

## Bible Q and A

### Question # 3; Is baptism necessary for salvation?

**Answer:** First let us understand what baptism is. Baptism is a burial of the old man of sin in a person's life (cf. Rom. 6:1-11). Paul said, "*Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be done away...*" (Rom. 6:6). The original Greek meaning of the word baptism is to submerge. One can only submerge another where there is "*much water*" (see Jn. 3:23). When one is baptized they are submerged in water (cf. Acts 8:5, 12, 35; 9:17; 10:36ff etc.).

Secondly, let us understand the reason for baptism. Baptism is "*for the remission of sins*" (Acts 2:38). Ananias once said to Saul of Tarsus, "*And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on his name*" (Acts 22:16). The apostle Peter tells us that we come in contact with the forgiving sacrifice of Jesus' blood and the clearing of our conscience of sin through baptism (compare I Peter 3:20-21 and Hebrews 9:13-14).

Is baptism necessary for salvation? The answer is very clear when reading the Bible. Yes! Some; however, as they read this article will fit Jesus' description of the hard hearted when he said that they shall, "*see*" and "*hear*" yet their "*heart is waxed gross and their ears dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest haply they should perceive with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should turn again and I should heal them*" (Matt. 13:15). Dear friend, the only way that you can be healed from the disease of sin is through the blood of Christ and the only way to take advantage of the blood of Christ is through baptism and obedience to his will. Have you been baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for the remission of your sins (see Matt 28:19)?

If you would like to discuss this subject further please do write an e-mail to John Robertson at **[jcrobertson1@juno.com](mailto:jcrobertson1@juno.com)**

We certainly welcome questions, disagreements, and comments... that is why we have set this forum up (we want to hear from you).