

WE WILL CONSIDER

- The need to believe the Gospel
- The need to be baptised
- The need to live the way God wants us to live

The **B**iBLE EXHIBITION

THE TRUTH ABOUT

belief and baptism

Belief

'Without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.'

Hebrews 11:6

Faith is 'the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen' (Hebrews 11:1) - believing in something that we cannot see, and trusting and being confident that it is true. We must have faith if we are to be pleasing to God.

The Bible tells us the things God wants us to have faith in to be pleasing to Him. For example, Hebrews 11:6 tells us that we must believe that God exists and that He rewards those who search for Him. Another thing we must believe is the gospel:

"Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved"

Mark 16:15-16

We can only be saved if we believe the gospel. The word 'gospel' means 'good news'. The people in Samaria believed Philip when he 'preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ' (Acts 8:12). We need to know about these things and believe them too.

Belief leads to repentance: "Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19). To repent means to be sorry for your sins and to change your life. Peter told the people on the day of Pentecost: "Repent and be baptised every one of you" (Acts 2:38).

When we believe the gospel, we will repent – be sorry for our sins and change our attitudes and lives – and be baptised.

Baptism and a New Life

What is baptism?

The Greek word 'baptizo' translated 'baptise' means to 'dip' – the word was commonly used of dying clothes. Baptism means going completely under the water. Just as the clothes went into the dye one colour and came out another, so in baptism we show that we have completely changed our attitude and way of life. When Jesus was baptised, he "came up out of the water" (Mark 1:10). Sprinkling babies on the head in 'christening' is not Bible baptism.

Baptism shows our belief. Acts 8:12 says that 'When [the Samaritans] believed ... they were baptised, both men and women.'

It is a sharing in Jesus Christ's death and resurrection (Romans 6:3 4).

Why do we need to be baptised?

"Be baptised and wash away your sins, calling on his name."

Acts 22:16

We all sin and we all die (Romans 3:23, 1 Corinthians 15:22). These are big problems and they can only be fixed through baptism into Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the only man who never sinned (Hebrews 4:15, 1 Peter 2:22). Because he was 'obedient to the point of death', God raised him from the dead (Acts 2:24).

Because of our sins, we only deserve to die (Romans 6:23). In baptism we confess our sins to God and declare that He is righteous (Romans 3:23-26). Going under the water is a symbolic burial of our old sinful ways. Coming up out of the waters of baptism is a symbolic rebirth or resurrection to 'walk in newness of life' (Romans 6:4), following Christ's example by living to serve God and not ourselves (Romans 6:6-11). God promises to accept this humble attitude and forgive us our sins (Acts 2:38)

After baptism, we need to 'walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love' (Ephesians 4:1-2), developing 'compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another .. forgiving each other' (Colossians 3:12-13).

If we believe the gospel, repent, are baptised and then live for God, we will be given eternal life when Christ returns to set up God's kingdom on earth (1 Corinthians 15:21-23).

More information

For more information, please don't hesitate to contact:

THE TRUTH ABOUT

SUMMARY

We must believe the Gospel to be saved

We must be baptised to be saved

In baptism we bury our old sinful ways and commit ourselves to living a new life

By baptism, our sins can be forgiven

If we are baptised into Christ we can be given eternal life when he returns to the earth to set up God's Kingdom

belief and baptism

The **BIBLE**
EXHIBITION