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Understand Water Baptism and How To Receive It

Baptism is not a “sacrament” but **an ordinance**. **The only valid form of water baptism is baptism by immersion**. The model of The Scripture establishes the proof of this. In Matthew 3:16 we read: “And Jesus, when he was baptized **went up straightway out of the water**, and lo, the heavens were opened unto Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on Him.” One cannot go “up straightway out of the water” **unless one first goes straightway down under the water**. This is the example that the Holy Spirit gives us in The Scriptures and therefore the example that must be complied with. Baptism by water-sprinkling, common in some denominations, is **not** a valid form of water baptism and is pagan in origin. Infant baptism by sprinkling is also not a valid form of baptism.

Two requirements for water baptism by immersion are established in the Bible:

1. **Repent** and be baptized. (Acts 2:38)
2. **Believe** and be baptized. (Mark 16:16)

You can readily see, then, that infant baptism is invalid because an infant can neither repent or believe because their maturity and understanding of the things of The Holy Spirit are not yet developed. When a child reaches an age where he/she is able to understand that the word “repent” means to turn from sin and that the word “believe” means to trust on The Christ alone, then it is reasonable to permit water baptism by immersion. Note that in the Book of Acts, Paul **re-baptized** people because of their **lack of understanding**.

Water baptism as a practice was the **first order of deliverance** (exorcism) in the early body of Christ, the so-called “church”. The scriptural basis for this is found in Romans 6:3-7:

*“ Know you not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore **we are buried to 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**.” For if we have been planted together (with Him) to the likeness of His death, we shall be also to the likeness of His resurrection. Knowing this, that **our old man was crucified ** with Him**, that the body of **sin may-be-being-nullified**, that **we should not be enslaved to sin**. For he that is dead is freed from sin.”*

*** literally, "together impaled with Him".*

This verse demonstrates to us clearly that going down under the water in immersion baptism causes us to enter into Christ's death to Him, and coming up out of the water permits us to arise spiritually resurrected into newness of life, literally a New Creation. Under the water, all sin and its consequences are put in Christ's death work of the cross. Scripture tells us that all disease is the consequence of personal or generational sin of ancestors. Sin is also the legal ground for the presence of demonic oppression and ministry in the soul-man and soul-life (thought life) of believers. Breaking generations' curses (Exo.20:5; Lev. 26:40-44) and repenting of the sins of our forefathers on both sides of our parents two families and those of our spouses as well as those of anyone from the past with whom you might have had an intimate relationship, personal repentance of sin, and breaking of the curses incurred by personal sin, all prepare the believer for deliverance. Any sin, broken curse, unholy sinful habit or practice or behavior, all can be confessed and put in the death work of the cross. All of these things are carried out by demonic spirits, and the "hook" by which they "hold on" and remain present in the individual are the sins of the flesh of the ancestors or the person himself. When the believer goes down under the water, the assigned familiar or acquired demonic spirits are carried below with the person, and just as the believer then has a spiritual direct encounter with The Christ, under the water, so do the unholy spirits he/she brings down under the water with them. This direct encounter with Christ, putting the sins and curses in the death work of the cross, breaks the hooks that evil spirits hold onto. It is nothing less than shocking for a demonic spirit to have a direct encounter with The Christ and it fills them with terror and they flee. I once unknowingly immersed an unsaved person who claimed to be saved, instructing him about what would happen to the demonic spirits once he went under. He came up out of the water in rage and anger, as those spirits manifested through him. They had had an encounter with Christ and did not like it one bit. He then heard the Gospel, got saved and was re-baptized. Before you go down under the water, **take the following steps to receive deliverance and healing as well:**

1. Confess and repent for your sins and those of all ancestral lines as described above (give some attention to this), acknowledging to Father God that by their practice of sin, **they acted in hostility to Him** (Lev,26:40-44) and grieved His Holy Spirit, as did you, ask for forgiveness for them and for you, and forgive and release them and yourself.
2. **Make a list of habits, sinful attitudes, habitual sin practices, physical or emotional problems, physical or emotional diseases, addictions, sins, or workings of demonic spirits that you desire to put in the death work of the cross. Read them aloud in a low voice or under your breath, and before you are immersed below the water, say "I give them to You, Lord Jesus to put in the death work of the cross, in Your Name."**

3. **When you enter the water, declare** (Job 22:28) by faith the things on the list that you want to put in the death work of the cross, and **declare that you surrender them directly to The Lord Jesus Christ** to put in the death work of the cross, backing your faith- confession of the same **with faith on Him** and **holy expectation** *that you do receive*, (Heb.3:1 and Heb. 4:14) ending with "I declare all in Your Holy Name, Lord Jesus Christ. So be these things now in Christ Jesus' Name, Father." Then, permit the person baptizing you to immerse you totally under water.
4. Stay down under the water for at least 3-4 seconds before coming up. Your body must be totally submerged. If even a fingertip remains above water, the baptism is not valid and must be done again. Position in going under the water is not important, but total immersion is important.
5. Upon coming up out of the water, give The Lord thanksgiving, praise and glory for what He has done for you and walk in your new freedom, healing and deliverance from disease and demonic oppression by faith on Him.
6. In the uncommon circumstance in which one does not see the healing and deliverance come forth, suspect a legal ground from a yet- unrecognized and unbroken generations' curse. A Spiritual Inventory is available from this Ministry to aid in identifying it . Then re- baptize. ***Please read again several times to fully understand . Please read the Scripture references.***