

Is My Baptism Keeping Me From Being Baptized?

Acts 8:36

"And as they went on the way, they came unto a certain water; and the eunuch saith, Behold, (here is) water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?"

Denominational Baptism

- Most religious people have submitted to something that was called **baptism**.
- Therefore, when one learns about the New Testament church ...
 - It is said, "I have been baptized in the past" by the Baptist church or the Mormon church, etc.

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What Is A Denomination?

- A religious denomination is a subgroup within a religion that operates under a common name, tradition, and identity. <https://www.definitions.net>
- A non-denominational church is any church which is not part of a larger denomination. <https://www.gotquestions.org>

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Why?



The Church Of Christ Is Not A Denomination

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What is the Church?



ekklesia: "to call out of" ...
"the called out ones"

Assembly of Saved

"Called out" of darkness by God, by the gospel
1 Peter 2:9-10;
2 Thessalonians 2:14

The Redeemed
Matthew 16:18

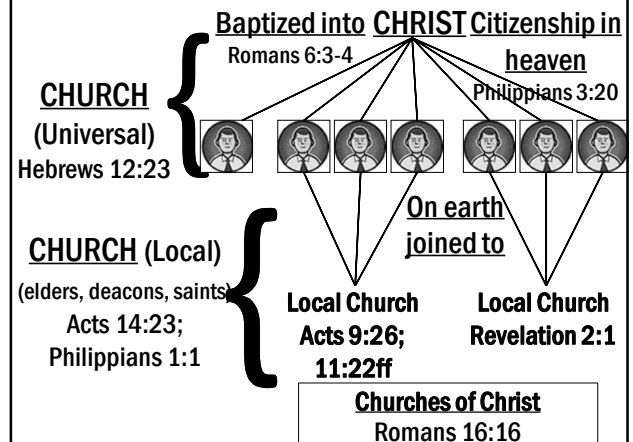
An Assembly

-Israel, Acts 7:38


-Riot, Acts 19:32, 41


-Governmental body, Acts 19:39

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Denominational Illustrated





SO:

- Catholic
- Lutheran
- Baptist
- Methodist
- 7th Day Adventist
- Mormon
- Jehovah's Witness



Invisible Church

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Denominational Baptism:

- **It has the wrong authority** (Matthew 28:18; Colossians 3:17).
 - Denominational councils and creeds authorize denominational baptism.
 - Jesus never authorized it, nor did he ever command anyone to be baptized into any church begun by man.
 - The Lord said, "*Upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hades shall not prevail against it*" (Matthew 16:18). (singular).
 - The Lord built only one church.

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Denominational Baptism:

- **It usually has the wrong subject** (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:37; Acts 2:38).
- The Bible teaches that apostles were to "*teach all nations*" and to baptize "*them*."
- The penitent believer who confesses his faith is a proper subject of scriptural baptism.
 - But denominations often sprinkle infants who cannot meet the above requirements.
 - Denominations also baptize people who think they are already saved rather than persons who desire to be saved.

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Is My Baptism Keeping Me From Being Baptized?

Denominational Baptism:

- **It has the wrong confession** (Acts 8:37).
 - Persons in the New Testament confessed their faith in Christ.
 - The eunuch of Acts 8:37 asked, "*Behold, (here is) water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? (And Philip said, If thou believest with all thy heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.) And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.*"

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Denominational Baptism:

- **It has the wrong confession** (Acts 8:37).
 - Persons in the New Testament confessed their faith in Christ.
 - Persons desiring to undergo denominational baptism often are asked to confess agreement with the Denominational creed.
 - More common is the unscriptural confession wherein one states that he believes that God for Christ's sake has pardoned his sins.

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Denominational Baptism:

- **It usually has the wrong action** (Acts 8:37; Romans 6:3-4; Colossians 2:12).
 - Scriptural baptism entails "*much water*" (John 3:23), and a coming "*unto,*" a "*going down into,*" and a "*coming up out of the water.*"
 - In scriptural baptism, one is "*buried*" (Romans 6:3-4).
 - Neither sprinkling nor pouring meets these scriptural requirements.
 - Therefore, if you submitted to sprinkling or pouring, your "baptism" was wrong.

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Is My Baptism Keeping Me From Being Baptized?

Denominational Baptism:

- **It has the wrong purpose** (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21).
- These passages teach baptism to be "for the remission of sins," to be "saved," to have one's sins "washed away."

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Denominational Baptism:

- **It has the wrong purpose** (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21).
- Denominations usually assert they are baptizing one into that particular denomination rather than into Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:26-27; Romans 6:3-4).
 - Necessary for church membership, but not for salvation.
- So even though one has been baptized, if he was not baptized for the scriptural purposes, then that person's baptism was wrong.

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- **It has the wrong purpose** (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21).
- Most denominations teach that one is baptized to show that he has been saved rather than in order to be saved.
- If you will remember whether you confessed that you had been saved, you will be able to ascertain whether your immersion was "for the remission of sins" and into the one body of Christ (cf. 1 Corinthians 12: 13).

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Denominational Baptism:

- **It has the wrong order** (Hebrews 11:6; Romans 10:17; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 8:37).
- These verses establish the sequence of events in conversion to be hearing, faith, repentance, confession, immersion, forgiveness of sins, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- Denominationalists confuse this order. They state the sequence like this: Gift of the Holy Spirit, repentance, faith, salvation, and then baptism.

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Is My Baptism Keeping Me From Being Baptized?

Denominational Baptism:

- **It has the wrong allegiance.** Denominational baptism binds one to wear a human name, obey and endorse a human creed, belong to a human organization, and to support a human program.
- Scriptural baptism binds one to wear a divine name, obey a divine message, belong to a divine body, and to work in a divinely authorized church.
- Denominational baptism attracts people to a denominational body rather than to Christ and His Kingdom.

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Denominational Baptism:

Things to remember:

1. One cannot be taught wrong and be baptized right. (Romans 10:17; 6:17)
2. One cannot be baptized wrong and worship right. (Romans 6:3-4; Acts 2:42)
3. One cannot worship wrong and live right. (John 4:23-24)
4. One cannot live wrong and die right. (Matthew 25:31-41)
5. Therefore, one cannot be baptized wrong and die right.

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Denominational Baptism:

➤ **What about you?**

- Have you submitted to scriptural baptism?
- Obedience is not retroactive.
 - Do not make the error of interpreting what you did years ago in the light of what you know now.
- Many have made this mistake.
- One must understand what he is doing at the time he is doing it to obey the gospel scripturally from the heart. (cf. Romans 6: 17-18)
- What hinders you to be baptized?

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