

BAPTISM

WATER

NEW CREATION  
THE FATHER  
NEW  
THE SON

HOLY SPIRIT  
SPIRIT



## Colossians 2:8-12

See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made

without hands, by putting off the body  
of the flesh, by the circumcision of  
Christ, having been buried with him in  
baptism, in which you were also raised  
with him through faith in the powerful  
working of God, who raised him from  
the dead.

## Romans 6:3

Do you not know that **all of us who have been baptized** into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

## 1 Corinthians 12:13

For in one Spirit **we were all baptized** into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

## Galatians 3:27

For as many of you as **were baptized** into Christ have put on Christ.

It is striking that there is no sustained discussion of baptism in any of the epistles, presumably because the NT authors were writing to those who were already believers to whom the significance of baptism was explained upon their conversion. When Paul does refer to baptism, he assumes that all believers are baptized.

– Thomas Schreiner



In him also you were **circumcised** with a **circumcision** made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the **circumcision** of Christ, having been buried with him in **baptism**

## Genesis 17:9-14

Then God said to Abraham, "As for you, you must keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you for the generations to come. This is my covenant with you and your descendants after you, the covenant you are to keep: ***Every male among you shall be circumcised.*** You are to undergo circumcision, and it will be ***the sign of the covenant*** between me and

you. For the generations to come every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised, My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant. Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, ***will be cut off from his people;*** he has broken my covenant.”

## 1 Corinthians 1:4-5

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—

## Ephesians 1:15-16

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers,

## Galatians 1:6-10

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a **different gospel**—not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to **distort the gospel of Christ**. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a **gospel contrary to the one we preached to you**, let him be accursed.

As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you **a gospel contrary to the one you received**, let him be accursed.

## Galatians 2:11-14

But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. For before certain men came from James, he was eating with the Gentiles; but when they came he drew back and separated himself, fearing **the circumcision party**. And the rest of the Jews acted hypocritically along with him, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.

But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the **truth of the gospel**, I said to Cephas before them all, “If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?”

# Who Are The Judaizers?

Acts 15:1

But some men came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, “**Unless you are circumcised** according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.”

Acts 15:5

But some believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees rose up and said, “**It is necessary to circumcise** them and to order them to keep the law of Moses.”

# The Judaizers' Salvation Math

**Faith in Christ + Circumcision = Salvation**

It was very difficult for some Jewish Christians to accept that Gentiles could be brought into the church as equal members without first coming through the Law of Moses. It was one thing to accept the occasional God-fearer into the church, someone already in sympathy with Jewish ways; it was quite another to welcome large numbers of Gentiles who had no regard for the law and no intention of keeping it.

– George Williams

## Galatians 2:15-16

We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is **not justified by works** of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because **by works of the law no one will be justified.**

# The Modern Judaizers' Salvation Math

**Faith in Christ + Baptism = Salvation**

Through water baptism we acquire all that the death of Jesus accomplished for us.

– David Huston

We affirm God as the Father and the Creator, and Jesus as His Son. We affirm the Lordship of Christ and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, which comes to the believer through baptism for remission of sins.

– Abilene Christian University

So the two chief characteristics of the false teachers are that they were troubling the church and changing the gospel. These two go together. To tamper with the gospel is always to trouble the church. You cannot touch the gospel and leave the church untouched, because the church is created and lives by the gospel.

Indeed, the churches greatest troublemakers (now as then) are not

those outside who oppose, ridicule and persecute it, but those inside who try to change the gospel. It is they who trouble the church. Conversely, the only way to be a good churchman is to be a good gospel-man. The best way to serve the church is to believe and to preach the gospel."

– John Stott



## 1 Corinthians 1:17

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

Paul does not denigrate the practice of baptism per se, but baptism must be subordinated to the gospel so that it does not sabotage the gospel, that is, that Christ was crucified for sinners.

– Thomas Schreiner

