What Does The Bible Say About Baptism?
by Mark Legendre

There are a lot of different ideas in the religious world about the subject of ***BAPTISM***!

Is baptism "*sprinkling, pouring, or immersion*?

Is baptism "*necessary for salvation*?"

Is the baptism of "*babies*" acceptable to God?

THE BIBLE HAS THE ANSWERS TO ALL OF THESE QUESTIONS!

But someone might say, *"What difference does it really make as to how a person is baptized, for what reason they are baptized, or who is baptized?*

It makes all the difference in the world if ***"GOD MEANS WHAT HE SAYS***!"

Look at these examples:

1. Nadab & Abihu (Lev. 10:3-1 / Ex. 30:9)
2. Moses (Num. 20:7-12 / Dt. 34:4-5)
3. The Sabbath (Num. 15:32-36 / Ex. 31:12-18)

"WHAT IS THE CORRECT MODE OF BAPTISM?"

(Is it sprinkling, pouring, or immersion?)

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

Jn. 3:23 - "much water"

Acts 8:35-39 - "went down into the water."

Mt. 3:16-17 - "come up out of the water."

Rom. 6:3-4 - "buried with Christ in baptism."

Col.2:12 - "buried with Christ in baptism."

ONLY "IMMERSION" FITS THE DESCRIPTION GIVEN IN THE BIBLE!

VINE'S GREEK DICTIONARY SAYS: (Gr. > Baptisma")

"Consisting of the processes of immersion, submersion, and emergence."

"Immersion" **=** "Going down into the water."

"Submersion" = Going under the water."

"*Emergence"* = "Coming up out of the water."

Look at the example of Acts 8:35-39 to see this process taking place. (This is how Jesus Himself was baptized. > Mt. 3:16-17)

What do the "human creed books" say about *baptism* as far as the mode is concerned?

(The Presbyterian Church)

Dipping of the person into the water is not necessary; but baptism is rightly administered by pouring or sprinkling water upon the person."

Webster's Dictionary says this about baptism: *"The religious ceremony of taking a person into a Christian church by dipping him in water or sprinkling water on him."*

THE BIBLE CLEARLY SHOWS HOWEVER THAT BAPTISM IS TO BE BY IMMERSION ONLY!

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF BIBLE BAPTISM?

Acts 2:38 - "for the remission of sins."

Acts 22:16 - "wash away your sins."

Galatians 3:26-27 - "have put on Christ."

Mark 16:16 - "shall be saved."

1 Peter 3:21 - "baptism doth also now save us."

1 Cor. 12:13 - "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body." (Acts 2:47)

Bible baptism therefore is *for the remission of sins, to wash away sins, to put on Christ, to be saved, and in order to be put into the body of Christ.*

WHAT DO THE HUMAN CREED BOOKS SAY ABOUT THE PURPOSE OF BAPTISM!

The Presbyterian Creed

"Although it be a great sin to condemn or neglect this ordinance, yet grace and salvation are not so inseparably annexed unto it as that no person can be regenerated or saved without it, or that all that are baptized are undoubtedly regenerated."

A Layman's Guide To Baptist Beliefs

"Baptism is not the means by which an individual obtains salvation; the doctrine of baptismal regeneration is completely antithetical to the teaching of God's word. The great Baptists of the past put it this way: Baptism is an outward expression of an inward experience."

In explaining Acts 2:38, the comment is made, "Here Peter is telling those Jews that the moment they repented, they were to be baptized because their sins had been remitted. It was on the basis of their repentance, not their baptism, that remission of sins became a reality in their lives."

The Baptist Church does not believe that baptism is necessary for salvation!