

Moses & Christ's Symbolic Baptisms

Paul, the apostle to Gentiles, inserts symbolism mirrored between Moses & Christ in illustrating the oneness of Jews and Gentiles in the body of Christ. As Israel & a mixed multitude were identified unto Moses, so believing Jews & Gentiles were now being identified into Jesus Christ.

Baptism unto Moses

**Moses Stretched Out His Hand
The LORD caused...
All Baptized unto Moses**

Ex 12:37-38 And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot *that were* men, beside children. ³⁸ And a mixed multitude went up also with them...

- the children of Israel journeyed...
- a mixed multitude went up also with them

1Cor 10:1-2 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; ² And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

- how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea
- were all baptized unto Moses

Ex 14:21 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go *back* by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry *land*, and the waters were divided.

- Moses stretched out his hand over the sea
- the LORD caused...
- and made the sea dry land...

Baptism into Christ

**For By One Spirit
Faith of the Operation of God
All Baptized into One Body**

Gal 3:26-28 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷ For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 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 Christ Jesus.

- For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ... there is neither Jew nor Greek
- ye are all one in Christ Jesus

1Cor 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether *we be* Jews or Gentiles, whether *we be* bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

- For by one Spirit
- are we all baptized into one body
- whether we be Jews or Gentiles
- all made to drink into one Spirit

Col 2:12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

- Buried with him in baptism
- wherein also ye are risen with him
- through the faith of the operation of God

Resolving a Baptism Controversy

Misapplication of Romans' 6:1-4 is perhaps the biggest culprit behind controversy & confusion over baptism w/water... "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?" **Rom 6:3**

Roman's 6:1-4 is often referenced when the commonly accepted mode of baptism w/water via immersion is administered upon a believer in Christ. The irony though, is that Jesus' disciples neither preached or understood Jesus' death, burial & resurrection during Christ's earthly ministry. What are the odds that Saul (Paul), when being baptized by Ananias a devout man according to the law (Acts 9:17-18; 22:12), submitted to such in signifying Christ's death, burial & resurrection? If acknowledging the various modes of washings under law, why believe that Paul was even immersed in water?

A question that needs answered is what did the recipients of Paul's epistles understand that both Jews & Gentiles were being baptized into one body? The answer is simple when reading 1Cor 12:13 in context following 1Cor 10:1-2: **"Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."**

In reality, the recipients, of Paul's epistles being reviewed, associated the symbolism that Paul made to that of Israel & the mixed multitude's identification unto Moses.

Dry Versus Wet Baptisms

Both baptisms addressed in this symbolic contrast are dry baptisms. As Israel & a mixed multitude crossed the Red Sea on dry ground, under the cloud and through the sea, so all scripture relating to the believer's baptism into Christ, via the means of 'by' the Spirit, are void of water.

Listed In Matthew 3:11 are 3 separate baptisms. Only one is w/water as the other two are w/the Holy Ghost & w/fire. Though there is distinction to be made between baptism w/the Holy Ghost and baptism 'by' the Spirit, contrast in this verse is simply showing that Bible baptisms aren't all 'wet' in nature.

Baptisms w/water; w/the Holy Ghost; w/fire

Matt 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

Baptism 'by' the Spirit

Rom 6:3 baptized into Jesus Christ
Rom 6:3 baptized into his death
Rom 6:4 buried with him by baptism into death
Gal 3:27 baptized into Christ
1Cor 12:13 baptized into one body
Col 2:12 Buried with him in baptism

Just as John the Baptist came baptizing w/water, immediately after the crossing of the Red Sea water was used in Israel's sanctifying process (Ex 19:10, 14). Various divers washings were also implemented within the law for purification of sin.

Moses Sanctifying the People

Ex 19:10 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes,

Ex 19:14 And Moses went down from the mount unto the people, and sanctified the people; and they washed their clothes.

Water of Separation

Num 19:9 And a man *that is* clean shall gather up the ashes of the heifer, and lay *them* up without the camp in a clean place, and it shall be kept for the congregation of the children of Israel for a water of separation: it is a purification for sin.

Context: Num 19:9-22

A Corrupt Translation

As the **King James Bible** correctly has Israel being baptized unto Moses, the **New International Version** ridiculously has Isarel being baptized into Moses. Many other translations follow the same error.

all baptized unto Moses

1Cor 10:1-2 (KJB) Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; ² And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

- were all baptized unto Moses
- in the cloud and in the sea

all baptized into Moses

1Cor 10:1-2 (NIV) For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and they all passed through the sea; ² They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea.

- were all baptized into Moses
- in the cloud and in the sea

Paul's Symbolism Illustrated

Baptism unto Moses

1Cor 10:1-2

Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; ² And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

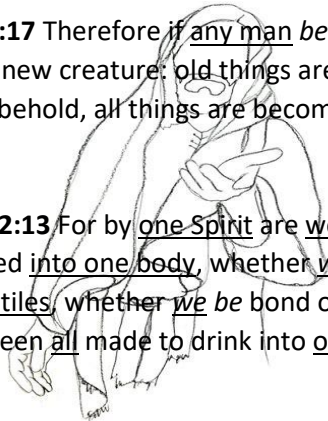


Ex 12:38 And a mixed multitude went up also with them...

Baptism into Jesus Christ

2Cor 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

1Cor 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.



Summarization of sequence of steps being baptized into Jesus Christ:

The entire process of being baptized into Christ is easily summarized in one verse... "In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise," **Eph 1:13**

- In whom ye also *trusted*
 - after that ye heard the word of truth
 - the gospel of your salvation (Rom 10:8-11; 1Cor 15:1-4; Eph 2:8-9)
 - in whom also after that ye believed
- ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise

"But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit." **1Cor 6:17**