



The Bible Speaks

WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED

Many years ago in the land of Syria there lived a man by the name of Naaman. We are not told very much about him, but we do know that he was the commander of the Syrian army and that one day he discovered that he had leprosy. Today a person can be cured of leprosy, but in those days the discovery that a person had this disease meant only one thing - a slow, lingering death.

Evidently Naaman was a very good man and a valuable soldier because the King of Syria inquired about a cure for this servant. A little Hebrew maid, who was a servant in the home of Naaman, heard of her master's plight and declared that God's prophet, Elisha, could heal him if he went up to Samaria.

Like most people who have some deadly disease, Naaman was willing to try anything. When he arrived with a request for his healing from the King of Syria, the King of Israel was concerned about this unusual request, Elisha, however, sent word that God would take care of the problem. When Naaman came to the house of Elisha, the prophet did not even meet him at the door. Elisha just sent his servant out with a message that if Naaman wanted to be healed, he merely had to go and wash seven times in the Jordan River.

At first Naaman was furious and refused to do this, but after a talk with his wise servants, he obeyed and washed seven times in the Jordan. The Bible tells us of the results of his trusting God and doing what he had been told. It states, "and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean." 2 Kings 5:14 (OT 331). He was cleansed because he had faith and obeyed the instructions of God given through His prophet, Elisha.

There were no secret healing substances in the water of that river. Naaman's dipping seven times was merely his way of demonstrating his faith in the God of Israel. It was God that cleansed and healed him. Many of us are afflicted with spiritual leprosy or sin, and we need to be cleansed from all these sins. Let us discover in God's Word how we can be cleansed.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

1. How many different baptisms are recognized in the Bible? **Ephesians 4:5**

The Bible Answer: _____

2. What were the final instructions given by Christ to His disciples?
Matthew 28:19,20

The Bible Answer: Go ye therefore and _____
all nations _____ them in the name of
the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. _____
_____ whatsoever I have commanded you.”

3. Who originated the modern form of baptism? **Matthew 3:1-6**

The Bible Answer: _____

4. Why did Jesus say that it was necessary for Him to be baptized by John?
Matthew 3:13-15

The Bible Answer: _____

Note: Jesus had not sinned. He did not need to be baptized. In this statement He showed that He wanted to leave us a perfect example of righteous living. He was to do everything that was expected of Christians so that they might safely follow in His steps.

5. How was Christ baptized by John? **Mark 1:9,10**

The Bible Answer: "And it came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was _____ of John
_____. And straightway coming _____
_____, he saw the heavens open and the _____
_____.”

Note: This text definitely shows that Christ was baptized by immersion in the river for "he came up out of the water."

6. How did Peter tell the people on the Day of Pentecost that they should demonstrate their repentance? **Acts 2:38**

The Bible Answer: _____

Note: The Greek word used by the New Testament writer in this text is "baptizo," which means to immerse, to dip under, and/or cover with a fluid. It is a transliterated word taken from the Greek language and does not mean sprinkle or pour. When Peter said to those people, "Repent and be baptized," they understood him to say, "Repent and be immersed."

7. In the story of the Ethiopian treasurer, how did Philip baptize him?
Acts 8:26-39

The Bible Answer: "And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they _____ both Philip and the Eunch, and _____. And when they were _____ the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunch saw him no more." **Vs 38,39**

Note: Here again the details indicate that the Eunch was definitely baptized by immersion.

8. How essential is it that a person should be baptized by water? **John 3:5**

The Bible Answer: _____

9. Whom did Jesus say would be saved in the kingdom? **Mark 16:16**

The Bible Answer: _____

10. What was Paul told to do when he understood the plan of salvation and Christ's work for him? **Acts 22:16**

The Bible Answer: _____

11. By being baptized the individual shows his faith in what three parts of the sacrifice of Christ? **Romans 6:1-6**

The Bible Answer:

Verse 3, 6 "Baptized into his _____."

Verse 4 "Therefore we are _____."

Verse 5 "We shall be in the likeness _____."

Note: This is our outward way of showing our faith in our Saviour's death, burial, and resurrection and His ability to save us from our sins.

12. What does Paul say that we do when we are baptized into Christ?
Galatians 3:27

The Bible Answer: _____

Our greatest need is to become one with Christ - to accept Him as our Saviour and let Him live out His life in us. God saw that it would be necessary for sinful man to have a day and an event by which he could definitely break with the old life of sin and start a new life with Christ.

The act of baptism is our outward way of showing God and the world that from this day forward we are determined that God will have all that there is of us. We will from this day live for Him. It is the beginning of a new way of life with Christ as our Redeemer. To the newborn Christian this is the day on which he is joined to Christ. Just as with the bride, the wedding day is the day when she is joined to her husband. At that time she takes upon herself the name of her husband and pledges to live for him the rest of her life; likewise, the Christian can no longer live for self, but must henceforth live for Christ.

(If you wish to respond to these questions, place a cross in the boxes.)

I have been baptized by immersion but wish to renew my baptismal vows.

I have never been baptized and wish to prepare for this wonderful union with my Lord.

Pray for me that I will understand God's will for me and be willing to do it.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____