

# The Christian Arsenal

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## THOUGHTS ON BAPTISM & THE LORD'S SUPPER

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Romans 6:4

### BAPTISM

*“For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.”* Romans 6:4 (NLT)

### WHAT IS BAPTISM?

#### 1. AN OUTWARD SIGN OF AN INWARD CHANGE.

*“Those who become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, for the old life is gone. A new life has begun.”* 2 Cor. 5:17 (NLT)

#### 2. AN ACT OF OBEDIENCE.

*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son 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.”* Matt. 28:19-20 (NIV)

#### 3. A PICTURE OF THE DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS.

*“... Christ died for our sins ... was buried ... and He was raised from the dead...”* I Cor. 5:3-4 (NLT)

### WHAT IS THE BIBLICAL PATTERN OF BAPTISM?

#### 1. IT ALWAYS FOLLOWS BELIEF.

The Early Church Pattern:

- Taught
- Believed
- Baptized

*“Those who believed what Peter said were baptized...”* Acts 2:41 (NLT)

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*“But now the people believed Philip’s message of good news concerning the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ. As a result many men and women were baptized.” Acts 8:12 (NLT)*

*“As she listened to us, the Lord opened her heart, and she accepted what Paul was saying. She was baptized...” Acts 16:14b-15 (NLT)*

*“Then they shared the word of the Lord with him and all who lived in his household. That same hour the jailer washed their wounds, and he and everyone in his household were immediately baptized.” Acts 16:32-33 (NLT)*

## 2. IT ALWAYS IS BY IMMERSION

*“...they went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water ...” Acts 8:38-39 (NLT)*

Greek word “*baptizo*”

Baptize literally means to:

- Immerse
- Dip
- Submerge
- Plunge

## WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

### 1. AS A DEMONSTRATION THAT I WILL FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS.

*“One day Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and he was baptized by John in the Jordan River.” Mark 1:9 (NLT)*

### 2. AS A DISPLAY OF MY NEW LIFE IN CHRIST.

*“For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with Him you were raised to a new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead. You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ. He forgave all our sins. He took it and destroyed it by nailing it to Christ’s cross.” Colossians 2:12-14 (NLT)*

### 3. IT’S THE RIGHT STEP AFTER BELIEVING

*“As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. Why shouldn’t I be baptized?”*

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*“Then Philip said, If you believe with all your heart, you may. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”*

*“So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.” Acts 8:36-38 (NKJV)*

## THE MEANING OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Jesus never asked His disciples to remember His birth, but He did instruct them to remember His death and resurrection.

The Lord’s Supper is an object lesson that represents a great spiritual truth.

## OTHER NAMES USED TO DESCRIBE THE LORD’S SUPPER

- Communion
- Eucharist
- Sacraments

## DIFFERENT THEOLOGICAL ISSUES ABOUT THE LORD’S SUPPER

- Transubstantiation
- Consubstantiation
- Symbol

## WHAT IS THE LORD’S SUPPER

I Cor. 11:23-26

### 1. IT IS A SIMPLE ACT NOT AN ELABORATE CEREMONY.

*“The Lord Jesus, on the night He was betrayed, took bread...” (v. 23)*

### 2. IT IS A REMINDER.

*“... and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, This is my body, which is for you; eat it in remembrance of me.” (v. 20)*

### 3. IT IS A SYMBOL

*“In the same way, He took the cup saying This cup is the new covenant in my blood; drink it to remember me.” (v. 25)*

### 4. IT IS A STATEMENT OF FAITH

*“For whenever you eat the bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes back.” (v. 26)*

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## WHO SHOULD TAKE THE LORD'S SUPPER?

Only those who are believers.

*"For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment upon himself." 2 Cor. 11:29*

## HOW DO I PREPARE MYSELF FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER?

*"Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A person ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup." 1 Cor. 11:27-28*

- **SELF-EXAMINATION**

1 Cor. 11:28 – *"But let a man examine himself ..."*

- **CONFESSING MY SIN**

1 John 1:9 – *"If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

- **RECOMMITMENT**

Romans 12:1 – *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service."*

- **RESTORATION OF RELATIONSHIPS**

Matt. 5:23-24 – *"Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift."*

## WHEN AND HOW OFTEN SHOULD WE OBSERVE THE LORD'S SUPPER?

Jesus never said when or how often believers should observe the Lord's Supper.

1 Cor. 11:26 – *"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes."*

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He instituted it on a Thursday night.