

#### Balance

## Is water baptism necessary in order to be saved?

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,

Ephesians 2:1 NIV

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

Ephesians 2:4,5 NIV

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.

Ephesians 2:9 NIV

If baptism isn't essential for salvation, then why is it important at all?

The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

After this, Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside, where he spent some time with them, and baptized.

John 3:22 NIV

Now John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were coming and being baptized.

John 3:23 NIV

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:20 NIV

#### Pentecost

Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

#### Belief comes before baptism.

But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Acts 8:12 NIV

As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?"

Acts 8:36 NIV

And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

Acts 8:38 NIV

## Baptism is a picture of what we believe.

We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Romans 6:4 NIV

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection li

## Baptism is a profession of what we believe.

# Baptism isn't a profession of perfection.

#### Baptism is a step of obedience.

### Baptism is our declaration of a new association.

# What's keeping you from it? Be baptized.