THE QUESTION

What did the early Christians believe about immersion and pouring in baptism?

Asked by a THF member on May 21, 2026 · published November 9, 2026 · 11 numbered quotations · the 17 early Christian passages and 132 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/what-did-the-early-christians-believe-about-immersion-and-pouring-in

The short answer *From the text: says what the passages say*

The early writers most often describe baptism as going down into the water and coming up again, a picture of dying and rising with Christ, and one church order requires three immersions. The Didache also allows pouring water three times on the head when there is not enough water, and Tertullian says the kind of water does not matter.

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POINT 1 OF 7

They went down dead and came up alive

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

In the Shepherd of Hermas, the seal of the Son of God is the water. People go down into it dead in sin and come up alive. Clement of Alexandria repeats this same line from the Shepherd about going down into the water and coming up again.

1 “So the seal is the water. They go down into the water dead, and they come up alive.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Hermas,** *Shepherd* (c. 90–150 AD) **Source 3, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

2 “And it is well said by the Shepherd, “They went down with them therefore into the water, and again ascended.””

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Clement of Alexandria,** *Stromata* 6.6 (c. 190–215 AD) **Source 10, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 2 OF 7

Going down and coming up pictures Christ's death

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The Apostolic Constitutions explain each part of the rite. The water stands for the burial, going down is dying with Christ, and coming up is rising with Him. Ignatius likewise says the one baptism is given so that we share in the Lord's death.

3 “The going down into the water is dying together with Christ. The coming up out of the water is rising again with Him.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 15, page 7** Read it in the library ›
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4 “For if there is one God of the universe, the Father of Christ, "of whom are all things;" and one Lord Jesus Christ, our Lord, "by whom are all things;" and also one Holy Spirit, who worked in Moses, and in the prophets and apostles; and also one baptism, which is administered so that we should share in the death of the Lord; and also one chosen Church; there should likewise be but one faith in respect to Christ.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Ignatius of Antioch,** *Epistles of Ignatius* (c. 98–117 AD) **Source 4, page 6** Read it in the library ›

THF's updated English

POINT 3 OF 7

One church order required three immersions

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The Apostolic Constitutions order that a bishop or presbyter who baptizes with only one immersion be removed from office. The reason given is that Christ commanded baptism into the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, so they baptize three times.

5 “If any bishop or presbyter does not perform the three immersions of the one admission, but only one immersion, which is given into the death of Christ, let him be removed from office.”

later in the same passage

“Therefore, O bishops, baptize three times into one Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost, according to the will of Christ and our constitution by the Spirit.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 17, page 7** Read it in the library ›

THF's updated English

POINT 4 OF 7

The Didache allows pouring when water is lacking

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The Didache gives an order of choices. Baptize first in living, running water, then in other water, cold or warm. Only if none of these is at hand, pour water three times on the head in the name of the Trinity. Pouring is treated as baptism, but as the last option.

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6 “But if you do not have living water, baptize in other water. And if you cannot do it in cold water, then do it in warm.”

later in the same passage

“But if you have neither, pour out water three times on the head in the name of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Didache,** *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 7 (c. 50–120 AD) **Source 1, page 6** Read it in the library ›

THF's updated English

POINT 5 OF 7

Tertullian: any kind of water will do

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Tertullian argues that sea, pool, stream, spring, lake or trough all serve, because God makes the water holy when He is called upon. He even points to the eunuch Philip baptized with whatever water was there on the road.

7 “And so it makes no difference whether a person is washed in the sea or in a pool, in a stream or in a spring, in a lake or in a trough.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *On Baptism* 4 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 12, page 7** Read it in the library ›

THF's updated English

POINT 6 OF 7

Tertullian speaks of dipping and sprinkling together

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Describing how plain the rite looks to unbelievers, Tertullian says a person is dipped in water and sprinkled while a few words are spoken. Yet he also says being splashed by the sea is not the same as being baptized in obedience to the Church's discipline.

8 “So it happens that, because with such great simplicity, without pomp, without any notable novelty of preparation, and finally without expense, a man is dipped in water, and amid the speaking of a few words is sprinkled, and then rises again not much cleaner, or not cleaner at all, the gaining of eternity that follows is thought all the more incredible.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *On Baptism* 2 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 11, page 7** Read it in the library ›

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9 “However, in my opinion, it is one thing to be sprinkled or overtaken by the force of the sea, and another thing to be baptized in obedience to the discipline of religion.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *On Baptism* 12 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 13, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 7 OF 7

The Gospels tell of much water

Our note · compiled by machine learning · Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words

Tatian's harmony of the Gospels says John baptized at Aenon because there was much water there, and that Jesus went up out of the water after His baptism. Early readers drew their picture of baptism from scenes like these.

10 “John also was baptizing in Aenon, beside Salim, because there was much water there. They came and were baptized.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tatian,** *Diatessaron* 6 (c. 150–180 AD) **Source 6, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

11 “Matthew 3:16b And immediately he went up out of the water, and heaven opened to him.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tatian,** *Diatessaron* 4 (c. 150–180 AD) **Source 7, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

THE LIMITS

What these passages don’t tell us

- These passages do not say how deep the water was or exactly how each person was immersed.
- Only the Didache here spells out when pouring may be used and why.
- They do not show which form was most common in every church and region.
- A word-for-word match shows that a quotation really is in our text. It does not show that our reading of it is right, or who wrote each work.

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WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 17 early Christian passages and 132 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–17, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 18–122, in Bible order), then 27 more verses THF links to these passages, by reference. **Quote 1, page 2** beside a source shows where the study quotes it. Passages are in THF's updated English unless marked "1885 English" (the Roberts–Donaldson translation, public domain). "… [continues online]" marks a passage the library gave only in part. **On paper?** At **thehistoricfaith.com**, Bible verses are in the **Audio Bible** and early Christian writings in the **Library** (search for the title).

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITERS *17 passages from 10 writers*

Didache, *c. 50–120 AD · source 1*

1 *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 7 **Quote 6, page 4** "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Matthew 28:19, in living water. But if you do not have living water, baptize… [continues online] **read ›**

Barnabas, *c. 70–132 AD · source 2*

2 *Epistle of Barnabas* (on point 1) "these words imply, Blessed are they who, placing their trust in the cross, have gone down into the water… [continues online] **read ›**

Hermas, *c. 90–150 AD · source 3*

3 *Shepherd* (1885 English) **Quote 1, page 2** "to them, accordingly, was this seal preached, and they made use of it that they might enter into the kingdom of God… [continues online] **read ›**

Ignatius of Antioch, *c. 98–117 AD · source 4*

4 *Epistles of Ignatius* (1885 English) **Quote 4, page 3** "also one baptism, which is administered that we should have fellowship with the death of the Lord… [continues online] **read ›**

Justin Martyr, *c. 130–165 AD · source 5*

5 *First Apology* (1885 English) they are brought by us where there is water, and are regenerated in the same manner in which we were ourselves regenerated. For, in the name of God, the Father… [continues online] **read ›**

Tatian, *c. 150–180 AD · sources 6–8*

6 *Diatessaron* 6 (1885 English) **Quote 10, page 5** "3:23 And John also was baptizing in Ænon, which is beside Salim, because there was much water there: and they came, and were baptized… [continues online] **read ›**

7 *Diatessaron* 4 **Quote 11, page 5** 3:13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan, to John, to be baptized by him. Luke 3:23a And Jesus was about thirty years old, and it was… [continues online] **read ›**

8 *Diatessaron* 4 (1885 English; on point 7) "3:6 and they were baptized of him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Alexandria, *c. 190–215 AD · sources 9–10*

9 *Stromata* 2.9 (on point 1) "descended, therefore, with them into the water, and again ascended… [continues online] **read ›**

10 *Stromata* 6.6 **Quote 2, page 2** "it is well said by the Shepherd, "They went down with them therefore into the water, and again ascended… [continues online] **read ›**

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Tertullian, *c. 196–220 AD · sources 11–13*

11 *On Baptism* 2 (1885 English) **Quote 8, page 4** “that from the very fact, that with so great simplicity, without pomp, without any considerable novelty of preparation, finally, without expense, a man is dipped in water, and amid the… [continues online] **read ›**

12 *On Baptism* 4 (1885 English) **Quote 7, page 4** “is there any distinction between those whom John baptized in the Jordan and those whom Peter baptized in the Tiber, unless withal the eunuch whom Philip baptized in the midst… [continues online] **read ›**

13 *On Baptism* 12 (1885 English) **Quote 9, page 5** “make the suggestion (forced enough, clearly that the apostles then served the turn of baptism when in their little ship, were sprinkled and covered with the waves: that Peter himself… [continues online] **read ›**

Hippolytus, *c. 200–236 AD · source 14*

14 *Discourse on the Holy Theophany* 1 (1885 English; on point 7) “at length John suffers Him. And Jesus, when He was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and the heavens were opened unto Him… [continues online] **read ›**

Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · sources 15–17*

15 *Apostolic Constitutions* **Quote 3, page 2** “Father is the God over all. Christ is the only begotten God, the beloved Son, the Lord of glory… [continues online] **read ›**

16 *Apostolic Constitutions* concerning baptism, O bishop or presbyter, we have already given instruction, and now we say this: you shall baptize as the Lord commanded us, saying, “Go and teach all nations… [continues online] **read ›**

17 *Apostolic Constitutions* **Quote 5, page 3** “If any bishop or presbyter does not perform the three immersions of… [continues online] **read ›**

THE BIBLE *105 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

18 **Exodus 19:14** So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sanctified them, and they washed their garments. **read ›**

19 **Exodus 29:4** You shall bring Aaron and his sons to the doors of the tabernacle of witness, and wash them with water. **read ›**

20 **Exodus 30:20** Whenever they go into the tabernacle of witness, and whenever they come near the altar to minister and to offer whole burnt offerings to the Lord, they shall wash with water, and so they shall certainly not die. **read ›**

21 **Exodus 40:12** You shall bring Aaron and his sons to the doors of the tabernacle of witness and wash them with water. **read ›**

22 **Leviticus 4:6** The priest shall dip his finger into the blood and sprinkle some of the blood seven times before the Lord, in front of the holy veil. **read ›**

23 **Leviticus 4:17** The priest shall dip his finger in some of the blood of the calf and sprinkle it seven times before the Lord, in front of the holy veil. **read ›**

24 **Leviticus 8:6** Then Moses brought Aaron and his sons near and washed them with water. **read ›**

25 **Leviticus 11:36** But springs of water, a pit, and a gathering of water shall be clean. But whoever touches their carcasses shall be unclean. **read ›**

26 **Leviticus 14:5** The priest shall give orders, and they shall kill the one bird in a clay vessel over running water. **read ›**

27 **Leviticus 14:6** As for the live bird, he shall take it, with the cedar wood, the spun scarlet, and the hyssop, and he shall dip them and the live bird into the blood of the bird that was killed over running water. **read ›**

28 **Leviticus 14:7** He shall sprinkle seven times on the one who has been cleansed from the leprosy, and he shall be clean; and he shall let the live bird go into the open field. **read ›**

29 **Leviticus 14:50** He shall kill the one bird in a clay vessel over running water. **read ›**

30 **Leviticus 14:51** He shall take the cedar wood, the spun scarlet, the hyssop, and the live bird, and he shall dip it into the blood of the bird killed over running water, and with them he shall sprinkle the house seven times. **read ›**

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31 **Leviticus 16:19** He shall sprinkle some of the blood on it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it, and sanctify it from the uncleannesses of the children of Israel. **read ›**

32 **Leviticus 22:6** the person who touches any of these shall be unclean until evening. He shall not eat of the holy things unless he washes his body with water; **read ›**

33 **Numbers 5:17** The priest shall take pure running water in a clay vessel, and some of the earth that is on the floor of the tabernacle of witness; and the priest shall take the earth and put it into the water. **read ›**

34 **Numbers 8:7** And thus you shall perform their purification: you shall sprinkle them with water of purification, and a razor shall pass over their whole body, and they shall wash their garments and be clean. **read ›**

35 **Numbers 16:33** So they went down, they and all that was theirs, alive into Hades; and the earth covered them, and they perished from the midst of the congregation. **read ›**

36 **Numbers 19:9** And a man who is clean shall gather up the ashes of the young cow and put them outside the camp in a clean place; and they shall be kept for the congregation of the children of Israel; it is a water of sprinkling, a purification. **read ›**

37 **Numbers 19:17** And for the unclean they shall take some of the burnt ashes of the purification, and they shall pour running water over them into a vessel. **read ›**

38 **Numbers 19:18** And a man who is clean shall take hyssop and dip it in the water, and sprinkle it on the house and on the furnishings and on the persons who are there, and on him who touched the human bone, or the slain, or the dead, or the tomb. **read ›**

39 **Numbers 19:19** And the clean man shall sprinkle the unclean on the third day and on the seventh day, and he shall be purified on the seventh day; and he shall wash his garments and bathe in water, and he shall be unclean until evening. **read ›**

40 **Numbers 19:20** But the man who is defiled and does not purify himself, that person shall be utterly destroyed from the midst of the congregation, because he has defiled the holy place of the Lord, because the water of sprinkling was not sprinkled on him; he is unclean. **read ›**

41 **Numbers 31:23** everything that passes through fire shall be clean; yet it shall be purified with the water of purification. And whatever does not pass through fire shall pass through water. **read ›**

42 **Deuteronomy 10:7** From there they set out to Haggidgad, and from Haggidgad to Jotbathah, a land of brooks of water. **read ›**

43 **Joshua 3:13** And when the feet of the priests who carry the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth come to rest in the water of the Jordan, the water of the Jordan shall cease, and the water coming down shall stand still." **read ›**

44 **Joshua 3:15** And as the priests who carried the ark of the covenant came to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord were dipped into part of the water of the Jordan—now the Jordan was overflowing all its banks, as in the days of wheat harvest— **read ›**

45 **Joshua 3:17** The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan; and all the children of Israel crossed over on dry ground, until all the people had finished crossing the Jordan. **read ›**

46 **Joshua 4:17** So Jesus commanded the priests, saying, "Come up out of the Jordan." **read ›**

47 **Joshua 4:18** When the priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord came up out of the Jordan and set their feet on the land, the water of the Jordan rushed back to its place and flowed over all its banks as yesterday and the day before. **read ›**

48 **Joshua 4:23** when the Lord our God dried up the water of the Jordan before them until they had crossed, just as the Lord our God did to the Red Sea, which the Lord our God dried up before us until we had passed through, **read ›**

49 **Joshua 8:7** Then you shall rise up out of the ambush and go into the city. **read ›**

50 **Judges 3:28** He said to them, "Come down after me, for the Lord God has delivered our enemies, Moab, into our hand." So they went down after him and seized the fords of the Jordan of Moab, and he did not let a man cross over. **read ›**

51 **Judges 11:22** from the Arnon to the Jabbok, and from the wilderness to the Jordan. **read ›**

52 **2 Samuel 22:17** He sent from on high and took me; he drew me out of many waters. **read ›**

53 **1 Kings 7:33** The work of the wheels was like the work of chariot wheels; their axles, their rims, and all their workmanship were cast. (Septuagint 3 Kingdoms 7:19 (1 Kings 7:33 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

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54 **1 Kings 18:35** And the water ran around the altar, and they filled the trench with water. **read ›**

55 **2 Kings 2:7** and fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went; and they stood opposite them at a distance; and the two of them stood by the Jordan. **read ›**

56 **2 Kings 2:8** And Elijah took his sheepskin cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was divided this way and that, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground. **read ›**

57 **2 Kings 2:14** and he took the sheepskin cloak of Elijah, which had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, “Where is the God of Elijah, apph??” And he struck the waters, and they were divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over. **read ›**

58 **2 Kings 5:10** And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, “Go, wash seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh shall return to you, and you shall be clean.” **read ›**

59 **2 Kings 5:12** Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Can I not go and wash in them and be clean?” And he turned and went away in a rage. **read ›**

60 **2 Kings 5:14** So Naaman went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of Elisha; and his flesh returned like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. **read ›**

61 **Psalms 6:2** Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am weak; heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled. (Septuagint Psalm 6:3 (Psalm 6:2 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

62 **Proverbs 16:6** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

63 **Jeremiah 17:17** Do not become a stranger to me; spare me in the evil day. **read ›**

64 **Jeremiah 50:9** For behold, I am stirring up against Babylon congregations of nations from the land of the north, and they will line up for battle against her; from there she will be taken; as the arrow of a skilled warrior, it will not return empty. (Septuagint Jeremiah 27:9 (Jeremiah 50:9 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

65 **Haggai 2:6** For thus says the Lord Almighty: Yet once more I will shake the heaven and the earth, and the sea and the dry land; **read ›**

66 **1 Esdras 8:73** Then I rose from my fast, with my garments and my holy robe torn, and bending my knees and stretching out my hands to the Lord, **read ›**

67 **Tobit 6:2** And the young man went down to wash himself, and a fish leaped up out of the river and wanted to swallow the young man. **read ›**

68 **Tobit 8:14** and she came out and told them that he was alive. **read ›**

69 **Wisdom of Solomon 10:13** When a righteous man was sold, she did not forsake him, but delivered him from sin. **read ›**

70 **Wisdom of Solomon 11:7** as a rebuke for the decree to kill infants, you gave them abundant water beyond hope, **read ›**

71 **Wisdom of Solomon 19:19** For land creatures were changed into water creatures, and swimming creatures moved onto the land. **read ›**

72 **Wisdom of Sirach 3:30** Water will quench a blazing fire, and an act of mercy will make atonement for sins. **read ›**

73 **Wisdom of Sirach 24:30** And I came out like a canal from a river, and like a water channel into a garden. **read ›**

74 **Wisdom of Sirach 39:22** His blessing covered like a river, and drenched the dry land like a flood. **read ›**

75 **1 Maccabees 5:24** Judas Maccabeus and Jonathan his brother crossed the Jordan and went three days’ journey in the wilderness. **read ›**

76 **1 Maccabees 5:52** Then they crossed the Jordan into the great plain opposite Beth-shean. **read ›**

77 **1 Maccabees 9:34** Bacchides learned of it on the Sabbath day, and he and all his army came across the Jordan. **read ›**

78 **1 Maccabees 9:43** When Bacchides heard of it, he came on the Sabbath day to the banks of the Jordan with a large force. **read ›**

79 **1 Maccabees 9:48** Then Jonathan and those with him leaped into the Jordan and swam across to the other side; and Bacchides’ men did not cross the Jordan after them. **read ›**

80 **1 Maccabees 16:6** He and his people encamped facing them. He saw that the people were losing heart about crossing the brook, so he crossed over first; and when the men saw him, they crossed over after him. **read ›**

81 **4 Maccabees 15:31** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

82 **1 Enoch 17:5** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

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83 **1 Enoch 17:8** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
84 **1 Enoch 22:10** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
85 **1 Enoch 67:11** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
86 **1 Enoch 67:13** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
87 **1 Enoch 89:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
88 **1 Enoch 89:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
89 **1 Enoch 89:6** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
90 **1 Enoch 89:38** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
91 **1 Enoch 100:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
92 **Matthew 3:6** They were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. **read ›**
93 **Matthew 3:11** I indeed baptize you in water for repentance, but he who comes after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit. **read ›**
94 **Matthew 3:13** Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. **read ›**
95 **Matthew 3:16** Jesus, when he was baptized, went up directly from the water: and behold, the heavens were opened to him. He saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove, and coming on him. **read ›**
96 **Mark 1:4** John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching the baptism of repentance for forgiveness of sins. **read ›**
97 **Mark 1:5** All the country of Judea and the people of Jerusalem went out to him, and they were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. **read ›**
98 **Mark 1:8** I baptized you in water, but he will baptize you in the Holy Spirit." **read ›**
99 **Mark 1:9** In those days, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. **read ›**
100 **Mark 1:10** Immediately coming up from the water, he saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. **read ›**
101 **Luke 3:3** He came into all the region around the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for remission of sins, **read ›**
102 **Luke 3:16** John answered them all, "I indeed baptize you with water, but he comes who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to loosen. He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit and fire. **read ›**
103 **Luke 3:21** When all the people were baptized, and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened, **read ›**
104 **Luke 14:8** "When you are invited by anyone to a wedding feast, do not sit in the best seat, since perhaps someone more honorable than you might be invited by him, **read ›**
105 **John 1:28** These things took place in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing. **read ›**
106 **John 3:5** Jesus answered, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless one is born of water and Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. **read ›**
107 **John 3:23** John also was baptizing in Enon near Salim because there was much water there. People came and were baptized; **read ›**
108 **Acts 1:5** for John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized in the Holy Spirit not many days from now." **read ›**
109 **Acts 8:38** He commanded the chariot to stand still, and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. **read ›**
110 **Acts 8:39** When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away. The eunuch saw him no more, for he went on his way rejoicing. **read ›**
111 **Acts 12:3** When he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This was during the days of unleavened bread. **read ›**
112 **Acts 19:3** He said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." **read ›**
113 **Acts 26:19** Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, **read ›**
114 **Romans 6:3** Or do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? **read ›**
115 **Romans 6:4** We were buried therefore with him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life. **read ›**

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116 **1 Corinthians 10:2** and were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea; **read ›**

117 **Ephesians 2:2** in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the children of disobedience. **read ›**

118 **Ephesians 4:5** one Lord, one faith, one baptism, **read ›**

119 **Colossians 2:12** having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead. **read ›**

120 **Titus 3:6** whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior; **read ›**

121 **Hebrews 6:2** of the teaching of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. **read ›**

122 **1 Peter 3:21** Baptism, which corresponds to this, now also saves us—not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but the appeal of a good conscience to God—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, **read ›**

ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *27 verses, by reference*

Partly machine-linked: related to the passages, not always quoted in them. Each reference links to the verse in our audio Bible.

Isaiah 1:18

Jeremiah 2:12 · 2:13

Ezekiel 47:1

Matthew 8:24 · 14:28 · 28:19

Mark 5:15

Luke 7:18 · 18:27 · 22:32

John 4:10 · 5:11 · 5:25 · 13:8 · 14:17

Acts 8:26

Romans 10:2 · 10:4 · 10:19 · 11:11 · 12:9

1 Corinthians 1:27 · 5:11

Titus 3:5

1 John 5:11

Revelation 22:1

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Searched: Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1–9 and the Bible, including the Septuagint.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “What did the early Christians believe about immersion and pouring in baptism?” on May 21, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

Library only. This study was written only from The Historic Faith’s library of early-Christian writings and the Bible, never from the web. Every passage we kept from what the library gave is listed above, with a link to read it.

How it was made. Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith’s library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.

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THE END OF THIS STUDY