

God Introduced Baptism to Israel

- *The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. 2 As it is written in the Prophets:*
- *John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. 5 Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. Mk 1:1-5*

God Introduced Jesus to Israel

- Jesus made known to Israel through baptism.
- *“I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water.” 32 And John bore witness, saying, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. 33 I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ 34 And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.” Jn 1:31-34*

God knows End from the Beginning

Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,' Isa 46:9-10

God knew of the controversies that would arise due to this ordinance.

Jesus did not introduce baptism at the end of his life! Baptism was already being practiced

What God Made Clear with John's Baptism

- God linked baptism to repentance - Can't be for infants
- God linked baptism to remission of sins.
- God linked baptism to water.
- God linked baptism to immersion.
- God linked baptism to Jesus.
- God linked baptism to being disciples.
- This was all done before Jesus began His work.
- God wanted His people to clearly understand the nature and purpose of this new ordinance.

John's Baptism – From Isaiah

- *“He went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet.” (Lk 3:3-4)*
- As John was *“preaching a “baptism of repentance” and “the remission of sins”* it was *“as it is written in Isaiah.”* When John preached, it was *“like as, even as, according as, in the same manner as”* Isaiah had said it would be.

Jesus Also Baptized along with John

- *After these things Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea, and there He remained with them and baptized. 23 Now John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was much water there. And they came and were baptized. 24 For John had not yet been thrown into prison. ... 26 And they came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified — behold, He is baptizing, and all are coming to Him!" Jn. 3:22-24, 26*

Jesus Made/Baptized more

- *Therefore, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John 2 (though Jesus Himself did not baptize, but His disciples), 3 He left Judea and departed again to Galilee. 4 But He needed to go through Samaria. John 4:1-4*
- Disciples were made through baptism
- Jesus was making / baptizing more disciples than John.
- How could God have made it any clearer?

Jesus Own Words About John's Baptism

- *And when all the people heard Him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. 30 But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him. Lk. 7:29-30*
- It was not faith in John's preaching, but their baptism that "*justified*" / "*declared God just:*"
- Rejecting John's baptism they "*rejected the will /purpose/counsel of God*" not being baptized
- If Jesus felt that way about John's what about His?

What Did Jesus Do with Baptism?

- Look at the beginning and end of Mark:
- *The **beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ**, the Son of God. As it is written in the Prophets... **John came baptizing** in the wilderness and **preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins**. Then **all the land of Judea**, and those from **Jerusalem**, went out to him and **were all baptized by him***
- *And He said to them, “Go into **all the world and preach the gospel to every creature**. He who **believes and is baptized will be saved**; but he who does not believe will be condemned.*

God Had Already Explained

- While many act like the words of Jesus stand alone or that the apostles were only hearing these things for the first time, that is not the case.
- Israel already knew God had placed baptism into the gospel through John's preaching.
- They knew it was connected to repentance and to the remission of sins, and they also understood that everyone was commanded to do it.

Making Disciples and Baptism

- *And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and **make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Mt. 28:18-19)*
- After all the authority given to Moses and the Prophets was taken from them and given to Jesus (Heb 1:1-3)
- Jesus linked making disciples and baptism in the same way that God had done with John.

Beginning and End of Luke

- *And he went into all the region around the Jordan, **preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins**, 4 as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying: Luke 3:3-4*
- *Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and **that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations**, beginning at Jerusalem. Lk. 24:46-47*

Beginning at Jerusalem ... Acts 2

- *they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” Then Peter said to them, “**Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins... those who received his word were baptized**”*
- God made it clear! Nothing changed except the power of baptism became much greater!

Baptism and Remission of Sins

- John preached a “baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.” (Mk 1:5)
- Peter preached “repent and be baptized for the remission of sins.” (Acts 2:38)
- Jesus said: ‘*My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*’ (Mt. 26:28)
- Remission of sins always linked to baptism.

Baptism and becoming Disciples

- Jesus was “making and baptizing more disciples than John (Jn. 4:1)
- The apostles were to: “make disciples of all nations baptizing them” (Mt. 28:19)
- Baptism and becoming a disciple have always been linked together.

Baptism and Immersion in Water

- *'I came baptizing with water.'* *'He who sent me to baptize with water'* *'John baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was much water there.'* *'all baptized by him in the Jordan River,'* (Jn. 1:31,33; 3:23; Mk. 1:5)
- *'See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?'* *'Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him'* *'Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized'* (Acts 8:36, 38; 10:47)