

WHY I AM A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST #17

I Am A Member Of The Church Of Christ Because...

IT PRACTICES BIBLE (SCRIPTURAL) BAPTISM.

Denominational churches practice a “baptism” that is not authorized in the Bible and also is not for the right reason. Some sprinkle and some pour, while some do not use water at all!

Bible baptism involves only those who have been **Taught the Gospel** (Matt. 28:19-20). Jesus said, “*It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me*” (John 6:45).

Bible (Scriptural) baptism is only for those who **Believe** in Jesus as the saviour, the Son of God (Mark 16:16; Acts 8:37). Babies cannot believe!

Bible baptism is only for those who **Repent of their sins** (Acts 2:38). Babies cannot repent! They have nothing to repent of since they have never sinned (Matt. 19:14).

Bible baptism is only for those who **Confess Faith in Jesus as the Christ the Son of God** (Acts 8:37). Babies cannot talk or confess Christ!

Bible baptism is **Immersion in water** (Acts 8:36-39; Rom. 6:4-5; Col. 2:12). There is no command, example or anything implied in the Scriptures that would include sprinkling or pouring as baptism. The Greek word *baptizo* (from which baptize/baptism is translated) demands immersion — a burial. Sprinkling or pouring cannot fulfill the Bible’s requirement of water baptism. Those

who have had water sprinkled or poured on them have never been baptized. This is not opinion. It is fact. No one can change the Word of God.

Bible baptism is **For the remission (forgiveness) of sins** (Acts 2:38; 3:19; Mark 16:16). Saul of Tarsus was baptized in order to have his sins washed away (Acts 22:16). That’s what baptism does. First Peter 3:21 says, “*...Baptism doth also now save us...*” This is so with every person converted (baptized) in the New Testament. And, it is so with every person baptized today.

Water baptism saves (1 Peter 3:21). It is the act/point at which one enters into Christ where salvation is located (2 Tim. 2:10; Rom. 6:3,18; Gal. 3:27). Baptism is into Christ’s death (where the Lord shed his blood) and it is by being baptized (immersed) into water, into his death, that we contact His saving blood (Rom. 6:3-6,17-18). Water baptism is when our sins are washed away by his blood (Rom. 6:3-6,18; Acts 22:16).

There is **One baptism** (Eph. 4:5). It is to be preached and practiced till the Lord comes again (Matt. 28:18-20).

Have you been baptized according to the Bible? Does the church of which you are a member practice Bible baptism? If not, then “*...come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord...and I will receive you*” (2 Cor. 6:17). Check out the church of Christ.

Don’t resist the Word of the Lord: **study** it (2 Tim. 2:15; Acts 17:11), and **obey** it (1 Peter 1:22-23; Heb. 5:8-9). There’s no other way to be saved.

— Garland M. Robinson