

WORD OF THE WEEK

The Subject: Baptism

Acts 2:38 -- *Repent, and be baptized -- for the remission of sins-
baptized-(verbal noun) - Greek: baptize - anglicized form of the
original word bapto which meant to cover with a stain or dye.*

Ephesians 4:5-- *one Lord, one faith, one baptism --*

Matthew 3:11-- (Speaking of Christ) *He shall baptize you with the Holy
Ghost and fire.*

Hebrews 9:22 -- *Without shedding of blood is no remission.*

remission - Greek: aphasis - pardon or release from imprisonment;
forgiveness; a picture of one who is sorry for his crime, begs
forgiveness (repents), and is released from prison

I Peter 3:20-21 (speaking of Noah)-- *eight souls were saved by water--the
like figure -- baptism doth also now save us.*

save - sozo- complete protection in deliverance from start to finish

Baptize (baptizo) was originally the noun bapto. There was no motion on the part of the subject being baptized (bapto). The movement was only on the part of the fluid, exercised from an outside force. To say that "baptize" means to dip, plunge, immerse, or submerge in water is not sustained by its meaning (to stain or dye), nor by the grammatical construction of the word (being a noun originally). The true picture of baptism would be to see a person standing stationary, as another person (Jesus, our High Priest) poured a fluid (blood) upon the person, completely covering (staining) him. The voice of the verb in the Greek is passive showing the one being bapto as submissive. This is God's predestination. The son quickeneth whom he will (John 5:21). God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit --. (II Thess. 2:13). He sanctifies (sets apart) by this blood baptism. He sanctified us with his blood (Heb. 13:12). Noah and his family were set apart (sanctified) and completely covered with the pitch (Kopher-meaning a stain or dye) from beginning to end. The pitch was never removed throughout the ordeal. The protective stain (baptism) of Christ's blood is permanent throughout the fiery trial of the believer. The pitch (stain) was the protective agent (making the ark watertight) as Noah and his family were transported upon the judgment (water) of God. The blood of Christ washes us (Rev. 1:5-staining) protecting us from destruction throughout the fiery trial of baptism. Sin is the bondage that imprisons us. The hotter the fiery trial (suffering for Christ - II Tim. 3:12), the more we tire of our sin throughout life. Sin is remitted (forgiven, releasing us from prison) as we are caused to repent by the trials. "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange (occasional visitor) thing happened unto you (I Peter 4:12). The fiery baptism is not an occasional guest. It is a daily experience of the true believer. Paul said, "I die (to self) daily (I Cor. 15:31). "Elect--unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Christ-the trial of your faith being much more precious than gold that perisheth though it be tried with fire (I Peter 1:2,7). The one true baptism is the Holy Spirit covering us by the blood (stain) of Christ throughout the tribulations of this life. God uses this fiery baptism to call his people to repentance. We undergo trials causing us to desire less of self (sin) thus releasing us from imprisonment (remission), which is the sin that binds us to this world. Jesus came to preach to the spirits in prison by his resurrection in us (I Peter 3:18,19).

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