compared to the TRUTH of the Bible.

**FOURTHLY**, we believe that Acts 2:38 is the fulfillment of the Lord's command in Matthew 28:19 when He commanded His disciples to baptize . . . "in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." The NAME of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost is . . . . JESUS.

The **FATHER'S** name is Jesus – John 5:43, "I am come in my FATHER's Name and ye receive me not."

The **SON'S** name is Jesus – Matt. 1:21, "Thou shalt call His name Jesus, and He shall save His people from their sins."

The **HOLY GHOST** comes in the name of JESUS – John 14:26, ". . . the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in MY name."

JESUS is God's NAME for this Grace Dispensation, the ONE NAME that covers the titles of Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. God has put this Name, JESUS, above all names (Philippians 2:9-10). Therefore, when we are baptized in the Name of JESUS, we are baptized in the name of which Jesus was speaking in Matt. 28:19. Have you been baptized in the NAME or in the TITLES?

**FIFTHLY**, the Bible commands us to do ALL we do in WORD or DEED in the NAME of the Lord Jesus, Col. 3:17. Water baptism is both word and deed.

**SIXTHLY**, we are ALL commanded to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, Acts 2:38, "Repent and be baptized EVERY ONE OF YOU in the Name of Jesus Christ."

**LASTLY**, this is a TRUTH of God's Word just as much as receiving the Holy Ghost and speaking with tongues. Just as many are now having their spiritual eyes opened to the TRUTH of speaking with tongues, so many shall also see the TRUTH of baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ. May God lead us out of TRADITION into His TRUTH!

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