

*“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).*

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## SUBJECTS OF BIBLE BAPTISM

*John Edwards*

Let's turn to the Scriptures and see who are the proper subjects of Bible baptism.

### THOSE GUILTY OF SIN.

Since *“the remission of sins”* is the purpose of Bible baptism (Acts 2:38), it necessarily follows that those subject to Bible baptism are guilty of sin. Infants are not subjects of Bible baptism in that they are not guilty of sin (Ezek. 18:20).

**THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN TAUGHT.** Jesus said, *“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost”* (Mt. 28:19). In Acts 2 folks were first taught, then baptized (Acts 2:22-41).

**THOSE WHO BELIEVE.** The Lord taught, *“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned”* (Mk. 16:16). There is no way a person can be baptized the Bible way if he does not believe. This eliminates infants and the irresponsible.

**THOSE WHO REPENT.** Peter stated, *“Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...”* (Acts 2:38). Repentance

is a change of mind that results in a change of life (Mt. 21:28-29). Before being baptized, one must repent! An infant does not have the ability to repent, neither does he have anything to repent of.

### THOSE WHO CONFESS.

Prior to being baptized, one must make a public confession of his faith in Jesus Christ (Mt. 10:32; Rom. 10:9-10). An example of this is when the eunuch said, *“I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God”* (Acts 8:37). Have you ever heard an infant confess that he believes Jesus Christ is the Son of God?

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## THE NECESSITY OF BIBLE BAPTISM

*John Edwards*

Much of the religious world is being taught that baptism is not necessary for salvation. Yet, the Bible affirms the necessity of Bible baptism in God's plan of salvation.

### BIBLE BAPTISM IS FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS.

After being convinced of sin, those who crucified the Son of God asked, *“Men and brethren, what shall we do?”* (Acts 2:37). Those in Acts chapter 2 were given this answer: *“Repent, and be baptized every one of you in*

*the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost”* (Acts 2:38). In order to receive the remission of sins, these Jews had not only to repent, but also to be baptized. This statement makes baptism a necessity.

### BIBLE BAPTISM STANDS BETWEEN THE SINNER AND WASHING AWAY OF SINS.

While on the road to Damascus, the Lord said unto Saul of Tarsus, *“...Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do”* (Acts 9:6). Whatever Saul was told to do in the city of Damascus was a must. Now what was Saul told to do? He was told, *“And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord”* (Acts 22:16). If you want to have your sins washed away, you must be baptized.

**BIBLE BAPTISM SAVES.** The apostle Peter wrote, *“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ”* (1 Pet. 3:21). Just as 1 Peter 3:20 declares that Noah and his family *“were saved by water”*, the Bible affirms that we are saved by baptism. Have you been baptized?

**BIBLE BAPTISM PUTS ONE INTO CHRIST.** Bible baptism is not just “an outward sign of an inward grace”, but is an act of obedience which puts one into Christ. The apostle Paul revealed, “*For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ*” (Gal. 3:27). It is a necessity that one be baptized “...*that they may obtain salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory*” (2 Tim. 2:10). Have you been baptized into Christ where salvation is?

**BIBLE BAPTISM PUTS ONE INTO THE ONE BODY.** The Corinthian Christians were reminded, “*For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit*” (1 Cor. 12:13). The one body is identified as being the church of Christ. Colossians 1:24 records, “*Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body’s sake, which is the church.*” It is a necessity that one be in the one body, the church, because Christ “*is the saviour of the body*” (Eph. 5:23). Have you been baptized

into the one body like the Corinthians (Acts 18:8)?

Bible baptism is a necessity. We encourage you to be baptized as the Bible teaches.

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## THE WORLD’S GREATEST MEMORIAL

*John Edwards*

All through the Old Testament we read of various monuments and memorials that served to remind God’s people of significant events. Our own country has erected great national memorials. Yet, greatest of all memorials is the Lord’s supper, composed of unleavened bread and fruit of the vine. Let’s notice some facts concerning the Lord’s supper.

**INSTITUTED BY CHRIST.** The apostle Paul wrote, “...*the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped,*

*saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me*” (1 Cor. 11:23-25). The Lord’s supper was not instituted by men, but by Jesus Christ. Thus, we must follow the Lord’s instructions regarding its observance.

**OBSERVED BY THE EARLY DISCIPLES.** The Scriptures record, “*And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread...*” (Acts 20:7). The church at Corinth participated in the observance of the Lord’s supper (1 Cor. 11:20-34). The first day of the week was when the disciples observed the Lord’s supper. Inasmuch as every week has a first day, the Lord’s supper is observed on the first day of every week. To observe otherwise is to violate God’s word.

**COMMEMORATES THE DEATH OF CHRIST.** The Lord’s supper serves to remind us of the benefits of Christ’s death on the cross (1 Cor. 11:24, 26). When observing the Lord’s supper, one must examine himself, discerning the Lord’s body (1 Cor. 11:27-29).

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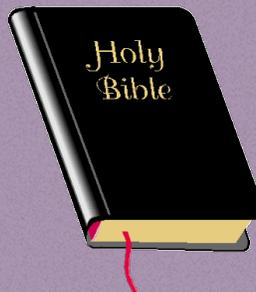
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