

The Truth About Baptism

(From a talk given at the 1999 Feast of Tabernacles by Frank Brown, and revised in March, 2004, due to a better understanding of circumcision.)

We are told in Acts 2:38 and other places that we must be baptized for the remission of our sins in order to be saved. But just what all does baptism involve? What is it? Who should be baptized? When? By whom? How? Why? Where? This article will attempt to answer these questions.

What is Baptism?

Baptism is the sign of our acceptance of the New Covenant. In the Old Covenant, circumcision of the flesh was the sign Yahweh gave to Abraham, and to his descendants for all time.

Gen 17:7 And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be an Elohim unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.

Gen 17:9-13 And Elohim said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations. This is my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised. And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt me and you. And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which is not of thy seed. He that is born in thy house, and he that is bought with thy money, must needs be circumcised: and my covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.

We are his descendants, and must become his “seed.”

(Gal 3:26-29 KJV) "For ye are all the children of YHWH by faith in Yahshua the Messiah. {27} For as many of you as have been baptized into the Messiah have put on the Messiah. {28} There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in the Messiah Yahshua. {29} And if ye be the Messiah's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

By reading all of this account, we find that the Old Covenant was a physical covenant between Abraham and his physical descendants, to inherit the land now known as the Holy Land, or Palestine. It encompassed what is now the modern state of Israel, as well as most of the other countries now surrounding Israel. It was a fleshly covenant, without promise of eternal life – just a good, long life on the land. All they had to do was obey the Ten Commandments and the other statutes, ordinances and judgments given by Yahweh to govern His people.

But they could not obey! They did not have the heart for it! They continually went astray. Yahweh said, "*O that there were such an heart in them that they would fear me and keep all my Commandments always that it might be well with them and with their children forever!*" (Deut. 5:29).

But it was not to be. They simply would not obey. So Yahweh began the next step in His plan, and that was to make a way whereby His chosen ones would be able to keep His Law. In the book of Jeremiah and other places, He announced the New Covenant, in which He would write His laws within our hearts, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Jer 31:31-33 Behold, the days come, saith Yahweh, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith Yahweh: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith Yahweh, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their Elohim, and they shall be my people.

This is a better Covenant, made on better promises (Heb. 8:6). It is a Spiritual Covenant, with eternal life promised to the obedient, not just land and good crops.

John 3:15-17 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For Yahweh so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For Yahweh sent not

his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

In order to be saved, to have His Spirit dwelling within our hearts (minds), we must repent of our law-breaking (I John 3:4), be baptized, and have hands laid on us for the receiving of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38-39 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yahshua the Messiah for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as Yahweh our Elohim shall call.

*Acts 8:14-17 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of Yahweh, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit: (For as yet it was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Master Yahshua.) **Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.***

Salvation is an individual thing. We are to "work out our own salvation with fear and trembling." Whereas under the Old Covenant, only men were required to take part in the acceptance token, by the act of circumcision, baptism for both men and women was added as the sign of New Covenant acceptance.

We must become Abraham's seed (Gal. 3:29), Spiritual Jews (Israelites), and therefore, heirs according to the promise.

Baptism is a symbolic death, burial and resurrection of the repentant sinner. After repentance, we are buried in a watery grave, symbolizing the death of the "old man," and then we come up a new person, symbolic of the resurrection, cleansed from our old sinful ways, to walk in newness of life.

*Rom 6:3-6 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Yahshua the Messiah were baptized into his death? Therefore we are **buried with him** by baptism into death: that like as the Messiah was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have*

been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

Rom 6:7-12 For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with the Messiah, we believe that we shall also live with him: Knowing that the Messiah being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto Yahweh. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto Yahweh through Yahshua the Messiah our Master. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

It would be good for you to study the entire 6th chapter of Romans, as well as Acts 2.

Who Should Be Baptized?

Those who have been convicted of sin (breaking Yahweh's Law, 1 John 3:4), have repented of those sins, and have accepted the sacrifice of Yahshua the Messiah to pay for those sins, are now justified before Yahweh, and should be baptized, according to Acts 2:38.

Acts 2:38-41 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yahshua the Messiah for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as Yahweh our El shall call. And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

We also must have faith that His sacrifice is sufficient to atone for our sins.

Rom 3:22-26 Even the righteousness of Yahweh which is by faith of Yahshua the Messiah unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of Yahweh; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in the Messiah Yahshua: Whom

Yahweh hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of Yahweh; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Yahshua.

So now that we have faith in Yahshua's death, we have repented of our sins, and have been baptized into His Name, we **shall be saved by His life!**

*Rom 5:1-11 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with Yahweh through our Master Yahshua The Messiah: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of Yahweh. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of Yahweh is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us. For when we were yet without strength, in due time the Messiah died for the unrighteous. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But Yahweh commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, the Messiah died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, **we shall be saved from wrath through him.** For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to Yahweh by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, **we shall be saved by his life.** And not only so, but we also joy in Yahweh through our Master Yahshua the Messiah, by whom we have now received the atonement.*

We are now clean, fresh, new. We are free from the bondage of sin at last! Free from the penalty of sin, which is eternal death. We now begin a life of overcoming our human nature, and await the return of our new Master, Yahshua the Messiah, to set up His Kingdom here on this earth. We will be resurrected at His coming, and will share rulership over the nations of this earth under His authority with the other saints (Rev. 2:26-27, 3:21).

Who should not be baptized?

There are those who should not be baptized. Among them are children who do not yet comprehend the nature of sin. They must

have enough maturity to understand. The unrepentant obviously should not be. An example is found in Acts 8, where Simon Magus was baptized. He believed, according to verses 8-13, but he was not repentant. He only wanted the Holy Spirit because he saw an opportunity for financial gain, verses 16-23. He apparently did not receive enough counseling prior to his baptism, or else he lied about his supposed conversion and repentance.

When Should One Be Baptized?

As soon as possible after repentance, one should take that next step and be immersed. We have the example of the Apostle Paul, who was told by Ananias, Acts 22:16, *And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of Yahweh.*

He was told to not wait (tarry), but to get it done right away.

How, Where, and by Whom?

The Greek word "Baptizo" means to be immersed, to be fully wet. So we should be fully immersed (buried) under water. A running stream is not necessary. Although many were baptized in the Jordan River, and the Ethiopian eunuch was baptized where there was ample water, probably a stream, remember that on the day of Pentecost, Acts 2, there were about 3,000 men and women baptized. It is highly doubtful if there was an available stream within the city of Jerusalem sufficient to accommodate this many converts in only one day.

Although most examples in the Scriptures indicate that an elder or apostle did the baptizing, there are other examples that indicate that any Commandment-keeping Believer who has Yahweh's Holy Spirit, and understands the purpose and ritual significance of baptism can perform this ceremony. One example is Paul's own baptism. It is said that Ananias was a devout man according to the law, and had a good report of the Jews living in Damascus (Acts 22:12). He was certainly not an "ordained elder" nor an apostle, and apparently not a priest, either.

It is also unlikely that the 3,000 who were baptized on the Day of Pentecost were all immersed by one of the Apostles. A little simple arithmetic will show that for twelve men to baptize 3,000

people in the remaining time that day, there would have been less than 30 seconds available to spend with each person. The "120," Yahshua's other followers, were probably pressed into service to help out (Acts 1:15).

First Corinthians 1:14-16 shows that the Apostle Paul personally baptized only two individuals and one household. Therefore, we can assume that Paul had other converted people do the actual baptizing. Neither did Yahshua personally baptize any. According to John 4:1-2, His disciples did it for Him.

However, the "laying on of hands" to receive the Holy Spirit after baptism should be done by an ordained Elder in the Body of the Messiah, even if it is necessary to wait awhile.

Why Should One Be Baptized?

If you want to live forever in a blissful, joyful environment, without crime, sickness, and death, then repentance and baptism is the "only game in town," to use an old cliché. In other words, if you want to be saved from the penalty of your sins, so that you don't have to die eternally, there is no other way. We are told in Acts 4:12 that there is no other name under heaven whereby we can be saved. That name is "Yah-Shua," which translates to "Yah's Salvation." That is what He came to earth for; that is what He died for.

Study 1 Corinthians 15. This chapter is known as "the Resurrection chapter" of the Bible. Note especially verses 12 - 22 and 49 - 58. See also Acts 8:12, 1 Cor. 12:13, Col. 2:11-12, 1 Peter 3:21.

What if You Have Been Baptized Before?

A great many people have already been baptized into a church, a group, a denomination, or some such, without enough true knowledge to make an informed decision. So should you, or they, upon learning the truth about what sin is, what we are to repent of, and the correct mode for baptism, be re-baptized? In my opinion, **yes**. The Bible tells us that we are to be baptized in the Name of Yahshua the Messiah.

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Yahshua the Messiah for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

*Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name **under heaven** given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of Yahweh, and the name of Yahshua the Messiah, they were baptized, both men and women.

Matthew 28:19 supposedly contains Yahshua's instructions to baptize in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. But recent research has shown this verse to be spurious. According to the Catholic Encyclopedia II, page 263, "It was changed by the Catholic Church from the Name of (Yahshua the Messiah) to the words, 'father, son, and holy ghost,' in the second century. Other sources say this was done to support the pagan "trinity" doctrine. **(write for my article on the Trinity.)**

In Matthew 1:21 we see that the Angel of Yahweh told Joseph what he was to name his Son: "Yah-shua, for He shall save His people from their sins." This Name means just that – "Yah's Salvation," or Salvation of Yahweh."

The Latinized form of His Name that we are familiar with, "Jesus," has no meaning. It is simply a grammatical error that has been repeated and compounded since the letter "J" came into existence about 500 years ago. The original King James, the "Authorized version" of the Bible, had no J's. His Name was spelled "Iesous," the "I" having a "Y" sound.

Some have concluded that "Jesus" is close enough, but I decided several years ago not to take chances, and was re-baptized into Yahshua's saving Name. That is a decision each of us has to make on his or her own.

Then What?

After repentance and baptism, then what? Is that all? No, that is just the beginning. The next step is to have hands laid upon you for the receiving of the Holy Spirit.

*(Acts 19:5-7 KJV) "When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Master Yahshua {6} **And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. {7} And all the men were about twelve."***

*(Acts 8:15-17 KJV) "Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit: {16} (For as yet it was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Master Yahshua.) {17} **Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit."***

It is necessary to have Yahweh's Holy Spirit dwelling in our minds to understand the deeper things of Yahweh, and what He requires of us. It is also necessary to have His spirit within us to be in the first resurrection. Without this Spirit, He says we are "none of His."

*(Rom 8:5-11 KJV) "For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. {6} For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. {7} Because the carnal mind is enmity against Yahweh: for it is not subject to the law of Yahweh, neither indeed can be. {8} So then they that are in the flesh cannot please Yahweh. {9} But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of Yahweh dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of The Messiah, **he is none of his.** {10} And if The Messiah be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. {11} But if the Spirit of him that raised up Yahshua from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up The Messiah from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you."*

Have you ever heard someone say, or maybe you have said it yourself, that the Bible just does not make sense to you? But now that you have His Spirit dwelling in your heart (mind), you **can** understand. You are now equipped to search the deeper Spiritual things, and to understand them. This is how the Law is written in our hearts.

(Heb 8:10 KJV) "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith Yahweh; I will put my

laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a Mighty One, and they shall be to me a people:" (quoted from Jeremiah 31:33).

(2 Cor 1:21-22 KJV) "Now he which stablisheth us with you in the Messiah, and hath anointed us, is Yahweh; {22} Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts."

1 Cor. 2 speaks of the things of the Spirit vs the things of man's spirit. We are shown clearly that without Yahweh's Holy Spirit dwelling within us, we cannot understand Spiritual things, and we have no part with Him. Many, many people, probably millions over the years, have been baptized or sprinkled or confirmed or whatever formula their own particular sect uses, and think they are "OK" with the Almighty. But He says that is not necessarily the case.

*(1 Cor 2:6-14 KJV) "Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: {7} But we speak the wisdom of Yahweh in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which Yahweh ordained before the world unto our glory: {8} Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. {9} But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which Yahweh hath prepared for them that love him. {10} But Yahweh hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of Yahweh. {11} For what man knoweth the things of a man, save **the spirit of man which is in him?** even so **the things of Yahweh knoweth no man, but the Spirit of Yahweh.** {12} Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of Yahweh; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of Yahweh. {13} Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Spirit teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. {14} But the natural man **receiveth not the things of the Spirit of Yahweh: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."***

After we have received His Spirit, our understanding is opened, and we can then discern Spiritual things. But we must still search

out knowledge. It is not automatically funneled into our heads. And we can also still be led astray if we are not wary. We must guard against being deceived constantly. By prayer, Scripture study, meeting with people of like minds, we will grow in grace and knowledge, just as the Apostle Peter said.

*(2 Pet 3:14-18 KJV) "Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless. {15} And account that the longsuffering of our King is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; {16} As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. {17} Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. {18} But **grow in grace**, and in the knowledge of our Master and Saviour Yahshua the Messiah. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen."*

A Note of Caution

Once baptism takes place, many people seem to experience more trials and testing than before. As long as we live, we should learn, and grow and become more like Yahshua. But we will come under stronger demon influence than before. Satan hates it when someone repents; and we still have human nature within us. The pulls of the world still tug at us. The Apostle Paul understood that.

Romans 7:18 – "For I know that in me, that is in my flesh, dwells no good thing. For to desire is present with me, but to work out the good I do not find." Verse 19 – "For what good I desire, I do not. But the evil I do not desire, this I do." Verse 20 – "But if I do what I do not desire, it is no longer I working it out, but the sin dwelling in me."

Romans 8:6 – "For the mind of flesh is death; but the mind of the spirit is life and peace." Verse 7 – "Because of this the mind of the flesh is enmity towards Yahweh, for it is not subject to the law of Yahweh, for neither can it be." Verse 8 – "And those being

in the flesh are not able to please Yahweh." Verse 9 – "But you are not in the flesh, but in spirit, since the spirit of Yahweh dwells in you. But if anyone has not the spirit of Messiah, this one is not his."

This says that our natural human mind has no desire to obey Yahweh. No one can say they have reached perfection and no longer sin.

I John 1:8 – "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves; and the truth is not in us." Verse 10 – "If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar and his word is not in us."

So what do we do? He doesn't want us to sin – but it's built into our nature. *I John 1:9 – "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* All we have to do is call on Him. Repent and ask forgiveness. He will forgive, but He expects us to try harder.

What About Acts 15?

Before we go there, let's get some background. We all know now what sin is. It is the breaking of Yahweh's Commandments, ordinances, statutes and judgments. It is law-LESS-ness, 1 John 3:4. It is violating the Torah, found in the first five books of the Bible. Torah is a Hebrew word that means "instructions," but is mostly translated as "law."

In Matthew 5:17-19, Yahshua assures us that He did not come to destroy, do away with, change, negate, or otherwise diminish His Father's law (torah). This certainly applied, not only to Him, but to His chosen Apostles as well. So how is it that we, like the Protestants, Catholics, Churches of God, and most Assemblies of Yahweh, have believed that certain parts of the Torah were changed or "done away," after Yahshua's ascent into the heavens?

For the present, I will name only two, but there may be many more. Bear in mind that this is of necessity very brief, so do your own study.

The first is the wearing of tassels (Num. 15:38 and Deut. 22:12). This was to remind the Israelites of Yahweh's Ten Commandments. For 43 years, I have heard and taught that we

don't need that now, since we have Yahweh's Holy Spirit to remind us. **Wrong!** But do your own study. Don't take my word.

The second is physical circumcision, and since that relates to our subject, let's examine it more closely. It is part of Torah. See Genesis 17:9-14, Exodus 12:43:50, Leviticus 12:3. My previous understanding on this was that it was a physical act for a physical covenant, and that the rite of baptism had superseded it under the New Covenant. "Circumcision of the heart," I said. But upon being challenged to look deeper, I found that Yahweh always required circumcision of the heart, as well as in the flesh.

The questions and decisions made in Acts 15 are NOT whether we should be circumcised physically, BUT whether this should be done BEFORE baptism. The Judaizers were making trouble, insisting that new converts should be circumcised and learn all the Jewish traditions prior to being baptized. Note the four requirements the Apostles laid out for new converts:

(Acts 15:20-21 KJV) "But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood."

Nothing is said about keeping the Sabbath, about revering Yahweh's Name, about honoring parents, about murder, lying, stealing, etc. But was this to be a permanent requirement? Was this **all** the requirements? Well, hardly. Notice the very next verse:

{21} For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day."

This simply means that the Gentile converts, who knew very little about Scriptural requirements, should be told to stop the most offensive and abominable pagan practices **before** baptism. They would learn the other commands when they attended worship services in the synagogues and heard the Torah readings.

It is almost a certainty that some of Paul's writings have been perverted and made to sound like he was preaching against circumcision. Notice one instance of this:

*(Gal 5:2-6 KJV) "Behold, I Paul say unto you, that if ye be **circumcised**, the Messiah shall profit you nothing. {3} For I testify again to every man that is **circumcised**, that he is a debtor to do*

the whole law.. {5} For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

Yet, Paul took Timothy and had him circumcised almost immediately after the Acts 15 conference. (Acts 16:1-3). So, did Paul cause Timothy to lose his salvation? Of course not! The explanation is found in Galatians 5:4:

*{4} the Messiah is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are **justified by the law**; ye are fallen from grace*

Note well – these people were the Judaizers who still believed in salvation by works of the law, and not by grace.

Now, in verse 6, Paul is quoted as saying *{6} For in Yahshua the Messiah neither **circumcision** availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love."*

Sounds like Paul is saying that circumcision has no value at all, and is actually a hindrance to one's Scriptural walk with Yahshua. But note his comment in Romans 2:25 to 3:2. Please read this in your own Bible.

To state it concisely, circumcision of the flesh has been required since Abraham's day. Abraham was already circumcised in heart because of his obedient attitude (Gen. 26:5). Heart circumcision comes first – then if you have not been circumcised in the flesh, you should plan to have it done soon, but not necessarily **before** baptism. Just don't assume it is "done away."

I just finished a more complete article on circumcision. Please read it, too. Meantime, before you scoff and accuse me of "getting too Jewish," do yourself a favor and do some serious study. Why risk your place in Yahweh's Kingdom over a little flap of skin? Just remember Yahshua's remarks in Matthew 5:17-20. We are to grow in grace and knowledge, and are never too old to learn ~

Rite of Baptism

Elder start the ceremony by reading the following (you are on the shore at this point):

(Acts 8:34-38 KJV) "And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man? {35} Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at

the same scripture, and preached unto him Yahshua. {36} And as they went on *their* way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, *here is* water; what doth hinder me to be **baptized?** {37} And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Yahshua The Messiah is the Son of Yahweh. {38} And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he **baptized** him."

Then go into the water with candidate and ask the following questions:

"What is your name?" (answer)

"Yahweh's Law is the Ten Commandments. Have you repented of the sin of breaking Yahweh's Law?" (answer)

"Do you believe with all your heart that Yahshua is Yahweh's Son, that He died and was resurrected as atonement for our sins?" (answer)

"Do you accept that sacrifice in your own life to wash away your sins?" (answer)

"I now baptize you into the family of Yahweh, in the Name of Yahshua the Messiah, for the remission of your sins."

(Immerse completely - raise out)

"You are now cleansed from your sins, and are a new person before Yahweh."

(Change clothes and dry, or go directly to the "Laying on of Hands")

Rite of Laying on Hands to Receive the Holy Spirit

Read:(Acts 8:12-18 KJV) "But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of Yahweh, and the name of Yahshua The Messiah, they were baptized, both men and women. {13} Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done. {14} Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of Yahweh, they sent unto them Peter and John: {15} Who, when

they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit: {16} (For as yet it was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Sovereign Yahshua.) {17} **Then laid they *their* hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.**

Elders present lay hands on the new Believer and pray for Yahweh to send the Holy Spirit to guide and direct his/her life, and to lead them into all truth.

Prayer: "Father Yahweh, (name) has professed repentance for his sins, his breaking of your Torah, your Law, your Instructions for us to live by. He has accepted Yahshua's sacrifice to pay for those sins, and has been immersed according to your Word, and now I/we lay our hands on him/her for the receiving of Your Holy Spirit to dwell in his/her mind; to lead and guide him/her daily in his/her walk with you. So now we dedicate this new convert to your service, Sovereign Yahweh, in the Name and by the authority of Your Son, Yahshua the Messiah. HalleluYAH!"

"Congratulations! Now be sure to pray and study the Word daily so that you may continue to grow in grace and knowledge, to become a mature Believer, rooted and built up in him, and **stablished** in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." (Col 2:7 KJV) ~

