



**A LOOK AT BAPTISM &
qualification for church membership**

*“The obligation of all believers to
be baptised by immersion on
profession of faith and the
reception of such only to
membership of the church”*

Foundation Deed 1903

**Jesus was
baptised**

Matt.3:13

**Jesus was
baptised**

Matt.3:13

**Jesus taught
baptism**

Matt.28:18

**early church
practiced
baptism**

Acts 2:38

**symbolic of spiritual
realities . . .**

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realities . . .**

**forgiveness/
cleansing**

Acts 22:16

**burial of
old 'self'**

Rom.6:3

**burial of
old 'self'**

Rom.6:3

belonging

1 Cor.12:13

**burial of
old 'self'**

Rom.6:3

belonging

1 Cor.12:13

means of grace

*It is by grace you have been saved,
through faith – and this not of
yourselves, it is the gift of God – not
by works, so that no one can boast*

Eph. 2:8-9

cf. the thief on the cross

*“I tell you the truth, today you will
be with me in paradise”*

Luke 23:43

believe and be baptised

Samaritans

Acts 8:12

believe and be baptised

Samaritans

Acts 8:12

Cornelius

Acts 10:44

believe and be baptised

Samaritans

Acts 8:12

Cornelius

Acts 10:44

Lydia

Acts 16:15

*Is not the bread we break a participation
in the body of Christ? Because there is
one loaf, we, who are many, are one
body, for we all eat of the same loaf*

1 Cor.10:16

*“It is the privilege of all believers
to partake of the Lord’s Supper
irrespective of their baptism or
church membership”*

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“If someone who is a genuine believer, but not yet baptised, was not allowed to participate in the Lord’s supper, their non-participation symbolises that they are not a member of the body of Christ which is coming together in unified fellowship”

Grudem

“Baptist churches should be free to teach and attempt to persuade prospective church members that they should be baptised as believers . . .

Grudem

*But if some after careful consideration,
are simply not persuaded, it does not
seem appropriate to make this a bar
to membership”*

Grudem

Baptism the door into the church

*“We were all baptised by one
Spirit into one body”*

1 Cor.12:13

Baptism the door into the church

“We were all baptised by one Spirit into one body”

1 Cor.12:13

Christ the gate into the church

“I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved”

John 10:9