

## BAPTISM #2

The Scriptures we have been discussing over the past few weeks have all dealt with what people were taught to do in New Testament times in order to be saved. We saw that the preaching of the gospel included believing in Jesus as the Son of God, repenting of sins, confessing Christ and then being baptized to receive forgiveness of sins. It was at that point that a person entered into Christ and salvation.

This is exactly what Paul is talking about in Romans 6:3-4 where he says, “Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.”

Just as Christ died, was buried and then was raised never to die again, we go through something similar when we are baptized. We must first die to sin by believing in Christ and obeying the gospel. Then when we are buried in baptism, we personally benefit from the death of Christ and are cleansed of our sins by his blood. That’s what enables us to be raised from the waters of baptism to newness of life as a Christian. Then, if we’re faithful, we can enjoy our new relationship with God for all eternity.