

We Are
ALICE SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

Believer's Baptism

Mark 1:2-13 | Matthew 28:18-20 | Acts 8:26-38



What the Bible is clear about:

1. Baptism **follows faith**
2. Baptism **is public**
3. Baptism **involves water**

BEGINNING WITH SCRIPTURE



BEGINNING WITH SCRIPTURE

Baptism **wasn't** invented by Christians.

*Passing Through the The Red Sea
The Healing of Namaan
Mikveh (Ceremonial Washing)*

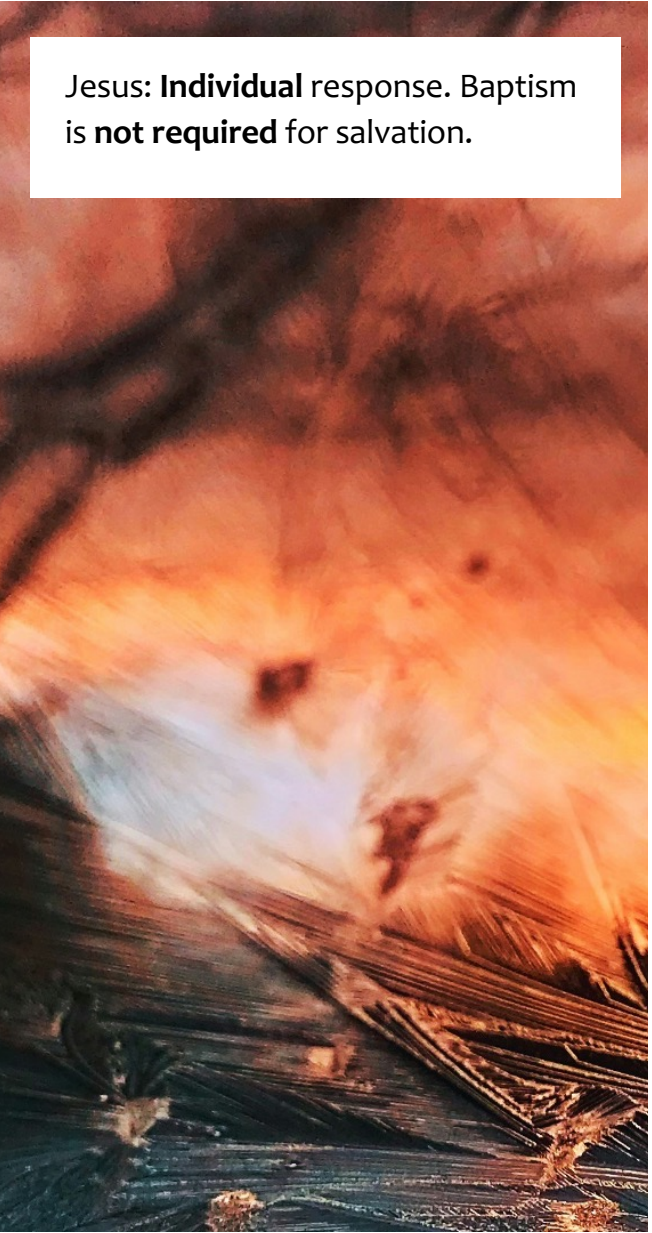
Luke 23:39-43

³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”

⁴² Then he said, “**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**”

⁴³ Jesus answered him, “**Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.**”

A dramatic, fiery painting with a white text box in the upper right corner. The painting depicts a scene of intense fire and smoke, with a bright light source in the center, creating a sense of divine fire or a dramatic event. The colors are predominantly orange, red, and yellow, with dark, swirling smoke and flames. The overall mood is one of awe and divine power.

Jesus: **Individual** response. Baptism is **not required** for salvation.

Acts 2:36-39

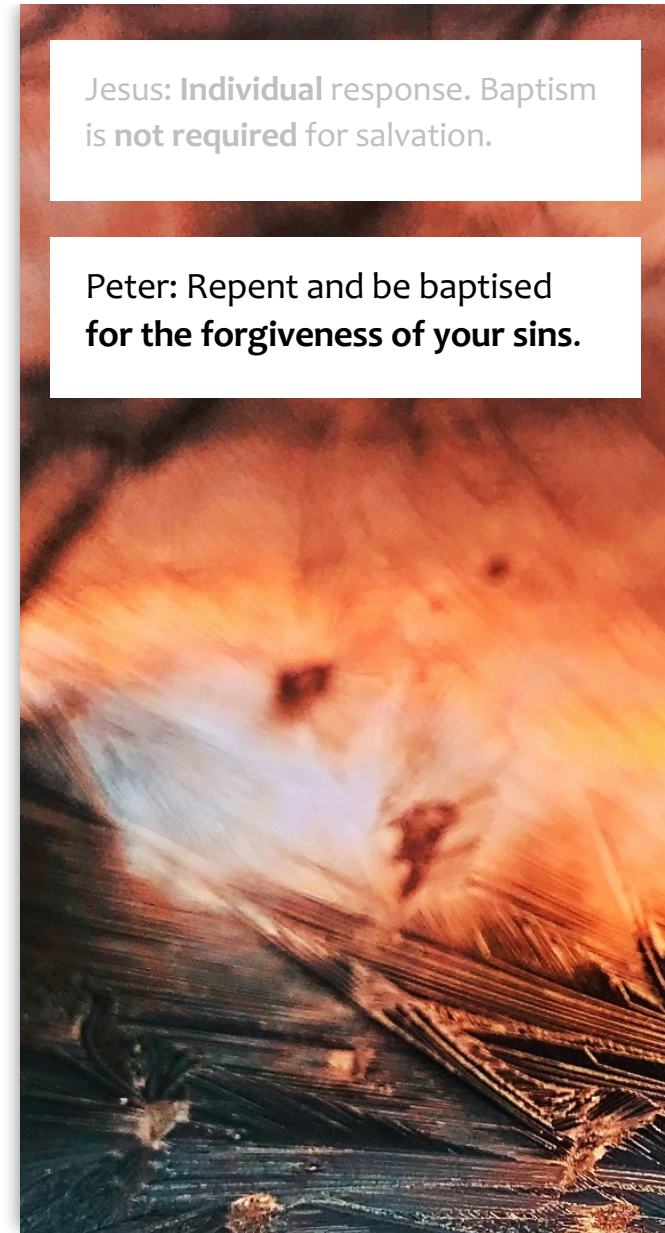
³⁶ “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”

³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

³⁸ Peter replied, **“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”** ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

Jesus: **Individual** response. Baptism is **not required** for salvation.

Peter: Repent and be baptised **for the forgiveness of your sins.**



Acts 8:34-39

³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” ³⁵ Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

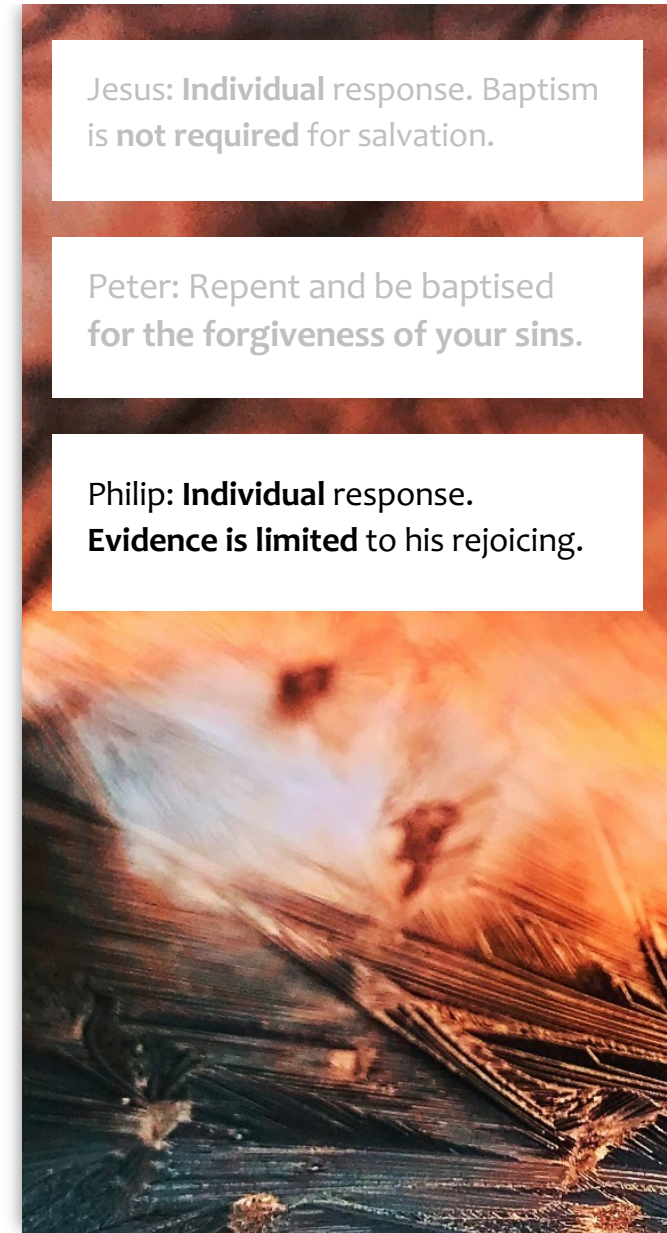
³⁶ As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “**Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?**” ^[37] ³⁸ And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but **went on his way rejoicing.**

[37] Some manuscripts include here *Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” The eunuch answered, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”*

Jesus: **Individual** response. Baptism is **not required** for salvation.

Peter: Repent and be baptised **for the forgiveness of your sins.**

Philip: **Individual** response. **Evidence is limited** to his rejoicing.



Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, **the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.** ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. ⁴⁶ For they heard them **speaking in tongues** and praising God.

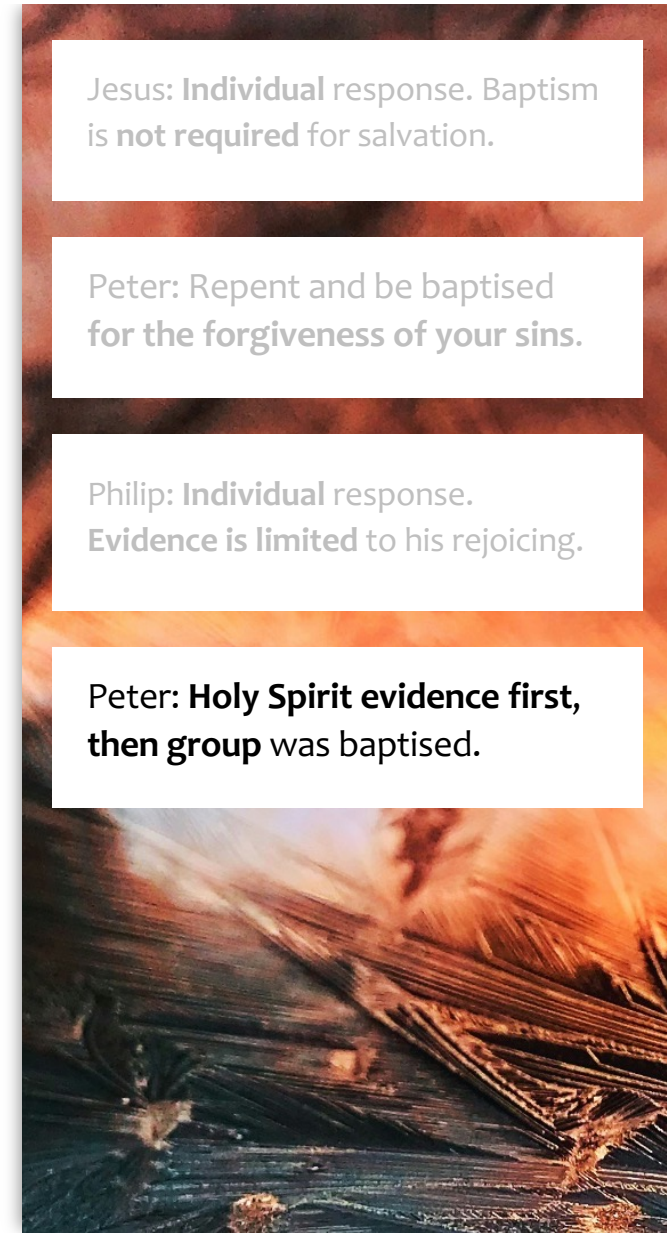
Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.” ⁴⁸ **So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.** Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

Jesus: **Individual** response. Baptism is **not required** for salvation.

Peter: Repent and be baptised **for the forgiveness of your sins.**

Philip: **Individual** response. Evidence is **limited** to his rejoicing.

Peter: **Holy Spirit evidence first, then group** was baptised.



Acts 16:29-34

²⁹ The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

³¹ They replied, “**Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.**” ³² Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. ³³ At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then **immediately he and all his household were baptized.** ³⁴ The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was **filled with joy** because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

Jesus: **Individual** response. Baptism is **not required** for salvation.

Peter: Repent and be baptised **for the forgiveness of your sins.**

Philip: **Individual** response. Evidence is limited to his rejoicing.

Peter: **Holy Spirit** evidence first, then **group** was baptised.

Paul: The **entire household** is baptised. Evidence is joy.

Acts 19:1-7

¹ While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples ² and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

They answered, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” ³ So Paul asked, **“Then what baptism did you receive?”**

“John’s baptism,” they replied.

⁴ Paul said, **“John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.”** ⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ When Paul placed his hands on them, **the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues** and prophesied.

Jesus: **Individual** response. Baptism is **not required** for salvation.

Peter: Repent and be baptised **for the forgiveness of your sins.**

Philip: **Individual** response. Evidence is **limited** to his rejoicing.

Peter: **Holy Spirit** evidence first, then **group** was baptised.

Paul: The **entire household** is baptised. Evidence is **joy**.

Paul: **Different** baptisms? **Holy spirit** evidence **follows** baptism.



What the Bible isn't clear about:

Sometimes:

- the Spirit comes **before** baptism
- sometimes **after**
- **whole households** respond
- **one person** responds
- a person **isn't baptised** at all



All Christians agree that **God is at work** in baptism. The question is **how God is at work.**

Therefore go and **make disciples** of all nations, **baptizing them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.
(Matthew 28:19-20a)

SACRAMENTAL

(Catholic, Lutheran, some Anglican)

God acts through baptism. Baptism is a means by which **God gives grace**, forgives sins, incorporates someone into the Church, or creates and strengthens faith.

COVENANTAL

(many Anglican, Presbyterian, Uniting)

Baptism (like circumcision) marks someone as **belonging to the covenant community** which God has established by grace, with an expectation that they, supported by the church will later personally embrace that faith (confirmation).

PERSONAL

(Baptist, Pentecostal, most Brethren)

An individual's response to God's saving work. Baptism doesn't save or impart grace in itself; it is **an act of obedience and public identification with Christ** after a person has trusted him.



SACRAMENTAL

(Catholic, Lutheran, some Anglican)

God acts through baptism. Baptism is a means by which **God gives grace**, forgives sins, incorporates someone into the Church, or creates and strengthens faith.

COVENANTAL

(many Anglican, Presbyterian, Uniting)

Baptism (like circumcision) marks someone as **belonging to the covenant community** which God has established by grace, with an expectation that they, supported by the church will later personally embrace that faith (confirmation).

PERSONAL

(Baptist, Pentecostal, most Brethren)

An individual's response to God's saving work. Baptism doesn't save or impart grace in itself; it is **an act of obedience and public identification with Christ** after a person has trusted him.



SACRAMENTAL

(Catholic, Lutheran, some Anglican)

God acts through baptism. Baptism is a means by which **God gives grace**, forgives sins, incorporates someone into the Church, or creates and strengthens faith.

COVENANTAL

(many Anglican, Presbyterian, Uniting)

Baptism (like circumcision) marks someone as **belonging to the covenant community** which God has established by grace, with an expectation that they, supported by the church will later personally embrace that faith (confirmation).

PERSONAL

(Baptist, Pentecostal, most Brethren)

An individual's response to God's saving work. Baptism doesn't save or impart grace in itself; it is **an act of obedience and public identification with Christ** after a person has trusted him.



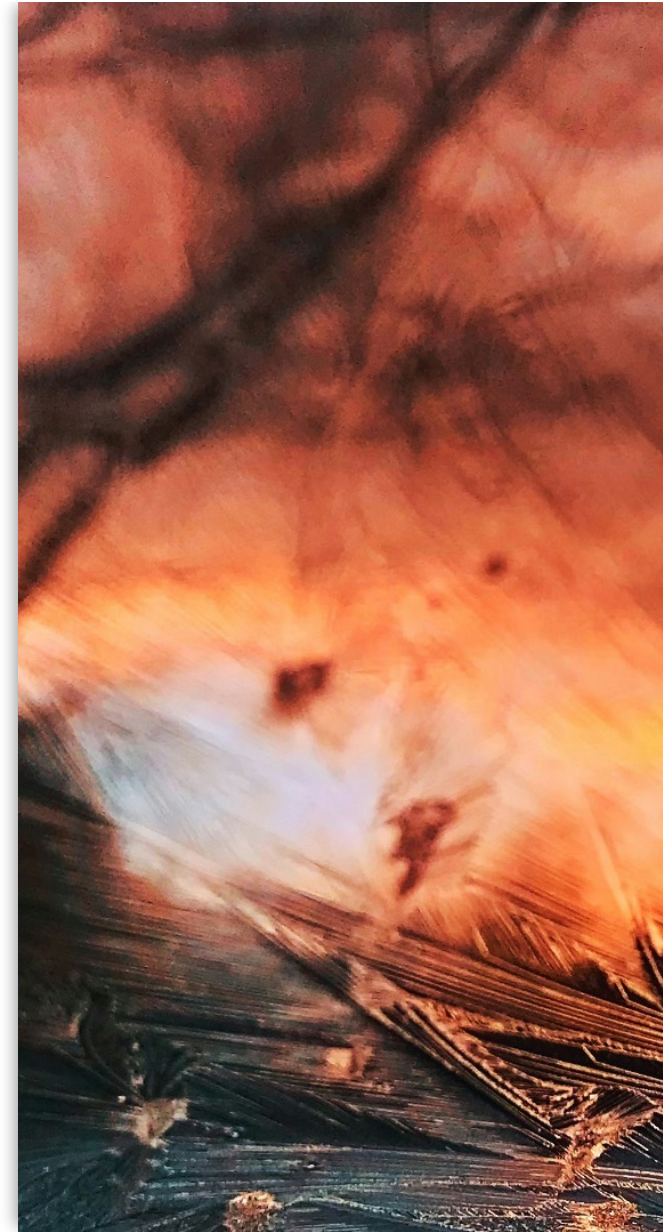
MARK 1:4-5

⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a **baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins**. ⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

tavilah t'shuva

Baptism of **Return** / Repentance

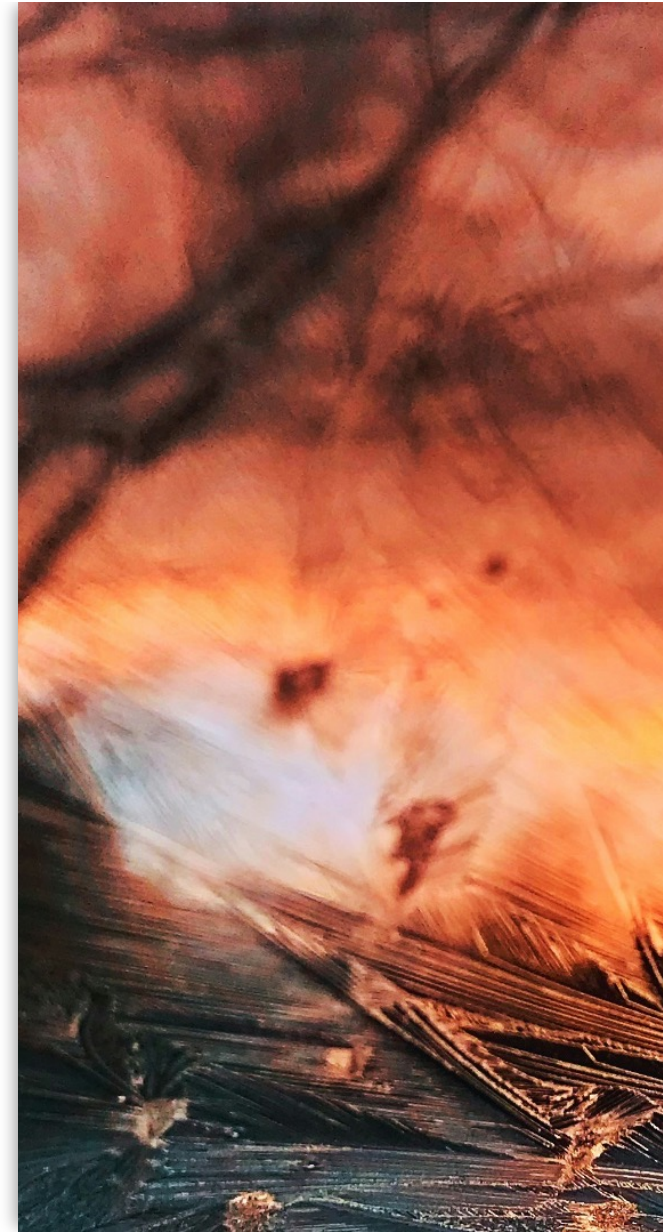
*“I am **returning** to God’s way, and choosing to walk in His ways.”*



MARK 1:9-11

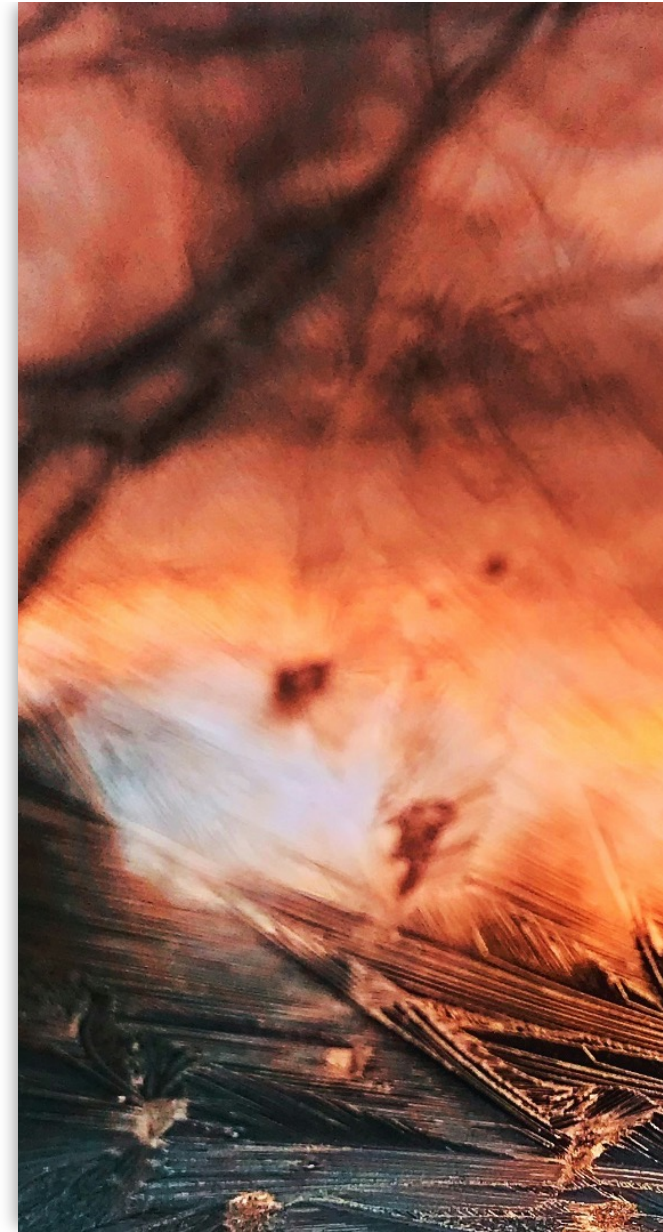
⁹ At that time **Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.** ¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the **Spirit descending** on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

*“I will **perfectly walk in and fulfil** God’s ways.”*



JOHN 1:29

²⁹ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, **who takes away the sin of the world!**”



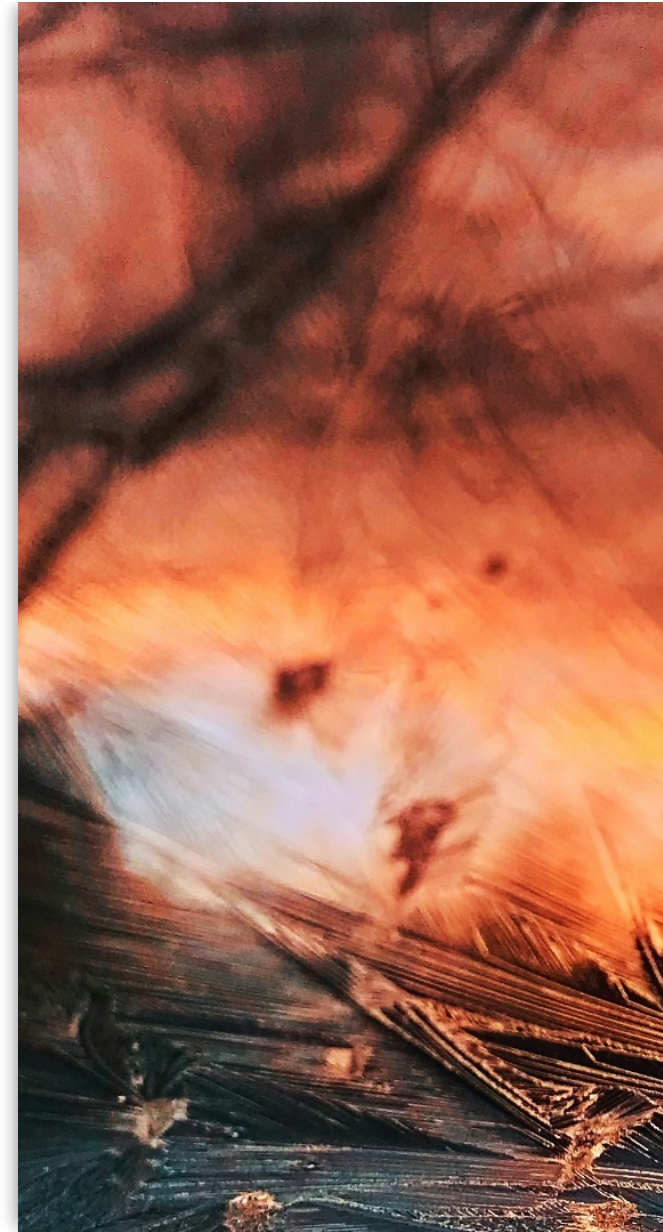
MATTHEW 28:19-20

... go and make disciples of all nations, **baptising them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and **teaching them to obey** everything I have commanded you.

Baptism of **Repentance**

→ Baptism of **Allegiance**

*“I **belong** to the risen Jesus, and have **chosen** to walk in His ways.”*



BELIEVER'S BAPTISM

**We are a people whose faith is
personally owned and publicly declared.**

*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in
the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and
teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.*

(Matthew 28:19-20a)



*“I belong to the risen Jesus, and have
chosen to walk in His ways.”*

**It doesn't need to be in a
special place.**



*“I belong to the risen Jesus, and have
chosen to walk in His ways.”*

**It doesn't need to be done
by a special person.**



*"I belong to the risen Jesus, and have
chosen to walk in His ways."*

There is grace in the words.



*"I belong to the risen Jesus, and have
chosen to walk in His ways."*

There is grace in *the ways*.

The background is a dark, atmospheric painting. On the right side, there is a bright, glowing light source, possibly a sun or a fire, which casts a warm, golden light across the scene. The light illuminates the right side of the image, creating a strong contrast with the deep shadows on the left. The overall mood is dramatic and intense. The text is centered in the middle of the image, with the words "every step of obedience" highlighted in a light orange color, while the other words are in white.

**We celebrate
every step of obedience
toward Jesus.**