

Christians participate in two God-ordained sacraments that celebrate what God has done for us: **communion** and **baptism**.

- The human mind explaining baptism is like playing Beethoven on a harmonica or a kazoo: the music is too majestic for the instrument.

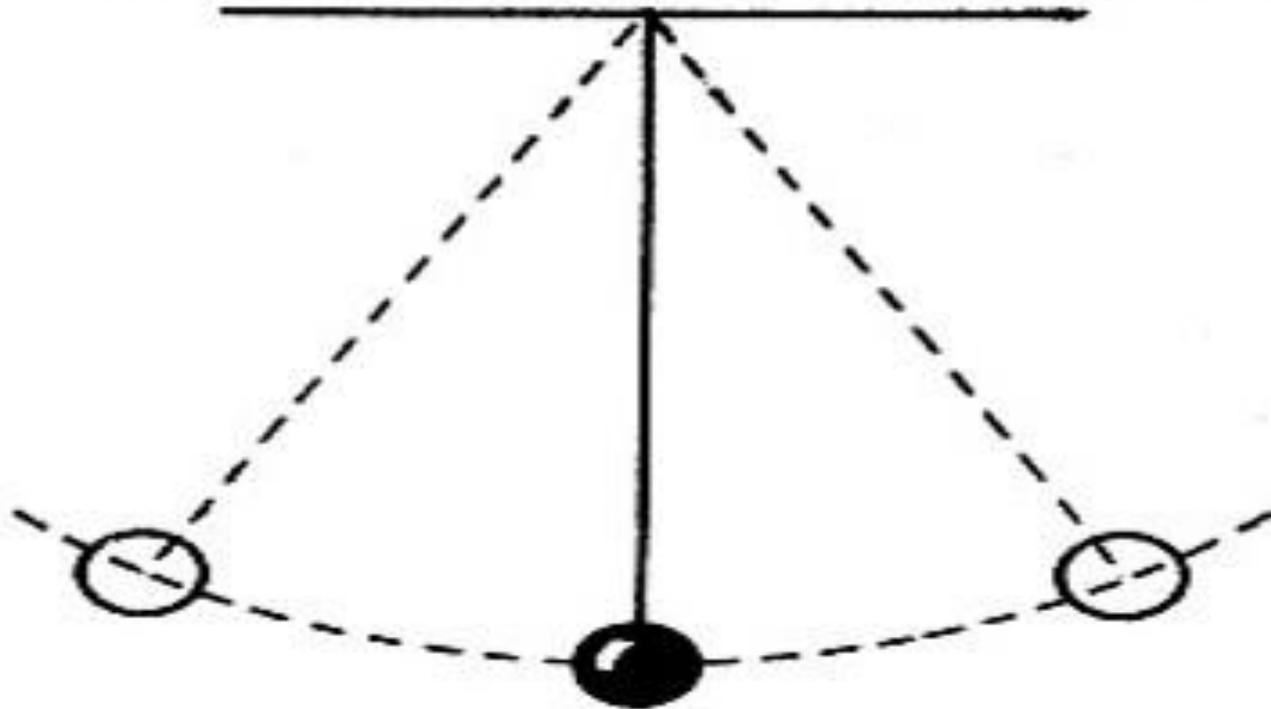


Matthew 24:13 (NASB) 13

"But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.

Matthew 24:13 (LBLA) 13 Pero el que persevere hasta el fin, ése será salvo.

Pendulum





As a jewel has many facets, baptism has many sides:
**cleansing, burial, resurrection, the death of the old,
and the birth of the new.**

DIAMOND



1 Peter 3:21

- 1 Peter 3:21 (NASB) *21 Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,*
- 1 Peter 3:21 (LBLA) *21 Y correspondiendo a esto, el bautismo ahora os salva (no quitando la suciedad de la carne, sino como una petición a Dios de una buena conciencia) mediante la resurrección de Jesucristo,*

Matthew 28:19-20 (NASB) **19** *"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

Matthew 28:19-20 (LBLA) **19** *Id, pues, y haced discípulos de todas las naciones, bautizándolos en el nombre del Padre y del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo, 20 enseñándoles a guardar todo lo que os he mandado; y he aquí, yo estoy con vosotros todos los días, hasta el fin del mundo.*

1 Peter 3:21 (NASB)

... an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

- *“You wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were committed”* (Rom. 6:17).
- *“if you believe with all your heart you may.”*
- *“became part of Christ when we were baptized”* (Rom. 6:3)





(Sanday and Headlam, “A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans,” in The International Commentary).

“That plunge beneath the running waters was like a death; the moment’s pause while they swept overhead was like a burial; the standing erect once more in air and sunlight was a species of resurrection.”



- (Luther referred to baptism as death by drowning.)

It is at this point that our sins are washed away.

Acts 22:16

Our sins are forgiven. Acts 2:38

That we are freed from sin. Romans 6:1-7

It is at this point we are united with Jesus.

Placed in His church.

Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

It is at this point we are saved!!!

**There is no record of
an unbaptized believer
in the New Testament.**

Now let's turn our attention to specific questions that have been raised in regard to baptism.

- Which is more appropriate: to baptize babies or to baptize people who are old enough to make a personal decision?**

But it seems clear that in the New Testament baptism is a willing vow made by those who are:

old enough to recognize their sin.

mature enough to comprehend the significance of the death of Christ.

and independent enough to commit themselves to him.

- Mark 16:16 (NASB) *“He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.”*
- Mark 16:16 (LBLA) *16 El que crea y sea bautizado será salvo; pero el que no crea será condenado.*

What if I was baptized as an infant? What should I do? I have been baptized, but not by immersion.

- First, you should be grateful that you had parents who cared enough about you to set you apart for God.
- Be thankful for the heritage of concerned parents, but don't be negligent of your responsibility as an adult to make your personal pledge toward God in baptism.
- All the Greek dictionaries of the New Testament define the Greek word baptizo as immersion.

How much do I need to know in order to be baptized?

- You need to realize that you are a sinner and that Jesus is our Savior.
- You'll learn that in baptism you receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38);
- commitment to the church (I Cor. 12:13);
- clothed with Christ (Gal. 3:26-27), but there's much, much more.

- 1) What did they understand at Pentecost?
 - ***“God has made Jesus--the man you nailed to the cross--both Lord and Christ”*** (Acts 2:36).
 - How did they respond? ***“Those who accepted the message were baptized and about three thousand people were added to the number of believers that day”*** (Acts 2:41).

- **What was the message of Philip to the Ethiopian?**

- *“Philip began to speak and...told him the good news about Jesus.” (Acts 8:35).*
- What was his response? *“The Eunuch said, ‘Look, here is water. What is stopping me from being baptized?’ Both Philip and the Eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him” (Acts 8:38).*

- **What did the jailer understand?**
 - *“(Paul and Silas) said to him, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved--you and all the people in your house”* (Acts 16:31).
- **How did he respond?**
 - Acts 16:32-33 (NASB) **32** *And they spoke the word of the Lord to him together with all who were in his house. 33 And he took them that very hour of the night and washed their wounds, and immediately he was baptized, he and all his household.*
 - Acts 16:32-33 (LBLA) **32** *Y le hablaron la palabra del Señor a él y a todos los que estaban en su casa. 33 Y él los tomó en aquella misma hora de la noche, y les lavó las heridas; enseguida fue bautizado, él y todos los suyos.*

- **What did Saul know before he was baptized?**
 - *“(Ananias) stood by me and said, ‘Brother Saul... the God of our ancestors chose you long ago to know his plan, to see the Righteous One, and to hear words from him... Now why wait any longer? Get up, be baptized, and wash your sins away, trusting in him to save you”* (Acts. 22:14-16).
- **How did Saul respond?**
 - *“Then Saul got up and was baptized”* (Acts 9:18).

Does it matter where I was baptized?







**Does baptism itself have the
power to save people?**

What if a person is not baptized? Can he be saved?

- This question is best answered with a question. Why isn't the person baptized?
- "I never understood baptism."
- "I don't want to."
- ***"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do the things I ask?"***
(Lk. 6.46).

“What of the ones who die before they have a chance?”

- **But such a question should not make us feel that not every believer needs to be baptized?**



First Day
of
First Grade!