

SERIES VOLUME 1

# THE TWO BAPTISMS OF JESUS WATER & SPIRIT

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Revelation 1:6 (nkjv) - “and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

*From the Ancient Light Study Series: Volume 1 – The Two Baptisms of Jesus: Water & Spirit*

From the beginning of creation, water has served as a symbol of both life and cleansing — a pattern woven through Scripture that reveals God’s design for renewal and covenant. In every generation, divine encounters with water mark moments of transition — from the Flood in Noah’s day, to Israel’s crossing of the Red Sea, to the Jordan River where Jesus Himself entered the waters to “fulfill all righteousness.”

This study traces that divine pattern of baptism as it unfolds from the Old Covenant to the New — from the baptism of Moses to the baptism of Christ, and finally to the spiritual baptism that marks every believer’s entrance into new life. Each movement of water in Scripture carries a prophetic shadow, fulfilled and completed in the ministry and sacrifice of Jesus.

The goal of this lesson is not merely historical awareness, but understanding: to see how God used these sacred symbols to reveal eternal truths about repentance, redemption, and transformation through His Spirit. As we look back into the ancient text, may light break forth for the present — renewing faith, clarifying purpose, and deepening reverence for the covenant we share in Christ.

## The Baptism of Moses

### Scripture Reading – 1 Corinthians 10:1–2 (NKJV)

“Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea.”

When Paul describes Israel’s passage through the Red Sea as a baptism, he is showing us a divine pattern. The event was not merely historical — it was prophetic. The Red Sea crossing stands as a shadow of the spiritual deliverance that would later be revealed in Christ. Through Moses, God led His people out of Egypt’s bondage, through the waters of separation, and into covenant identity.

The “baptism into Moses” symbolized three things:

1. **Separation** — Israel was leaving behind Egypt, a picture of sin and oppression.
2. **Identification** — the people were identifying themselves with Moses, God’s chosen mediator.
3. **Transformation** — they passed through the waters into a new life as God’s covenant nation.

The cloud and the sea together formed the two elements of this divine immersion — the *cloud* representing the Spirit’s presence, and the *sea* representing cleansing and deliverance. Pharaoh’s army perished in the same waters that saved Israel, showing that baptism both destroys the old life and gives birth to the new.

Through this moment, God was setting a prophetic pattern: deliverance through water under the guidance of His Spirit. Centuries later, that same pattern would be fulfilled in Christ — the greater Deliverer — who would lead humanity through the waters of baptism, from the bondage of sin into new life in the Spirit.

Just as the Israelites followed Moses through the sea, believers today follow Jesus through baptism, identifying with His death, burial, and resurrection. Both acts represent a crossing — from slavery to freedom, from darkness to light, from death to life.

## The Baptism of Jesus Christ

### Scripture Reading – Matthew 3:13–17 (NKJV)

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.

And John tried to prevent Him, saying, “I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?”

But Jesus answered and said to him, “Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he allowed Him.

When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

When Jesus entered the waters of the Jordan, He did not do so as one in need of repentance, but as the sinless Son identifying Himself with those He came to redeem. His words, “to fulfill all righteousness,” reveal His purpose — to complete every prophetic requirement and demonstrate perfect obedience to the Father’s will.

In that moment, three divine witnesses confirmed His anointing:

- The **Son** stood in the waters,
- The **Spirit** descended like a dove, and
- The **Father’s** voice declared His pleasure.

This scene marks the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry — His consecration and commissioning as Messiah. Just as the priests of old were washed, anointed, and consecrated before entering God’s service, Jesus was washed in the Jordan, anointed by the Spirit, and later would offer Himself as the perfect sacrifice.

## The Second Baptism – A Baptism of Suffering

### Scripture Reading – Luke 12:50 (NKJV)

“But I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how distressed I am till it is accomplished!”

### Scripture Reading – Mark 10:38–39 (NKJV)

But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?”

They said to Him, “We are able.”

So Jesus said to them, “You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized.”

Here, Jesus speaks not of water, but of His coming suffering and death. This “baptism” would be His complete immersion into obedience, pain, and sacrifice for the salvation of the world.

His first baptism in water prefigured His second baptism on the cross — the baptism of blood. In both, He descended and rose again: in the Jordan’s waters symbolically, and at Calvary literally, triumphing over sin and death.

Through this baptism of suffering, Jesus fulfilled ultimate righteousness — offering Himself as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

## The Baptism Jesus Commanded

### Scripture Reading – Matthew 28:19–20 (NKJV)

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

### Scripture Reading – Mark 16:16 (NKJV)

“He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”

After His resurrection, Jesus commanded His disciples to continue the pattern — baptism in His name as a sign of repentance, faith, and covenant relationship. In the New Covenant, baptism no longer symbolizes deliverance from Egypt, but deliverance from sin and entry into new life through the Spirit.

Baptism is both identification and transformation: a believer’s public declaration of being buried with Christ in death and raised with Him in newness of life. It is the outward testimony of an inward faith — a sacred act of obedience that unites every believer with the story of redemption.

## The Priestly Pattern: Water, Oil, and Blood

### Scripture Reading – Exodus 29:4–7 (NKJV)

“And Aaron and his sons you shall bring to the door of the tabernacle of meeting, and you shall wash them with water.

Then you shall take the garments, put the tunic on Aaron, and the robe of the ephod, the ephod, and the breastplate, and gird him with the intricately woven band of the ephod.

You shall put the turban on his head, and put the holy crown on the turban.

And you shall take the anointing oil, pour it on his head, and anoint him.”

Before any priest could minister in the Tabernacle, he had to be consecrated through three divine steps: washing, anointing, and the application of blood. These steps represented cleansing, empowerment, and covenant relationship — all pointing prophetically to the work of Christ.

In the Old Covenant, the priest was **washed with water** for purification, **anointed with oil** for empowerment, and **sprinkled with blood** for atonement. This was God’s order for holiness and service.

When Jesus came to the Jordan River to be baptized, He fulfilled each stage perfectly:

- **Washed in water** — His baptism by John symbolized His consecration.
- **Anointed by the Spirit** — the Holy Spirit descended like a dove, resting upon Him.

- **Sealed in blood** — He later offered Himself as the spotless Lamb, completing the priestly pattern once and for all.

Through this, Jesus became not only the High Priest but also the Sacrifice — the Mediator of a better covenant.

## The Pattern Fulfilled in Believers

### Scripture Reading – Acts 2:38 (NKJV)

“Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”

What the priests experienced physically, believers now experience spiritually:

- **Water** — baptism cleanses and signifies our new beginning.
- **Oil** — the Holy Spirit anoints and empowers us for service.
- **Blood** — communion reminds us of our continual covenant relationship through Christ’s sacrifice.

This pattern — *Water, Oil, Blood* — represents the full journey of consecration in Christ. Through baptism, anointing, and fellowship, we are cleansed, empowered, and kept in covenant with God.

### Scripture Reading – Revelation 1:5–6 (NKJV)

“...To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

Through His death and resurrection, Jesus restored the priesthood of believers. We are no longer separated by temple walls — every follower of Christ is now called to walk in holiness, serve in love, and carry His presence into the world.

## Reflection – What This Means for Believers

Baptism is more than an outward ritual; it is a sacred act that mirrors God's pattern of redemption from Genesis to Revelation. From the waters of the Red Sea to the Jordan River, God reveals His desire to bring His people from bondage into covenant — from death into life.

Through Christ, every believer now walks this pattern in spiritual reality. We are **washed** in the waters of baptism, **anointed** by the Spirit, and **cleansed** by the blood of Jesus. These three — water, oil, and blood — unite to testify of God's transforming work within us.

Baptism calls us to live daily in the truth it represents: dying to the old nature and walking in newness of life. Just as Israel left Egypt and Jesus rose from the water, we too are called to rise, leaving behind what once enslaved us. The journey does not end at the water's edge — it begins there, with a renewed heart empowered by the Spirit.

As priests unto God, we are not only cleansed but commissioned — to reflect His holiness, serve with compassion, and carry His light into a darkened world. Every act of obedience, every step of faith, becomes a continuation of that sacred pattern.

### Scripture Reading – Psalm 36:9 (NKJV)

“For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light.”

Through the revelation of Jesus Christ, the Living Word, we see that every act of God — from the flood to the cross — points toward this truth: life is found in His light. May this study deepen your understanding and strengthen your walk as a vessel of that Ancient Light, revealing the past to renew the present.



## References

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All Scripture quotations are from the *New King James Version*® (NKJV), unless otherwise noted. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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### Research and Commentary

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