



# BAPTISM

*WHAT IS BAPTISM?*

# Baptisms in Scripture

- The Baptism of John
  - A baptism of repentance for forgiveness – Mark 1.4
  - It was in preparation of Christ's coming – Acts 19.4
- The Baptism of the Holy Spirit
  - A promise of power made to the apostles – Luke 24.49; Acts 1.4-5
- The One Baptism of the Gospel
  - Ephesians 4.5

# What is Baptism?

- It is a command from Jesus.
  - Matthew 28.18-20; Mark 16.15-16
- It is a command from the apostles of Jesus.
  - Acts 2.37-38; Romans 6.1-4
- It is immersion into water.
  - Acts 8.38
  - The Greek word "baptizo" describes submersion:

"They [Carthaginians] much surpassed the Romans in speed, owing to the superior build of their ships and the better training of the rowers, as they had freely developed their line in the open sea... they either got in their rear or attacked them on the flank, and as the enemy then had to turn round and found themselves in difficulty owing to the weight of the hulls and the poor oarsmanship of the crews, they rammed them repeatedly and **sunk** many."

-Polybius, Histories, Book 1, Chapter 51

Near Phaselis, by the sea, there are defiles, through which Alexander led his army... Alexander, meeting with a stormy season, and being a man who in general trusted to luck, set out before the waves had receded; and the result was that all day long his soldiers marched in water **submerged** to their navels. Now this city too is Lycian, being situated on the borders towards Pamphylia, but it has no part in the common League and is a separate organization to itself.

-Strabo, Geography, Book 14, Chapter 3

# What is Baptism?

- An act to which we submit in obedience to Christ.
  - Acts 10.47-48; 22.16
- The moment in which I enter God's family and join Christ.
  - Galatians 3.26-27
- The act which culminates in the forgiveness of my sins.
  - Acts 2.38; Mark 16.16; 1 Peter 3.21