

## GRANT COUNTY CHURCH OF CHRIST

### Forty-one Reasons You Should Be Baptized

A believer's baptism is an important moment in his spiritual life according to the Bible. Study the following references on the subject. If you are a believer and have never obeyed Christ in baptism you should do so right away!

1. **Because Jesus commanded it** (Matthew 28:19).
2. **Because Jesus modeled it** (Matthew 3:13-15).
3. **Because baptism is coupled with faith and linked to salvation in the teaching of Jesus** (Mark 16:16).
4. **Because baptism is linked with repentance and the forgiveness of sins in the teaching of the Apostles** (Acts 2:38).
5. **Because baptism is essential to receiving the "Gift of the Holy Spirit"** (Acts 2:38). See also Acts 19:3-5
6. **Because in baptism our sins are washed away** (Acts 22:16), not by the water, but by the blood of Jesus.
7. **Because in baptism we call on the name of the Lord** (Acts 22:16).
8. **Because in baptism we are brought into spiritual contact with the blood of Jesus** (Romans 6:3).
9. **Because in baptism we act out the burial of Jesus** (Romans 6:4).
10. **Because in baptism we act out the resurrection of Jesus** (Rom. 6:4).
11. **Because in baptism we begin a new life in Christ.** (Romans 6:4).
12. **Because in baptism we come "into Jesus Christ" where there is salvation and blessing** (Romans 6:3; Gal. 3:27).
13. **Because in baptism we demonstrate our hope in the resurrection of the righteous** (Romans 6:5).
14. **Because in baptism we "put on Christ"** (Galatians 3:27).
15. **Because baptism completes the new birth** (Jno.3:3-5).
16. **Because being born of water and the Spirit is essential to entering Christ's kingdom of salvation** (John 3:5).
17. **Because in baptism we experience the circumcision of Christ** in which the sins of the flesh are removed in the sight of God. (Colossians 2:11-12).
18. **Because in baptism we are "raised with Him"** (Col. 2:12).
19. **Because baptism is a necessary prerequisite to be counted among the followers of Christ** (Acts 2:41).
20. **Because even Holy Spirit baptism is no substitute for**
21. **Because there is no substitute for Christian baptism** (Acts 19:3-5).
22. **Because when people in the first century believed the Gospel they were baptized immediately** (Acts 8:36; 19:5).
23. **Because baptism was a prominent part of the preaching about Jesus** (Acts 8:35-36).
24. **Because if one believes that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, there is nothing to hinder his baptism** (Acts 8:38-37).
25. **Because baptism leads to a realization that one has obeyed the Lord, hence to joy** (Acts 8:39).
26. **Because baptism, being the final act of a series of initial responses to the Gospel, saves us** (1 Peter 3:21).
27. **Because in baptism one is following the prompting of a good conscience** (1 Peter 3:21).
28. **Because we are baptized in the name (by the authority) of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit** (Matthew 28:19).
29. **Baptism is the natural result of having believed the preaching of the good news about the Kingdom of God** (Acts 8:12).
30. **Because baptism is required of all believers** (Acts 8:12; 1 Cor 12:13).
31. **Because we are baptized in (or into) the name of the Lord and King Jesus** (Acts 8:16).
32. **Because miraculous healing is no substitute for obedience in baptism** (Acts 9:18).
33. **Because baptism is the natural response of a heart opened by the Lord** (Acts 16:14-15).
34. **Because baptism is coupled with faith in the reports of salvation in the book of Acts** (Acts 18:8).
35. **Because baptism is the antitype of the crossing of the Red Sea** (1Corinthians 10:2).

36. **Because baptism is the antitype of the waters of Noah's flood** (1 Peter 3:20-21).
37. **Because baptism is the result of the work of the Spirit on the heart mind through the Word** (1 Corinthians 12:13).
38. **Because there is One Baptism** "One Lord, one faith, one baptism" (Ephesians 4:5).
39. **Because before we draw near in our service as priests to God, our bodies must be washed as well as hearts sprinkled** (Hebrews 10:22).
40. **Because baptism is one of three contemporary witnesses to the deity of Christ** (1 John 5:8).
41. **Because baptism is the gracious provision of a gracious God** (Titus 3:5).

In view of these 41 Biblical reasons, why not decide this very hour to *"Arise and be baptized, washing away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord"* (Acts 22:16).

(This is a slightly condensed and edited version of an article by Dr. James E. Smith from the October 1995 issue of the Restoration Herald).

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**"tell us again why you don't attend the services of the church!"**