# Re-Baptism

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## INTRODUCTION

- Some people grapple with this very important question. Should I be baptized again?
- There are a number of people who were baptized at some point in their childhood and then decide later as an adult to be baptized again.

## 1 People Are Baptized Into Christ Only Once

**John 3:23**

- The Bible never talks about re-baptism. That's not a biblical term.
- No one was baptized more than once into Christ.
- Infant baptism is something that's not taught in the New Testament. So that's not a rebaptism. That is the baptism once into Christ.
- The mode was the same in both of the times that they were baptized, but the purpose or their understanding or their faith was different.

## 2 Both Mode and Purpose Matter

**Ephesians 2:8–9; Acts 2:38; Galatians 3:26–27**

- Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins. And here we have the purpose, calling on his name.
- Both mode and purpose matter. For baptism to be scriptural or right or approved by God in heaven.
- What we're talking about is pleasing the God of heaven and submitting to him and being recognized by him.
- He didn't just say, be baptized and get the mode right. He said, repent and be baptized. You don't have scriptural baptism without repentance.
- Baptism then is the culminating or concluding step of faith that causes us to be placed in Christ.

## 3 Arriving at the Age of Accountability

**Isaiah 7:14–16; 1 Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3–6**

- Baptism is not for saved people. The one who contemplates submitting to God in this act is not doing so because they are already saved. They do so because they are lost.
- He will eat curds and honey at the time he knows enough to refuse evil and choose good.
- Has the child matured enough, does the child know enough to refuse evil and choose good?
- Does the child understand what sin is? What the impact of sin is and the cost of sin to God?
- Baptism is unto Christ. It is unto a relationship, it is a conversion to the Lord.

## 4 How Much Do I Need to Know?

**2 Peter 3:18; 1 Peter 2:1–3; Ephesians 4:14–15**

- Baptism isn't the end of the thing, it's just the beginning.
- You're going to learn and grow from the point of your baptism to know much more than you do now.
- All Christians are admonished to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
- At the time that we're baptized into Christ, we are not into full grown maturity.

## 5 There's Only One Baptism Into Christ

**2 Timothy 1:12**

- Remember, there's only one baptism into Christ. We need to resolve that issue and leave questions of doubt behind.
- Even our initial conversion to the Lord is all about faith. It's all about trust.
- If we are questioning a prior baptism, then either it's because of a trust problem, or we're experiencing a trust problem now.
- It is for lost people who need to be saved. This is the point at which past sins are forgiven.

## 6 Days of Neglect: Repent and Pray

- You need to repent and pray that the thought of your heart might be forgiven you.
- I've got to start trusting again. I am choosing my own way and not his.

THE CHALLENGE

Who needs to be baptized into Christ or who needs to acknowledge some perhaps some public behavior that's sinful, perhaps just needing us to pray for you and with you. This is an opportunity.

MY NOTES