



# The Taxonomy of Identification

## A Visual Synthesis of the Seven Baptisms

Foundational Doctrine Series (Hebrews 6:1-3)

# The Root of the Matter

# Baptismo (Greek) = To Identify With

The Believer

Total Union &  
Identification

The Medium  
(Water, Spirit,  
Christ, Fire)

Whenever you encounter the word baptism in this study, substitute it with **to identify with** to unlock its true doctrinal meaning.

# The Three Realms of Identification

## The Physical

Water & Ritual

- Baptism of John
- New Testament Baptism

## The Spiritual

Union & Power

- Baptism of the Holy Spirit
- Baptism into the Body of Christ

## The Experiential

Metaphor & Transformation

- Baptism unto Moses
- Baptism unto Suffering
- Baptism of Fire

*Establishing the Doctrine of Baptisms (Hebrews 6:1-3)*

# The Evolution of Water Baptism



## 1. Old Testament

Action of the Water.  
Focus on ceremonial  
cleansing and washing.

*(Psalm 51:2, 7)*



## 2. John's Baptism

The Transition.  
John adds a new crucial ingredient:  
a baptism of repentance.

*(Mark 1:4-5, Luke 3:3,  
Acts 19:3-4)*



## 3. New Testament

Full Immersion.  
The ultimate symbol of complete  
identification with Christ.

*(Matthew 3:13-17, Mark 1:9-11,  
Acts 8:36-38)*

# The Anatomy of New Testament Immersion

## Submerged / Going Under

Meaning: Death and Burial.  
Total identification with the  
death of Christ.

*(Romans 6:3-4, Colossians 2:12)*

## Emerging / Coming Out

Meaning:  
Resurrection and New Life.  
Raised to walk in newness of life.

*(Romans 6:4-5, Colossians 2:12)*

## Prerequisites for Immersion

Must believe with all your heart *(Acts 8:37)*.

Individuals must be old enough to understand  
repentance *(Acts 2:37-41, 8:12, 18:8)*.

Note on Age: Christ was about 30 *(Luke 3:21-23)*.

# The Precursor Parallel: Baptism Unto Moses



## The Red Sea Blueprint

*(1 Corinthians 10:1-4)*

- The Israelites were visually immersed within the elements: surrounded by the sea on both sides, covered by the cloud above.
- They went under into the seabed and emerged on the other side, identifying fully with Moses' leadership.



## The Modern Fulfillment

Just as Israel was immersed in cloud and sea to leave their old life in Egypt, the believer is immersed in water to leave their old life behind.

# The Spiritual Interchange

## The Gift of the Spirit

Actor: Jesus Christ  
Action: Baptizes the believer  
with the Holy Spirit.  
*(Matthew 3:11, Mark 1:8,  
Luke 3:16, John 1:33)*



## The Incorporation

Actor: The Holy Spirit  
Action: Baptizes the believer  
into the Body of Christ.  
*(1 Corinthians 12:12-14)*

Jesus immerses us in His Spirit; His Spirit immerses us into His Body.

# Baptism of the Holy Spirit: Promise & Power

## The Ancient Promise

Given 800 years prior  
(*Isaiah 44:3, Joel 2:28-29*).

## The Prelude

Apostles receive a measure of the Spirit  
when Jesus breathes on them (*John 20:22*).  
Jesus promises the full baptism (*Acts 1:3-5*).

## The Fulfillment

Pentecost. Occurs 50 days after  
Jesus' crucifixion at Passover  
(*Leviticus 23:15-16, Acts 2:1-4*).

### Empowerment

Gives spiritual gifts  
(*1 Corinthians 12:8-11*).

### Purpose

For the profit and benefit of all  
(*1 Corinthians 12:7*).

### Access

Commanded to be filled (*Ephesians 5:18*).  
Received by asking (*Luke 11:9-13*).

# The Body of Christ Blueprint



Through this spiritual immersion, this relationship makes us the true descendants of Abraham, completely unified regardless of background.  
*(Galatians 3:26-29)*

# Baptism Unto Suffering



To be baptized into suffering is a metaphor for being plunged completely into the same kind of extreme trials that Jesus faced.  
*(Matthew 20:22-23)*

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Jesus directly asks James and John if they are able to drink from His cup and be baptized with His baptism. They agree to undergo this profound, agonizing identification with their Savior.

# The Refiner's Crucible: Baptism of Fire

Every born-again believer undergoes trials and tribulations (*John 16:33*).  
Jesus is the Baptizer with fire (*Matthew 3:11, Luke 3:16*).



**Reward Callout:** The ultimate reward for this continued, tested faith is inexpressible joy and the salvation of your soul. (*1 Peter 1:8*)

## The Command to Rejoice

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Are we supposed to be happy about chastening? Yes.

We are commanded to rejoice in all things and recognize God's hand in our trials. (*Romans 8:28, Philippians 4:4, 1 Thessalonians 5:18*)

## The Divine Purpose

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**The Reason:** We are chastened now during our spiritual walk so that we will not be condemned alongside the world. (*1 Corinthians 11:31-32*)

**The Divine Advice:** God advises us to specifically buy gold refined in the fire—to embrace the testing that produces true, eternal riches. (*Revelation 3:17-18*)

# The 7 Baptisms Diagnostic Matrix

	Baptism	The Baptizer	The Medium	Core Meaning / Purpose
1	John	John the Baptist	Water	Transition & Repentance
2	New Testament	Believer/Minister	Water	Death, Burial & Resurrection
3	Holy Spirit	Jesus Christ	Holy Spirit	Power & Spiritual Gifts
4	Body of Christ	Holy Spirit	The Body (Church)	Unity with Christ & Believers
5	Unto Moses	God	Cloud & Sea	Leaving Old Life (Precursor)
6	Suffering	The World/Trials	Affliction	Sharing in Christ's Agony
7	Fire	Jesus Christ	Trials/Chastening	Refining Faith like Gold

# Total Identification



From the cleansing waters to the refining fire, the Doctrine of Baptisms is not merely a list of events. It is the comprehensive, lifelong process of becoming united with Christ. (Hebrews 6:1-3)

Baptismo: To Identify With.