

# Baptism in Water

by Zac Poonen

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*Jesus commanded baptism in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, emphasizing the importance of repentance and discipleship.*

**Scripture:** Matthew 28:19, Mark 10:13, John 4:1, Acts 2:38

**Topics:** "Water Baptism", "Repentance"

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## Description

Zac Poonen emphasizes the importance of following Jesus' command to make disciples, baptize them, and teach obedience to His commands. He contrasts the biblical practice of baptizing repentant adults with the modern tradition of baptizing infants and performing confirmations on adults, highlighting the need for true repentance and understanding of God's Word before baptism. The sermon underscores the significance of intelligent reception of God's Word and repentance before being baptized, as seen in the Acts of the Apostles.

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## Transcript

One of the last things Jesus commanded His disciples before ascending up to heaven was to: (i) Go and make disciples; (ii) baptize them in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; and (iii) teach them to obey everything that He had commanded. The order is important here. Only those who were willing to become disciples were to be baptized. No one else.

When babies were brought to Jesus, He laid His hands on their heads and blessed them (See Mark 10:13-16). However, when repentant adults came to Him, He baptized them through His disciples (See Jn. 4:1,2).

But today what do we see in many `churches'? Quite the opposite. Babies are baptized; and hands are laid on the heads of the adults (`confirmation')! This is the exact opposite of what Jesus did.

On the day of Pentecost, when many were convicted of their sin, Peter told them to "repent and be baptized." The record goes on to say that "those who received his word were baptized " (Acts 2:38,41).

It is clear that only those who were capable of intelligently receiving God's Word and of repentance were baptized. And that's how it was in every single instance recorded in the `Acts of the Apostles'.

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