

FAITH GUIDE

# Buried and *Raised*

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A short guide to what water baptism actually means, straight from the Greek word behind it.

"Buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead... even so we also should walk in newness of life." — Romans 6:4

## Underneath the *surface*

Most people think water baptism means “get wet in front of everybody.” That’s not wrong exactly. But it’s missing almost everything that makes baptism so powerful.

Every time you read “baptize” in your English Bible, the word underneath it in the Greek is baptizo (bap-TID-zo). Here’s the first thing worth knowing: the King James translators didn’t actually translate this word, they transliterated it, just turned Greek letters into English letters. So “baptize” in English isn’t really an English word at all. It’s a Greek word wearing an English costume. That matters, because most of us have never actually heard what it meant to the people who first used it.

1

### What Baptizo Meant on the Street

A word about dye vats and sinking ships, long before it was a church word.

2

### Why It Changes Everything

What Romans 6 actually says when you load the real meaning back in.

3

### A Testimony Before You Speak

What your baptism preaches to everyone watching.

*“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.”*

MARK 16:16

## PART

## 1

## What Baptizo Meant *on the Street*

*“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?”*

ROMANS 6:3

Baptizo wasn't a churchy, religious word before the New Testament picked it up. It was a completely ordinary Greek word used constantly in everyday life, and its use outside the Bible tells us exactly what it meant.

Ancient Greek dye makers used baptizo to describe what happened when you took a plain, undyed piece of cloth and dipped it into a vat of dye. The cloth went in one color and came out a completely different color, and it didn't wash out. The dye didn't just sit on top of the fabric, it penetrated it, saturated it, and permanently changed its identity. Ancient writers described the cloth as being “baptized” in the dye.

Greek writers also used this word for a ship going down at sea. When a vessel sank beneath the waves, it was “baptized.” Not sprinkled. Not splashed. Completely overtaken.

Do you see the pattern? Baptizo always describes a total change of identity through total immersion. Not a light touch. A complete overtaking.

PART

2

## Why It Changes *Everything*

*“Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”*

ROMANS 6:4

Now read that verse with the dye-vat meaning loaded back into the word. Paul isn't describing a light sprinkle of religious ceremony. He's using the dye-vat word. He's saying that when you go under that water, you are being baptizo'd into Christ the same way that cloth was baptized into the dye.

You go in one identity. You come out a completely different one, permanently, all the way through, not just on the surface.

That's why we don't sprinkle at Ambassador Global. It's not because sprinkling is wrong exactly, it's because it can't picture what actually happened to you. You didn't get a little bit saved. You got fully submerged into a brand new identity in Christ, the old one gone, dead and buried, a new one raised up in its place.

S

SPEAK THIS

*“My old identity is buried. I am raised to walk in newness of life.”*

R

REFLECT

What part of your old identity still needs to feel fully buried, not just set aside?

PART

3

## A Testimony *Before You Speak*

*“He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.”*

MARK 16:16

Water baptism is a sermon your body preaches without you saying anything. Going under the water pictures your old identity dying and being buried. Coming back up pictures resurrection, brand new life, on the other side of the grave your old self went into.

Everyone watching gets to see the gospel acted out in front of them. That’s why baptism is meant to be watched, not done quietly in private.

Belief comes first. Baptism is simply you agreeing, out loud, in front of witnesses, with something that’s already true about you in Christ. If you’ve believed and you haven’t yet gone under the water, don’t wait for a feeling. The dye doesn’t wait for the cloth to feel ready. It just goes in, and the cloth comes out changed.

YOUR NEXT STEP

## Go all the *way under*

You don't need your theology perfectly sorted or your life fully cleaned up first. You just need faith in what Jesus already did, and a willingness to say so publicly. Sign up, and let's get you fully immersed into what's already yours.



Sign up to get baptized  
[ambassadorglobal.us/baptism](https://ambassadorglobal.us/baptism)

*“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?”*

ROMANS 6:3