



B A P T I S M

BELONGING TO KING
JESUS



WHY IS BAPTISM IMPORTANT?

We Need the King: The Problem of Sin

1. God's Design: Life Under His Rule

- God is Creator (Genesis 1:1).
- He made the world good, ordered, and under His care.
- Humanity was created to live under His rule, reflecting His image (Genesis 1:26–27).
- Illustration: Like a sports team needs a coach, creation needs a leader. Without one, there's chaos.

2. The Rebellion: Sin Enters the Story

- Adam and Eve rejected God's kingship (Genesis 3).
- Sin = not just "bad behavior," but rebellion against the rightful King.
- Romans 3:23 – "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
- Illustration: Imagine mutiny on a ship — the sailors throw out the captain and try to steer themselves. That's sin.

3. The Consequences of Sin

Sin brings three major results:

1. Broken Relationship with God – We lose intimacy with our King (Isaiah 59:2).
2. Broken World – Death, pain, injustice, and suffering enter (Romans 5:12).
3. Bondage to False Kings – We become enslaved to sin, Satan, and death (Romans 6:16).

Illustration Idea: If you unplug a phone from its charger, it doesn't die immediately, but it's on its way. That's humanity apart from God.

4. Why We Need a King

- We can't fix ourselves — sin is too deep.
- The Old Testament shows that people kept failing without a faithful King.
- Judges 21:25 – “Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.” Chaos.
- God promised a true King from David's line (2 Samuel 7; Isaiah 9:6–7).
- Only Jesus, the rightful King, can conquer sin, Satan, and death.

5. The Big Deal About Sin

- Sin isn't just breaking rules; it's rejecting the Ruler.
- Every sin is an act of treason against the King of the universe.
- Without Jesus, we are:
 - Guilty (Romans 6:23)
 - Powerless (Romans 7:18–19)
 - Hopeless (Ephesians 2:12)

6. The Gospel Solution

- Jesus didn't just forgive sins — He defeated the powers of sin and death by rising as King.
- Colossians 1:13–14 – “He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves.”
- That's why allegiance to King Jesus matters: only He can free us from sin and bring us into His kingdom.

Things to Consider:

1. Hook: “What happens when people try to live with no rules, no leaders?” (Chaos in a classroom, sports without refs, etc.)
2. God's Design: God created us to live under His rule.
3. Sin = Rebellion: Sin is rejecting God's kingship, not just messing up.
4. Consequences: Sin breaks everything — our relationship with God, each other, and creation.
5. Need for a King: We can't fix it; only Jesus can.
- 6. Good News: Jesus is the King who saves us from sin and leads us into life.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BAPTISM

1. Baptism Is a Response to the King's Gospel

- The gospel is the royal announcement that Jesus is King — and baptism is how we respond to that good news.
- Acts 2:36–38 — When Peter proclaimed that God made Jesus “both Lord and Messiah,” the people were cut to the heart and asked what to do.
- “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.”
- Baptism = allegiance in action.

Key idea: Baptism is how we publicly say, “Jesus is my King.”

2. Baptism Is a Picture of a New Story

Baptism isn't magic water — it's a symbol and participation in the death and resurrection of Jesus.

- Romans 6:3–4 — “All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death... so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead, we too may live a new life.”

Visual:

- Going under the water = dying to your old life (sin, rebellion).
- Coming out = rising to new life under King Jesus.
- It's like putting on the team jersey — you're part of His kingdom now.

3. Baptism Marks a Transfer of Allegiance

- Colossians 1:13 – “He has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves.”
- Before Jesus, we were part of the kingdom of sin and death.
- In baptism, we declare that our loyalty now belongs to the new King.

Illustration: Think of it like changing citizenship — you belong to a new kingdom with a new leader.

“4. Baptism Is Where God Acts

- God meets us there. It’s not just symbolic; it’s sacramental — God does something real.
- Acts 22:16 – “And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on His name.”
- Titus 3:5 – “He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.”

Key point: Baptism is both our pledge and God’s promise. It’s where heaven and earth meet for you personally.

5. Baptism Unites Us to the Church

- 1 Corinthians 12:13 – “For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body.”
- You’re not just saying yes to Jesus; you’re joining His people — the church.
- Baptism is how we enter the family.

6. Baptism Is the Beginning, Not the End

- It’s not “I’m done now.” It’s “I’m in now.”
- Jesus calls His followers to grow, obey, and live faithfully to the end (Matthew 28:18–20).
- Baptism starts a lifelong journey of allegiance, not a finish line.

Illustration: Baptism is the kickoff, not the trophy ceremony.

Things to Consider:

1. Review: Jesus is King; the gospel calls for allegiance.
2. Explain: Baptism is our public declaration and God’s act of grace.
3. Show: The imagery — dying, rising, transferring kingdoms.
- 4. Invite: “Have I publicly pledged my allegiance to King Jesus?”

CONCLUSION

Baptism in the Bible expresses an identification with Christ's death and resurrection—the old self was crucified with Christ (through the waters of death), and now followers of Jesus have risen with him in “newness of life” (Romans 6:3-11).

As followers of Jesus we are baptized by immersion because we believe that we are called to be “buried” with Christ and to “pass through” the waters into a NEW creation and obedience to our King.

Are you ready to take the Next Step?

