



God Meets Us in Baptism

I. An Empowering Choice

Luke 3:21-22, 4:14 (NIV®)

²¹ When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened ²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." . . . ¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.

Ephesians 1:18-19 (NIV®)

¹⁸ I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and **his incomparably great power for us who believe.**

II. A New Beginning

Acts 22:12-16 (NIV®)

¹² "A man named Ananias came to see me. He was a devout observer of the law and highly respected by all the Jews living there. ¹³ He stood beside me and said, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight!' And at that very moment I was able to see him. ¹⁴ "Then he said: 'The God of our fathers has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and to hear words from his mouth. ¹⁵ You will be his witness to all men of what you have seen and heard. ¹⁶ And now what are you waiting for? **Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.**'

A. "God of our fathers has chosen you" v.14

Ephesians 1:4 (NIV®)

⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.

B. "you will be his witness to all men" v.15

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV®)

¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore **go and make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

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