



How Can I Know When I Am Ready to be Baptized?

Acts 10:47-48

How Can I Know When I Am Ready to be Baptized?

- Baptism is a central part of the faith.
 - Acts 10:47-48 - “Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have? 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord...”
- Baptism is essential to salvation.
 - Mark 16:16 - “He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”

How Can I Know When I Am Ready to be Baptized?

- Baptism is essential to unity in the church.
 - 1Cor. 12:11-14 - “But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. 12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free--and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many.”

How Can I Know When I Am Ready to be Baptized?

- Baptism enables us to have fellowship in Christ's death, burial, and resurrection.
 - Rom. 6:3-6 - "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin."

How Can I Know When I Am Ready to be Baptized?

- However, baptism is not for everyone.
 - Infants and children who have yet to reach the age of accountability
 - Unbelievers and impenitent sinners
 - People who are not ready to give themselves to God

When Will They Be Ready?

- When will they be ready?
 - Acts 2:12-13 - “So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, Whatever could this mean? 13 Others mocking said, They are full of new wine.”
 - Acts 2:36-37 - “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ. 37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?”
 - Acts 2:40-41 - “And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, Be saved from this perverse generation. 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.”

When Will They Be Ready?

- Acts 8:33-37 - “In His humiliation His justice was taken away, And who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth. 34 So the eunuch answered Philip and said, I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man? 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. 36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized? 37 Then Philip said, If you believe with all your heart, you may. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”

When Will They Be Ready?

- Acts 16:27-33 - “And the keeper of the prison, awaking from sleep and seeing the prison doors open, supposing the prisoners had fled, drew his sword and was about to kill himself. 28 But Paul called with a loud voice, saying, Do yourself no harm, for we are all here. 29 Then he called for a light, ran in, and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. 30 And he brought them out and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? 31 So they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household. 32 Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. 33 And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized.”

Why Are Some Unready?

- Waiting until they have more knowledge of Bible
- Waiting until they get their lives under control.
- Waiting till gets easier or costs them nothing.
- Waiting for time when no one is pressing them.

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- When I know that I am in sin.
- Sin separates us from God in the present
 - Isa. 59:1-2 - “Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. 2 But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.”
 - James 1:15 - “Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.”

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- When I know that I am in sin.
- Sin separates us from God eternally
 - Rom. 6:23 - “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- Baptism washes away sin
 - Acts 2:38 - “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.”
 - Acts 22:16 - “And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord”

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- When I understand what I must about Jesus
 - 1Tim. 3:16 - “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.”

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- When I understand what I must about Jesus
- Born of a virgin
 - Matt. 1:23 - “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, God with us.”
- Lived sinlessly
 - Heb. 4:15 - “For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.”
- The Son of God
 - Rom. 1:4 - “Declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead”

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- Died for our sins
 - 1Cor. 15:1-4 - “Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you--unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures”

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- Arose from the dead
 - Acts 2:24, 32 - “Whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it... 32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.”

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- When I understand what I need to do in response to the grace of God.
- Believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God - John 8:24; Heb. 11:6
- Repent of all sins and resolve to resist all temptation - Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- When I understand what I need to do in response to the grace of God.
- Publicly confess my faith in Jesus Christ - Matt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10
- Be baptized by immersion in water - Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- When I understand why I need to obey the Gospel. I am lost now and will be lost eternally
 - 1Cor. 6:9, 11 - “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived... 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.”

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- When I know that I am in danger while I delay
- Christ will return
 - Matt. 24:44 - “Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”
 - 1Thes. 5:1-3 - “But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. 2 For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. 3 For when they say, Peace and safety! then sudden destruction comes upon them...”

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- When I know that I am in danger while I delay
- I will die
 - Heb. 9:27 - “And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment”
 - Ecc. 3:20 - “All go to one place: all are from the dust, and all return to dust.”
 - 2Cor. 5:10 - “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

When Will I Be Ready To Be Baptized?

- When I cannot be talked out of it nor can I be tempted to delay any longer.
- When one is ready to be baptized, nothing will keep him out of the water.

When Will I Be Baptized?

- Do you know these things:
 - When I know that I am in sin.
 - When I understand what I must about Jesus.
 - When I understand what I need to do in response to the grace of God.
 - When I understand why I need to obey the Gospel.
 - When I know I am in danger while I delay.