

# Three lines of reasoning to show that baptism is not essential

1. Baptism is an outward sign of an inward grace (What scripture??)
2. The thief on the cross was saved w/o being baptized (Luke 23:39-43, Col 2:14)
3. What if a person believed and on his way to be baptized was killed??
  - What if a person heard the gospel and before he believed he had a heart attack??

Our faith must rest on God's word in the proper context.

# What does the bible say about baptism??

Matt 28:19-20	Disciple – baptize – teach
Mark 16:15-16	Preach – believe – be baptized
Acts 2:38	Be baptized for remission of sins
Acts 22:16	Baptized – wash away sins
I Cor 12:13	Baptized into one body
Gal 3:26-29	Baptized into Christ

Baptism is a **part** of the scheme of redemption – the righteousness of God ( the part that removes sins)

# Graphically picture what baptism accomplishes

I Peter 3:18-21 Baptism now saves us

Rom 6:3-5 Baptized into Christ

Baptized into His death

Buried with Him

Raised from the dead

Walk in newness of life

United in likeness of His death

Shall be in likeness of resurrection

If baptism is not essential to ones salvation then neither is belief or bearing fruit to God. We need to believe, obey and grow