THE QUESTION

What did the early church and the Scriptures teach about baptism?

Asked by a THF member on August 4, 2026 · published November 9, 2026 · 13 numbered quotations · the 46 early Christian passages and 216 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-church-and-the-scriptures-teach-about-baptism

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

The early church taught that Christ commanded baptism in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit for those who believe and repent. In it sins are washed away, a person is born again, and shares in Christ's death and rising. There is only one baptism, and it was never to be treated lightly.

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 at the back, 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.
SHARING WITH AN AI?	Every quotation here comes from The Historic Faith's library. If you paste this study into an AI, anything it adds beyond these pages comes from that AI, not from us.

IN THIS STUDY

1	Baptize in the name of the Trinity	2	6	There is only one baptism	4
2	Believers repent, pray and fast first	2	7	Refusing baptism was a serious matter	5
3	Baptism washes away sin and gives new birth	3	8	Martyrs receive a baptism of blood	5
4	We are buried and raised with Christ	3		What these passages don't tell us	6
5	Christian baptism gives what John's could not	4		The Sources: 46 early Christian passages and 216 Bible verses, with links	6

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POINT 1 OF 8

Baptize in the name of the Trinity

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

The Didache, also called the Teaching of the Twelve Apostles, gives plain directions. Baptism is done in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, as Jesus commanded in Matthew 28. Running water is preferred. If there is not enough water, pouring water three times on the head is allowed.

1

"And concerning baptism, baptize in this way: After you have first said all these things, baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Matthew 28:19, in living water."

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 2 OF 8

Believers repent, pray and fast first

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

Justin Martyr describes what happened in his day. Those who believed the teaching and promised to live by it first prayed and fasted, asking God to forgive their past sins. The church prayed and fasted with them. Then they were brought to the water.

2

"All who are convinced and believe that what we teach and say is true, and commit to living accordingly, are instructed to pray and ask God for the remission of their past sins with fasting, while we pray and fast with them."

later in the same passage

"Then, they are brought by us to water and are regenerated in the same way we were."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Justin Martyr,** *First Apology* (c. 130–165 AD) **Source 5, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
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POINT 3 OF 8

Baptism washes away sin and gives new birth

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

Irenaeus sees Naaman washing in the Jordan as a sign for Christians. We are like lepers in sin, and the water with the Lord's name makes us clean and born again. John Chrysostom says even the worst sinner comes up from the water cleaner than the sun's rays.

3 “For just as we are lepers in sin, we are made clean by means of the sacred water and the invocation of the Lord from our old transgressions, being spiritually regenerated as newborn babes, just as the Lord has declared: "Unless a man is born again through water and the Spirit, he shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Fragments from the Lost Writings of Irenæus* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 10, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

4 “And if any man is effeminate, or a fornicator, or an idolator, or a doer of whatever evil you please, or if he is full of all the wickedness there is among men, if he falls into this pool of waters, he comes up again from the divine fountain purer than the sun's rays.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **John Chrysostom,** *Instructions to Catechumens* 1 (c. 386–407 AD) **Source 40, page 9** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 4 OF 8

We are buried and raised with Christ

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

The Apostolic Constitutions say baptism is given into the death of Jesus, with the water standing for His burial. Going down is dying with Christ and coming up is rising with Him. Chrysostom says the same: in baptism we are buried with Christ and the old self is crucified with Him.

5 “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 35, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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6 “For in this baptism we are buried with Him, and our old self was then crucified with Him.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **John Chrysostom,** *Homilies on Matthew* 10 (c. 386–407 AD) **Source 38, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 5 OF 8

Christian baptism gives what John's could not

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

Chrysostom and Tertullian both compare Christian baptism with John's. John's baptism called people to repent, but it did not itself forgive sins or give the Spirit. Only God forgives sins and gives the Spirit, and that gift came with the baptism Christ gave after His cross.

7 “And yet it did not give remission of sins, because that gift belonged to the baptism given later.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **John Chrysostom,** *Homilies on Matthew* 10 (c. 386–407 AD) **Source 38, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

8 “Otherwise, if it had been celestial, it would have given both the Holy Spirit and remission of sins. But no one either pardons sins or freely grants the Spirit except God only.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *On Baptism* 10 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 14, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 6 OF 8

There is only one baptism

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

Tertullian says Christians go into the baptismal water once, because sins are washed away once and should not be repeated. The Apostolic Constitutions tie this to the one God, one Christ and one death of the Lord. Since He died once, baptism into Him is also one.

9 “So, we enter the baptismal water once. Sins are washed away once, because they should never be repeated.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *On Baptism* 15 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 13, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

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10 “For as there is one God, one Christ, one Comforter, and one death of the Lord in the body, so let the baptism into Him also be one.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 30, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 7 OF 8

Refusing baptism was a serious matter

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

The Apostolic Constitutions warn that someone who refuses baptism out of contempt is acting as an unbeliever. They point to the Lord's own words that a person must be born of water and the Spirit to enter the kingdom.

11 “No, the one who, out of contempt, refuses to be baptized will be condemned as an unbeliever and rebuked as ungrateful and foolish.”

later in the same passage

“For the Lord says, "Unless a man is baptized of water and of the Spirit, he shall by no means enter into the kingdom of heaven." John 3:5 And again, "He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believes not shall be damned."”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Apostolic Constitutions** (c. 250–380 AD) **Source 30, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 8 OF 8

Martyrs receive a baptism of blood

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

Early writers also spoke of a second kind of baptism. A martyr who dies for Christ is baptized in his own blood. One writer says that for such martyrs, lacking the water does them no harm. Cyprian says water brings forgiveness of sins, and blood brings the crown.

12 “This is as in the case of martyrs who hear the word: the baptism of water is lacking without evil.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Anonymous,** *Treatise on Re-Baptism* 1 **Source 42, page 9** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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13 “In the baptism of water, the remission of sins is received; in the baptism of blood, the crown of virtues.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Cyprian,** *Treatises* (c. 248–258 AD) *THF's updated English* **Source 25, page 8** **Read it in the library ›**

THE LIMITS

What these passages don’t tell us

- These passages do not discuss the baptism of infants or young children.
- They do not fully explain how the gift of the Spirit relates to the laying on of hands after baptism.
- 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.

WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 46 early Christian passages and 216 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–46, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 47–137, in Bible order), then 125 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 *46 passages from 16 writers*

Didache, *c. 50–120 AD · source 1*

1 *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 7 **Quote 1, page 2** “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 3) “indeed descend into the water full of sins and defilement, but come up, bearing fruit in our heart, having the fear of God and trust in Jesus in our spirit… [continues online] **read ›**

Hermas, *c. 90–150 AD · source 3*

3 *Shepherd* (1885 English; on point 3) heard, sir, some teachers maintain that there is no other repentance than that which takes place, when we descended into the water and received remission of our former sins… [continues online] **read ›**

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

4 *Epistles of Ignatius* (on point 6) “there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism… [continues online] **read ›**

Justin Martyr, *c. 130–165 AD · sources 5–7*

5 *First Apology* (1885 English) **Quote 2, page 2** “they are brought by us where there is water, and are regenerated in the same manner in which we were ourselves regenerated… [continues online] **read ›**

6 *Dialogue with Trypho* (1885 English; on point 2) “reason, therefore, of this laver of repentance and knowledge of God, which has been ordained on account of the transgression of God’s people, as Isaiah cries, we have believed… [continues online] **read ›**

7 *Dialogue with Trypho* (1885 English; on point 5) baptize you with water to repentance; but He that is stronger than I shall come, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you with the Holy… [continues online] **read ›**

Irenaeus, *c. 175–202 AD · sources 8–10*

8 *Against Heresies: Book III* (1885 English) “therefore did he exclaim, “Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, who have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?” He persuaded, at the same… [continues online] **read ›**

9 *Against Heresies: Book V* (1885 English; on point 3) “inasmuch as man, with respect to that formation which, was after Adam, having fallen into transgression, needed the laver of regeneration, [the Lord] said to him [upon whom He had… [continues online] **read ›**

10 *Fragments from the Lost Writings of Irenæus* (1885 English) **Quote 3, page 3** “spiritually regenerated as new-born babes, even as the Lord has declared: “Except a man be born again through water and the Spirit, he shall not enter into the kingdom… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Alexandria, *c. 190–215 AD · sources 11–12*

11 *Instructor* 1.6 (on point 3) human faith and divine grace, our transgressions being taken away by one Paeonian medicine, the baptism of the Word. We are washed from all our sins and are no longer… [continues online] **read ›**

12 *Stromata* 2.13 (1885 English) “in addition to the first and only repentance from sins (this is from the previous sins in the first and heathen life — I mean that in ignorance), there is immediately… [continues online] **read ›**

Tertullian, *c. 196–220 AD · sources 13–15*

13 *On Baptism* 15 (1885 English) **Quote 9, page 4** “well according to the Lord's gospel as according to the apostle's letters, inasmuch as he says, One God, and one baptism, and one church in the heavens… [continues online] **read ›**

14 *On Baptism* 10 **Quote 8, page 4** “again by saying that he baptized in repentance only, but that One… [continues online] **read ›**

15 *On Baptism* 9 with all his forces, Exodus 14:27-30. What figure is more clearly fulfilled in the sacrament of baptism? The nations are set free from the world by means of… [continues online] **read ›**

Hippolytus, *c. 200–236 AD · sources 16–19*

16 *Discourse on the Holy Theophany* 1 (on point 5) “O Lord, baptize with the baptism of repentance, and I cannot baptize those who come to me unless they first confess fully their sins… [continues online] **read ›**

17 *Discourse on the Holy Theophany* 1 (on point 5) “baptize with the baptism of repentance, but He confers the gift of adoption. He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire… [continues online] **read ›**

18 *Discourse on the Holy Theophany* 1 (1885 English; on point 7) “me, John, in order that no one may despise baptism… [continues online] **read ›**

19 *Refutation of All Heresies* 36 (1885 English; on point 6) “by this (other baptism) they wickedly subvert those that remain with them in expectation of redemption, as if persons, after they had once been baptized, could again obtain remission… [continues online] **read ›**

Origen, *c. 215–254 AD · sources 20–22*

20 *Commentary on John* 6 (on point 5) “did not take place with John, but with Jesus through His disciples… [continues online] **read ›**

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21 *Commentary on John* 6 (on point 5) “And he came into all the region around the Jordan preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins; as it is written in the book of the words… [continues online] **read ›**

22 *Commentary on John* 6 (on point 5) very well stumble over the explanation given above about the Jordan. John says, “I baptize with water, but He who comes after me is stronger than I. He will baptize… [continues online] **read ›**

Cyprian, *c. 248–258 AD · sources 23–29*

23 *Epistles* (on point 6) when they come to us, because they say there is one baptism, which is one for this reason: the Church is one, and there cannot be any baptism outside the… [continues online] **read ›**

24 *Epistles* (on point 3) and His God is rewarded by Christ, and receives forgiveness of sins and the sanctification of baptism! But by what power can the one who denies God the Creator, the… [continues online] **read ›**

25 *Treatises* (1885 English) **Quote 13, page 6** “and teaching that this is a baptism greater in grace, more lofty in power, more precious in honour— a baptism wherein angels baptize— a baptism in which God and His… [continues online] **read ›**

26 *Epistles* (on point 3) Since in baptism each person has his own sins forgiven, the Lord proves and declares in His Gospel that sins can be taken away only by those who have the… [continues online] **read ›**

27 *Epistles* (on point 3) “3:5. But if regeneration is in the washing, that is, in baptism, how can heresy, which is… [continues online] **read ›**

28 *Seventh Council of Carthage* 1 (1885 English; on point 6) “thus it is written: One faith, one hope, one baptism… [continues online] **read ›**

29 *Seventh Council of Carthage* 1 (1885 English; on point 6) “of Thamugada said: Although we know that all the Scriptures give witness concerning the saving baptism, still we ought to declare our faith, that heretics and schismatics who come to… [continues online] **read ›**

Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · sources 30–35*

30 *Apostolic Constitutions* **Quotes 10, 11, page 5** “be satisfied with one baptism only, the one into the death of the Lord; not the one given by wicked heretics, but the one given by blameless priests, in the… [continues online] **read ›**

31 *Apostolic Constitutions* (on point 1) “But first you shall anoint the person with the holy oil, and afterward baptize him with water, and at the end you shall seal him with the ointment. In this… [continues online] **read ›**

32 *Apostolic Constitutions* (1885 English; on point 1) “Now this is blessed by the high priest for the remission of sins, and the first preparation for baptism… [continues online] **read ›**

33 *Apostolic Constitutions* (on point 3) “them the laver of regeneration and the garment of incorruption, which is the true life… [continues online] **read ›**

34 *Apostolic Constitutions* (1885 English; on point 1) “O bishops, baptize thrice into one Father, and Son, and Holy Ghost, according to the will of Christ, and our constitution by the Spirit… [continues online] **read ›**

35 *Apostolic Constitutions* (1885 English) **Quote 5, page 3** baptism, therefore, is given into the death of Jesus… [continues online] **read ›**

Commodianus, *c. 250–300 AD · source 36*

36 *Writings* (on point 3) “baptism, the coarse dress of your birth is washed… [continues online] **read ›**

Archelaus, *c. 270–300 AD · source 37*

37 *Disputation with Manes* 1 (on point 3) “said: "Is baptism, then, given on account of the remission of sins… [continues online] **read ›**

John Chrysostom, *c. 386–407 AD · sources 38–41*

38 *Homilies on Matthew* 10 **Quotes 6, 7, page 4** only reason, how does Luke say that John "came into the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins"? Luke 3:3 And yet… [continues online] **read ›**

39 *Instructions to Catechumens* 1 (on point 3) “This purification is called the laver of regeneration… [continues online] **read ›**

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40 *Instructions to Catechumens* 1 **Quote 4, page 3** for what reason, someone says, if the laver takes away all our sins, is it called, not a laver of remission of sins, nor a laver of cleansing, but a… [continues online] **read ›**

41 *Homilies on First Corinthians* 7 (1885 English; on point 3) “forgiveness of sins and the laver of regeneration… [continues online] **read ›**

Anonymous · *sources 42–46*

42 *Treatise on Re-Baptism* 1 **Quote 12, page 5** “which I am baptized?" (Mark 10:38). For He knew that those men had to be baptized not only with water, but also in their own blood. So, being well… [continues online] **read ›**

43 *Treatise on Re-Baptism* 1 (on point 5) most ancient baptism of Moses, and prepared the way for the new and true grace. By the baptism of water and of repentance, which he practiced for a time, he… [continues online] **read ›**

44 *Treatise on Re-Baptism* 1 “heretics, but even among those who are established in schism. And for that reason, those who repent and are amended by the teaching of the truth, and by their own… [continues online] **read ›**

45 *Treatise on Re-Baptism* 1 (on point 8) “three bear witness, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood, and these three are one… [continues online] **read ›**

46 *Treatise on Re-Baptism* 1 (on point 5) “these three are one. And, unless I am mistaken, we have also explained what our Lord says: "John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy… [continues online] **read ›**

THE BIBLE *91 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

47 **Exodus 10:17** Now therefore forgive my sin this once more, and pray to the Lord your God, and let him take this death away from me.” **read ›**

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

49 **Exodus 30:19** Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet with water from it. **read ›**

50 **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 ›**

51 **Exodus 30:21** They shall wash their hands and their feet with water. Whenever they go into the tabernacle of witness, they shall wash with water, so that they do not die. It shall be a perpetual ordinance for them, for Aaron and for his generations after him.” **read ›**

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

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

54 **Leviticus 16:24** He shall bathe his body in water in a holy place and put on his garment; then he shall go out and offer his whole burnt offering and the whole burnt offering of the people, and make atonement for himself, for his house, and for the people, as for the priests. **read ›**

55 **Leviticus 16:26** The one who sends away the goat that was set apart for release shall wash his garments and bathe his body in water, and after that he may come into the camp. **read ›**

56 **Leviticus 16:28** The one who burns them shall wash his garments and bathe his body in water, and after that he may come into the camp. **read ›**

57 **Leviticus 16:30** For on this day he shall make atonement for you, to cleanse you from all your sins before the Lord, and you shall be cleansed. **read ›**

58 **Leviticus 19:22** The priest shall make atonement for him with the ram of the guilt offering before the Lord for the sin that he sinned, and the sin that he sinned shall be forgiven him. **read ›**

59 **Numbers 5:23** Then the priest shall write these curses in a book, and wash them off into the water of proof that brings the curse. **read ›**

60 **Numbers 7:16** one male goat of the goats for a sin offering; **read ›**

61 **Numbers 7:22** one male goat of the goats for a sin offering; **read ›**

62 **Numbers 7:28** one male goat of the goats for a sin offering; **read ›**

63 **Numbers 7:34** one male goat of the goats for a sin offering; **read ›**

64 **Numbers 7:40** one male goat of the goats for a sin offering; **read ›**

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65 **Numbers 7:46** one male goat of the goats for a sin offering; **read ›**

66 **Numbers 7:52** one male goat of the goats for a sin offering; **read ›**

67 **Numbers 7:58** one male goat of the goats for a sin offering; **read ›**

68 **Numbers 7:64** one male goat of the goats for a sin offering; **read ›**

69 **Numbers 7:70** one male goat of the goats for a sin offering; **read ›**

70 **Numbers 7:76** one male goat of the goats for a sin offering; **read ›**

71 **Numbers 7:82** one male goat of the goats for a sin offering; **read ›**

72 **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 ›**

73 **Numbers 14:18** ‘The Lord is long-suffering, great in mercy, and true, taking away lawlessness and unrighteousness and sins; yet he will by no means acquit the guilty, repaying the sins of fathers upon children to the third and fourth generation.’ **read ›**

74 **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 ›**

75 **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 ›**

76 **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 ›**

77 **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 ›**

78 **Numbers 19:21** And it shall be a perpetual ordinance for you. And he who sprinkles the water of sprinkling shall wash his garments; and he who touches the water of sprinkling shall be unclean until evening. **read ›**

79 **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 ›**

80 **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 ›**

81 **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 ›**

82 **Proverbs 14:19** The evil will fall before the good, and the ungodly will wait at the doors of the righteous. **read ›**

83 **Ecclesiastes 2:16** For there is no remembrance of the wise man together with the fool forever, since already in the days that are coming all things are forgotten. And how will the wise man die together with the fool? **read ›**

84 **Isaiah 15:3** Wrap yourselves in sackcloth in her squares, and lament on her rooftops and in her lanes; all of you, wail with weeping. **read ›**

85 **Jeremiah 31:1** At that time, said the Lord, I will be God to the family of Israel, and they shall be my people. (Septuagint Jeremiah 38:1 (Jeremiah 31:1 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

86 **Jeremiah 50:4** In those days and at that time, the children of Israel will come, they and the children of Judah together; they will go walking and weeping, seeking the Lord their God. (Septuagint Jeremiah 27:4 (Jeremiah 50:4 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

87 **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 ›**

88 **Lamentations 1:7** Zain. Jerusalem remembered the days of her humiliation and of her rejection, all her desirable things that were from days of old, when her people fell into the hand of the oppressor, and there was none to help her; her enemies saw it and laughed at her dwelling. **read ›**

89 **Lamentations 1:8** Heth. Jerusalem has sinned a sin; therefore she has become a thing tossed about; all who honored her have humbled her, for they have seen her shame; and she herself groaned and turned backward. **read ›**

90 **Ezekiel 36:25** and I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be cleansed from all your uncleannesses and from all your idols, and I will cleanse you. **read ›**

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91 **1 Esdras 9:38** And the whole multitude gathered together in the open square before the gate of the temple toward the east, **read ›**

92 **Tobit 12:9** For alms delivers from death, and it will purge away every sin. Those who do acts of alms and righteous deeds will be filled with life; **read ›**

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

94 **Wisdom of Solomon 18:5** And when they had resolved to kill the infants of the holy ones, and one child had been cast out and saved, you took away the multitude of their children as a rebuke, and destroyed them all together in mighty water. **read ›**

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

96 **Wisdom of Sirach 31:25** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

97 **Wisdom of Sirach 44:16** Enoch pleased the Lord and was taken away, an example of repentance to the generations. **read ›**

98 **Baruch 1:14** And you shall read this book that we have sent to you, to make confession in the house of the Lord on the day of a feast and on the days of the appointed season. **read ›**

99 **Baruch 1:17** because we have sinned before the Lord, **read ›**

100 **1 Maccabees 14:19** And these were read before the assembly in Jerusalem. **read ›**

101 **2 Maccabees 2:16** Since, then, we are about to celebrate the purification, we have written to you; you will do well, therefore, to keep the days. **read ›**

102 **2 Maccabees 12:42** and they turned to pleading, asking that the sin that had been committed might be wholly blotted out. And the noble Judas urged the multitude to keep themselves free from sin, since they had seen with their own eyes what had happened because of the sin of those who had fallen. **read ›**

103 **2 Maccabees 13:12** When they had all done this together and had pleaded with the merciful Lord with weeping and fasting and lying facedown for three days without ceasing, Judas encouraged them and ordered them to stand ready. **read ›**

104 **4 Maccabees 15:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

105 **4 Maccabees 18:10** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

106 **1 Enoch 1:7** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

107 **1 Enoch 1:8** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

108 **1 Enoch 22:10** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

109 **1 Enoch 67:11** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

110 **Matthew 3:6** They were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins. **read ›**

111 **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 ›**

112 **Matthew 28:19** Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **read ›**

113 **Mark 1:4** John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching the baptism of repentance for forgiveness of sins. **read ›**

114 **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 ›**

115 **Luke 3:3** He came into all the region around the Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for remission of sins, **read ›**

116 **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 ›**

117 **Acts 1:5** for John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized in the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” **read ›**

118 **Acts 1:16** “Brothers, this Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand through the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. **read ›**

119 **Acts 2:38** Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **read ›**

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120 **Acts 4:4** But many of those who heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to be about five thousand. **read ›**

121 **Acts 11:16** I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized in the Holy Spirit.’ **read ›**

122 **Acts 13:24** after John had proclaimed a baptism of repentance to Israel before Jesus’ coming. **read ›**

123 **Acts 18:25** He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning the Lord, though he knew only the baptism of John. **read ›**

124 **Acts 19:3** He said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They said, “Into John’s baptism.” **read ›**

125 **Acts 19:4** Paul said, “John indeed baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe in the one who would come after him, that is, in Christ Jesus.” **read ›**

126 **Acts 22:16** Now why do you wait? Arise, be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.’ **read ›**

127 **Romans 6:3** Or do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? **read ›**

128 **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 ›**

129 **1 Corinthians 1:14** I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, **read ›**

130 **1 Corinthians 1:17** For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of speech, so that the cross of Christ would not be emptied of its power. **read ›**

131 **1 Corinthians 6:11** And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and in the Spirit of our God. **read ›**

132 **1 Corinthians 10:2** and were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea; **read ›**

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

134 **Ephesians 5:26** that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, **read ›**

135 **Titus 3:5** not by works of righteousness which we did ourselves, but according to his mercy, he saved us through the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, **read ›**

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

137 **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 *125 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.

Genesis 9:18

Exodus 4:6 · 15:25 · 32:34

Deuteronomy 32:10 · 32:23

Joshua 3:5 · 3:7 · 5:10

Psalms 18:26 · 19:1

Isaiah 1:18 · 46:12

Jeremiah 2:12 · 2:13 · 5:8

Ezekiel 47:1

Matthew 3:7 · 3:10 · 3:13 · 3:17 · 4:3 · 9:29 · 10:42 · 11:13 · 14:25 · 17:12 · 19:14 · 19:17 · 21:23 · 21:25 · 25:29 · 27:24

Mark 1:3 · 2:8 · 4:36 · 5:9 · 5:15 · 10:38 · 11:30 · 16:16

Luke 1:76 · 3:2 · 3:9 · 3:16 · 7:18 · 7:37 · 10:21 · 10:35 · 12:50 · 14:11 · 20:4 · 22:32

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John 1:3 · 1:6 · 1:9 · 1:17 · 1:21 · 1:24 · 1:26 · 1:33 · 2:1 · 3:9 · 3:30 · 3:36 · 4:6 · 4:10 · 4:20 · 5:6 · 5:8 · 6:40 · 6:53 · 7:37 · 7:38 · 7:39 · 8:19 · 8:39 · 8:41 · 8:42 · 8:44 · 8:48 · 9:7 · 13:1 · 13:10 · 16:6 · 19:34 · 19:37 · 20:22

Acts 1:4 · 2:17 · 5:31 · 11:15 · 15:7 · 19:1 · 19:2

Romans 8:5

1 Corinthians 2:8 · 5:11 · 7:14 · 12:13 · 13:11 · 14:20

2 Corinthians 1:21 · 5:5 · 5:21 · 6:10 · 6:16 · 7:1

Galatians 1:15 · 3:23 · 3:26 · 3:28 · 4:7

Ephesians 4:4 · 5:8

Philippians 2:7

1 Thessalonians 4:8

Hebrews 6:4 · 10:26 · 12:16

1 John 3:9 · 5:6 · 5:8

Revelation 2:9 · 22:1

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

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “What did the early church and the Scriptures teach about baptism?” on August 4, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

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THE END OF THIS STUDY