

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1412

March 6, 2022

Act 2:38, *“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”*

Baptism is the step that puts us into Christ (Galatians 3:27), puts us into the body (I Corinthians 12:13), which is the church, and washes away our sins (Acts 22:16), thus saving us (I Peter 3:21). What is baptism, physically speaking? Simply put, it is a complete immersion or submerging under water. (Spiritually speaking, there is much more involved in baptism, but let us consider the physical act.) The American Heritage Dictionary (1992), third edition, never once uses the word “submerging,” “submersing,” or “immersion” in its definition of baptism. It does offer the Greek origins of the word though, and upon investigation of the original meaning, one sees that baptism is the specific act of complete immersion under water.

The word translated baptize(d) in the New Testament is from the Greek word, βαπτίζω (baptidzo). According to a Greek

lexicon, this word means “to immerse” or “to submerge.” One definition is “to overwhelm.” In the context of what is being done, the water completely overwhelms (covers) the person being baptized. The following information clearly illustrates the true meaning of “baptize.” The following is included in my computer-based version of Strong’s Concordance:

The clearest example that shows the meaning of “baptizo” is a text from the Greek poet and physician Nicander, who lived about 200 B.C. It is a recipe for making pickles and is helpful because it uses both words. Nicander says that in order to make a pickle, the vegetable should first be ‘dipped’ (bapto) into boiling water and then ‘baptised’ (baptizo) in the vinegar solution. Both verbs concern the immersing of vegetables in a solution. But the first is temporary. The second, the act of baptizing the vegetable, produces a permanent change. There must be a union with him, a real change, like the vegetable to the pickle! [Bible Study Magazine James Montgomery Boice May 1989.]

I have baptized those who let their hands or feet remain above the water. It was necessary to perform the act again. I cannot say I rebaptized them, for according to the true definition, they were never baptized the first time. They were not completely submerged under the water. Baptism is not a pouring, sprinkling, or partial submerging. It is a burial (Romans 6:4). A burial requires a complete covering.

The translators of the King James Version chose not to translate the original Greek word, βαπτίζω (baptidzo), as “immersion,” or some other true translation. Instead, they chose to anglicize the original word, thus making an English word similar in sound and form to

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Sunday 9 AM & 5 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Alice Vanderstoep, Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Enola Zigler, Shirley Edwards, Clay Bozarth, Ken & Erin Davis, Becky Hatcher, Joanna Locke & Richard Connolly.** **Larry Compton** continues to

recover from eye surgery. **Linda Terry** continues to recover from a broken hip.

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the original Greek. That word was “baptize.” This was a compromise. It was true to the text, in that it was basically what the text literally said. At the same time, the term, not truly translated, was cloaked in confusion and not offensive to the false teaching of the day concerning baptism.

What the translators did was an injustice to the text and to those dependent upon their translation. Because of this action, many have been baptized in a way they thought was acceptable to the Lord, but was instead contrary to Him and the teachings of the Bible. May we ever realize the grave responsibility we have in proclaiming the Gospel clearly and in its entirety—without omission or addition.

—Marty Edwards ❖

Haggai 1:5, 6 ⁵*Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.* ⁶*Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.*

Haggai was pointing out to his readers that their efforts in this life were futile because of their ways. Many today are in this situation.

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Sunday, February 27, 2022		
Classes	12	Matthew 13:44-58
Preaching	22	Ephesians 6:10-18
Contribution	\$892.10	
Evening	7	Genesis 25:1-37
Wednesday, March 2, 2021		
Classes	11	Psalms 103:1-22

Visitors— Feb 27 (AM) Bryan & Callie Hennion (Brownsville, KY)

Bible Quiz

When Abraham died, he was gathered where?

Last Week's Answer— The field (Genesis 24:63)

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They work hard to provide all the necessities of life, while shunning the laying up of treasures in Heaven. Their efforts are in vain because they are not living for Christ.

Make sure your efforts in this life are worthwhile. Live every day for Christ thereby laying up eternal riches.

—Marty Edwards ❖

—God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)