



## “One Baptism”

So wrote the apostle Paul in Ephesians 4:5. Others *had been* known (Luke 3:16), but by the time Paul wrote this letter those had served their purpose and were no more. The *one* that continues is clearly described and exemplified in the New Testament.

**It’s a burial.** Jesus (Matthew 3:16), the Ethiopian (Acts 8:38) and the Romans were “buried by baptism” (Romans 6:4).

**It follows believing in Christ.** He who wanted to be baptized was told, “if thou believest, thou mayest” (Acts 8:37).

**It follows repentance toward Christ.** Those who wanted to be saved from sin were told to “repent, and be baptized” (Acts 2:38).

**It follows confession of Christ.** The Ethiopian (Acts 8:37) and Timothy (I Timothy 6:12) spoke so that others would know what they believed (John 20:31), and why they were baptized (Acts 8:39).

**It is in order to obtain salvation.** Jesus taught the apostles (Mark 16:16), and they taught Jews, proselytes (Acts 2:9-11, 38), and Gentiles (Acts 10:28, 48) that “baptism doth also now save us” (I Peter 3:21).

**It’s an urgent matter.** In Jerusalem they were baptized “the same day” (Acts 2:41), and in Philippi “the same hour” (Acts 16:33).

Churches with human origins believe “There is ... one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, ... One God,” but they delete from the passage “one body, and... one faith, one baptism.” The one God leaves it in.

- Al Parr

