



*Buried & Raised
with Christ*

Baptism in the Ancient World

- **Baptize** (βαπτίζω; *baptizō*): to dip, plunge, immerse, submerge something or someone in/under water
- In the ANE, to *baptize* could range from plunging a hot sword into cold water, to dipping a consecrated vessel in water, to ceremonial cleansing of a person or object
- Both pagans and Jews had various religious forms of ritual cleansing to signify purity and dedication
- NT authors viewed OT events as prefiguring Christian baptism—signifying salvation from wickedness, deliverance from slavery, and a cleansing from all sins



1st Century
Qumran
(Dead Sea)
Miqvots





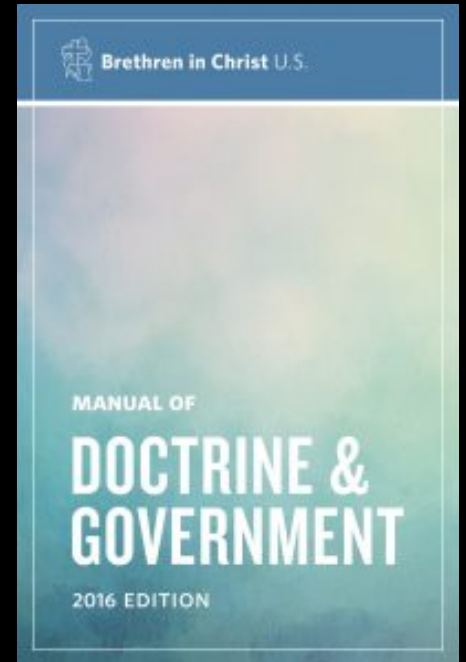
Acts 2:37-38 NLT – The Response to Peter's Sermon

³⁷ Peter's words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸ Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

BIC Manual of Doctrine & Government (2016)

Life of the Church: Ordinances & Practices

“The baptism of believers is a public witness that they have received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and are becoming a part of the community of faith. We believe that baptism by immersion symbolizes the believer’s submission to Jesus Christ and identification with his death and resurrection.” (pg. 14)



Paul, Romans 6:1-11 NLT

¹ Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? ² Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? ³ Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? ⁴ 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.

⁵ Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. ⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. ⁷ For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. ⁸ And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him.

⁹ We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. ¹⁰ When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. ¹¹ So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.



The background is a dramatic painting of a stormy sea. Dark, turbulent waves are visible in the foreground and middle ground, rendered in shades of deep blue and purple. A bright, glowing light source, possibly the sun or moon, is positioned in the upper center, breaking through a layer of white, misty clouds. The light creates a strong lens flare effect, illuminating the scene and casting a path of light across the water's surface. The overall mood is one of hope and divine intervention amidst chaos.

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