

# BAPTISM IN THE WATERS

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# INDEX

<b>1 -INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2 - WHAT IS BAPTISM IN THE WATERS .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>3 - GOD'S PEOPLE WERE SET FREE FROM EGYPT .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>4 - WHAT DOES BAPTISM MEAN? .....</b>	<b>33</b>



# 1- INTRODUCTION

## 1. BAPTISM IN THE WATERS DOES NOT SAVE ANYONE

Baptism in the Waters DOES NOT SAVE anyone.

Salvation only comes through:

- Believing in Jesus and what He has done.
- Repenting from your sins and wrong way of living.
- Receiving Jesus as your Saviour.

## 2. IT IS A COMMANDMENT OF JESUS

Baptism in the Waters is a COMMANDMENT of Jesus Christ for every believer.

### **Acts 2:28**

*You have made known to me the ways of life;  
You will make me full of joy in Your presence.*

### **Mark 16:15,16**

*And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.*

*16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.*

### **3. REQUIREMENTS FOR BAPTISM**

The sole requirement for baptism is that you have accepted Jesus as your Lord and Saviour.

Your Lord, because it is Jesus who governs your life.

Your Saviour, because it is Jesus who saved you, and helped you.

### **4. THE MEANING OF BAPTISM IN THE WATERS**

Baptism in the Waters is much MORE than DIVING into water or a religious SYMBOLISM.

There is POWER in Baptism in the Waters.

#### **4.1- THE DEATH OF ONE'S OLD "SELF"**

It is our Funeral.

#### *II Corinthians 5:17*

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

#### **4.2- THE WASHING OF SINS**

The Blood that Jesus shed on the Cross of Calvary cleanses us from all our sins.

Baptism in the Waters is an outward act, symbolising the inward cleansing that Jesus did.

#### **4.3- THE RESURRECTION OF ONE'S NEW "SELF"**

It symbolises being "Born Again", to a life with God.

#### *Romans 66:1 to 4*

1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?

2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

3 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.

#### **4.4- SYMBOLISES BEING DISCIPLES OF JESUS**

Salvation is not just about giving your life to Jesus one day and never doing anything else.

Once we have passed through the gate of the Kingdom of God (*through Jesus*), we have to walk on the narrow path, which leads to the presence of the Father.

## **5. BIBLICAL EXAMPLES**

### **5.1- BAPTISM OF THE EUNUCH**

#### ***Acts 8:35-38***

*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.”*

*38 So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.*

## **5.2- PETER AT CORNELIUS' HOUSE**

### **Acts 10:34-48**

*44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.*

*45 And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.*

*46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.*

*47 Then Peter answered, "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. Then they asked him to stay a few days.*

## **6. SOME MISCONCEPTIONS**

### **6.1- BAPTISING BABIES**

We do not do this because they have no "conscience" of repentance, nor faith.

### **6.2- INSPECTING THE CANDIDATES' LIVES**

It is the practice of some Churches to send a group of older brothers to inspect the candidates' lives.

This is wrong! It is not biblical.

There is instant sanctification and progressive sanctification.

## **7. HOW TO ADMINISTER BAPTISM**

### **7.1- By Immersion**

This means that the person is baptised with water. The person enters a pool, a river, etc., where he or she is immersed in the water.

### **7.2- In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit**

When the person is baptised, the pastor baptises them in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

## **8. WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF BAPTISM IN THE WATERS**

The devil knows very well the importance of Baptism in the Waters. That is why it is very common for people who DECIDE to be baptised, to suffer attacks or strange things happen in the days leading up to the baptism ceremony.

### **A) MY ADVICE**

DO NOT GIVE UP! Do not give up on being baptised, because that is what the devil WANTS. He wants you to GIVE UP on being baptised so that he can continue to trample on your life, your marriage, your finances, and your health.

### **B) DO NOT BE SHOCKED IF THE DEVIL ATTACKS YOU**

It is during the Baptism in the Waters that these demons will be BURIED once and for all in your life.

Therefore, do not be DISCOURAGED and be baptised.

Do NOT GIVE UP, no matter what the excuse, because there are GREAT victories for your life at the Baptism in the Waters!!



## **C) MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION AND BUILD YOUR LIFE ON THE ROCK**

Whoever decides to be baptised,

- is making the right DECISION
- is building their LIFE on the ROCK.

When you decide to be BAPTISED, you are doing what Jesus referred to as “BUILDING your HOUSE on the ROCK.”

There will be storms, problems,  
but you will overcome them because you have BUILT your life on the rock!!

### **Matthew 7:24,25**

24 Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock:

25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

## 2 - WHAT IS BAPTISM IN THE WATERS

What is BAPTISM IN THE WATERS? Let us look at *Mark 16:15-16*  
Jesus was speaking and said to them:

15 And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach  
the gospel to every creature.

16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he  
who does not believe will be condemned.

### 1. IT IS A COMMANDMENT OF JESUS

**BAPTISM IS A CONSEQUENCE OF A PERSON GIVING THEIR LIFE  
TO JESUS.**

Many people do not understand what the purpose of Baptism  
in the Waters is. However, baptism is extremely important!

Firstly, Baptism in the Waters symbolises what happened in our  
hearts when we gave our lives to Jesus.

When someone is baptised in the water, they are showing God,  
the angels, the demons, and anyone who is willing to see, that  
their old self is DYING!

## 2. BEING BORN AGAIN

Baptism symbolises us being “BORN AGAIN”, being cleansed of our sins.

Baptism in the Waters is a funeral, because

- my old self is dying;
- I no longer belong to this world.

When I come out of the water, I am BORN AGAIN, but now with the purpose of WALKING with GOD.

That is why Jesus said:

### *John 3:3*

3 Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Nicodemus said:

### *John 3:4*

4 “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”

Jesus explained in *John 3:5,6* that what is born of the flesh is flesh, but what is born of the spirit is spirit.

5 “...Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

The human being is a spirit. By being BAPTISED, one is being BORN AGAIN in the spirit.

### 3. CLEANSING

Water symbolises cleansing. Through baptism in the waters, the water symbolises the CLEANSING of all sin in the life of the person being baptised.

When someone gives their life to Jesus, God forgives all their sins. Up until that moment, God had no relationship with that person.

But when the person repents, that is, admits:

*“I have sinned, God please forgive me”*

Then God says: *“I will erase your sins!”*

It reminds me of a couple of years ago in South Africa when the Apartheid regime (of racism) ended. The new government instituted a process of reconciliation between all races and people because they did not get along.

So what did they do? Something Biblical.

They made a decree that said:

*““Everyone who has sinned and failed comes to court before the people who accused them with facts. And everyone who admits his sin, the government will forgive them. That is, that person does not have to pay for their sins.”*

Many white people had to humble themselves and ask forgiveness from many black people, Indians etc.

This is Biblical! So, it is interesting to see how the nation is getting better and better and there is an interaction between different ethnic groups.

When someone wants to be in right standing with God they have to admit: "I have sinned."

When Jesus died for us on the cross, the blood that was shed was God's blood. Jesus never failed, never lied, never wished harm on anyone, so he was unjustly condemned.

Why? To pay the price for the SINS of those who admit:  
*"I am the one who failed! I have sinned!"*

When someone admits their sins, God says:

*"OK, then, I will make an exchange.*

*Jesus paid for you and nailed your sins on the cross."*

This water symbolises the CLEANSING of all our sins, God's forgiveness!

Why is God's forgiveness important? Because He is really God. If someone has a broken relationship with God, it is really complicated.

When they reconcile with God, things start to change for the better!

These WATERS symbolise that. When someone is totally immersed it means that he is completely, "Cleansed from his sins."

When the person comes out of the water it symbolises:

*"Now that my old self has died, I no longer belong to this world, I no longer belong to the devil."*

During the baptism in the waters, I died BUT I also came out with a new life with God.

# 3 - GOD'S PEOPLE WERE SET FREE FROM EGYPT

## 1- EXAMPLE OF GOD'S PEOPLE WHEN THEY WERE SET FREE FROM EGYPT

Many years ago, the people of God were enslaved because of their sins. The PEOPLE were CAUGHT UP with the things of this WORLD, believing in the things of this world, in the people of this world, the governments, etc.

It was only a matter of time and these very people in whom they trusted ENSLAVED them.

Then with a strong hand, God used Moses to deliver them. Moses said to Pharaoh: *"Let my people go."*

But Pharaoh would not let the people go, because he was arrogant, he was powerful! Pharaoh thought "My word is law, what I say goes." He was arrogant, so he did not let the people go and serve God!

What did God do?

He punished Pharaoh and his regime with PLAGUES.

## **THE PLAGUES**

The first plague came and everyone thought: *“Oh, it’s a coincidence.”*  
The second plague came, and they said: *“This is nothing.”*

Then came the third plague...the fourth...until there were so many that Pharaoh could not stand it.

And one day Pharaoh cursed God’s people:  
*“If I see you again, I will kill everyone!”*

The people of God cannot be cursed, because no weapon formed against us can prevail!

Whatever the wicked say against us, that is what will fall upon them. It is God’s law of sowing and reaping!

One day when Jesus was arrested, Peter tried to defend Jesus by using a sword to kill the soldier who was going to arrest Jesus. The soldier managed to avoid the blow, but Peter’s sword still cut off his ear!

Jesus took the ear, healed the soldier, and told Peter:

***Matthew 26:52***

*... But Jesus said to him, “Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword.”*

## **GOD GIVES INSTRUCTIONS TO MOSES**

*“Speak to all the congregation to take a lamb without blemish and to make a sacrifice by killing the lamb. Then take the blood of the lamb, and smear it on the door of your house so that your house will be protected by the blood of the lamb.”*

The people obeyed, and put the blood of the lamb on the door, at the top, bottom, left and right. This is very important because it represents CHRIST on the CROSS, the Lamb SENT by GOD.

### **THE LAMB OF GOD**

Before Jesus came to earth, people from time to time would come to the temple at scheduled times, and brought their lambs, sacrificing them and saying:

*“Oh God, I have sinned and so I should be condemned. Accept the death of this lamb which has no blemish, no sin, I have sinned. Accept this exchange.”*

And God would accept it.

When Jesus came, He was called the LAMB of God, so that once and for all a lamb sent by God would die in our place.

### **THE SEALED DOORS**

Going back to the story of Egypt, all the believers obeyed the instructions given to them by God.

When the angel of death arrived in Egypt, there were agonising cries heard throughout the land, from fathers and mothers who saw that their children had died!

But nothing evil happened in the houses of the believers, whose DOORS were SEALED with the BLOOD, since they were PROTECTED by God. That blood served as a symbol, preventing the angel of death from entering.



## **2. WHEN A PERSON SURRENDERS THEIR LIFE TO JESUS, THEY ARE PROTECTED BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS.**

What is the practical application for today?

When a person surrenders their life to Jesus, the BLOOD OF JESUS is SEALED on the DOOR of their HEARTS, and the angel of death has no way of entering their lives.

Today we hear the people of the world shouting, just as in those days, God's people heard their neighbours shouting, *"My son is dead! I don't know what's wrong! What do I do now?!?"*

We have to understand the comparison.

When you hear a neighbour, colleague, friend, etc, crying: *"My daughter...my husband is dying of cancer, my son has AIDS, I lost my job..."* these are the CURSES in the life of someone who does not walk with God.

### **THE CURSES**

These curses are killing people, they are destroying them. These are the demons who punish people.

Why? Because people

- do not listen to God
- do not care about God
- believe they know everything
- mock God's things
- mock the house of God and the ministers God

Then God abandons them and leaves them at the mercy of demons! That is why people are SUFFERING.

## **GOD'S PROTECTION**

God's people witnessed God's tremendous hand during their time in Egypt. God's people noticed that everyone who had sealed their door with the blood was uninjured.

Everyone was dressed and packed, ready to leave Egypt and travel to the Promised Land.

This baptism is about more than just jumping into the water, it is about moving ON from where I am:

- leaving behind my friendships
- not hanging out with individuals who disrespect God
- not hanging out with individuals who do not want anything to do with God.

## **NOT ASSOCIATING WITH PEOPLE WHO DO NOT LIKE GOD**

I can no longer associate with people who do not like God. I have to choose to be friends with people who are God's friends.

*"But then my father will become offended,  
She's my mum, he is my uncle, my cousin..."*

I will certainly not offend God.

### **Matthew 10:37**

He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

### **Matthew 10:33**

But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

The person has to make a decision! Who are you trying to please?

Your father? Your mother? Your employer? The government?  
I will certainly not offend God.  
He is the Lord of lords!  
He is the most important person of all.

### **3. THE JOURNEY BEGINS**

At last, the people left Egypt.

Pharaoh was devastated, because he had been DEFEATED by people who were slaves, and who in Pharaoh's eyes were a miserable bunch!

Pharaoh invoked his gods, called his priests. He went to their hospitals, to their clinics, just like people today have their gods. But it did him no good!

#### **THE ARRIVAL AT THE RED SEA**

The people left Egypt and were heading towards the Promised Land. Meanwhile someone spoke to Pharaoh:

*“Some Great Pharaoh you turned out to be! With all that money, with the oil, with the army, with everything at your fingertips, your own religion and you let your slaves go!?”*

And the enraged Pharaoh said, *“What? Me, weak? Defeated? Never!”*  
So, he went after the people with his mighty army.

Meanwhile, God's people were travelling on foot, without weapons, with their children, with their grandchildren, slowly.... What chance did God's people have against that army? ZERO chance!

The lesson to be learnt:

**By being baptised, you will escape hell and the devil .**

But do you think the devil will give up? He will not!

The devil wants to bring you back

*to slavery!*

*to the old ways*

*to old thoughts*

*to unhealthy friendships*

The devil wants to bring you back! So, he sends his mighty army after you and you think, *"I have no chance, I have to surrender."*

But you CANNOT give up!

#### **4. DO NOT GIVE UP ON YOUR WALK WITH GOD – GOD WILL MAKE A WAY FOR YOU**

The people were at the shore of the Red Sea, they had no way of escaping Pharaoh's army. But Moses lifted his staff, struck the water and God created a path where none existed.

##### ***Exodus 14:21,22***

*21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.*

*22 So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.*

If you don't give up on your walk with God,

*if you do not falter,*

*if you don't bow down to anyone,*

*God will certainly open a way for YOU!*

God will open a way even where there is no way, because Jesus is the way!

God will not be with an individual who thinks that a ruler or the system of the world is better or greater than God.

Such a person is BUILDING their house on sand!  
Such a person will see misfortune and problems in their life.

Why? He has stepped outside of God's protection

We must incorporate this story into our lives, because that is what happens to many people. Those people had no possible salvation, but God did what no one else can do!

God made a way where there was no way.

### **JESUS MAKES A WAY**

Jesus is the SAME TODAY as he was in those days!  
He will also make a way in your life, where no way currently exists!

He even creates things that do not exist, just to bless you. If only  
    you don't look back  
    you don't give up  
    you don't bow down to other gods

Then God says: *"Since he believes in me, I will be his God."*  
And for God nothing is impossible, there is no other like Him!

### **GOD WANTS TO SEE WHAT IS IN YOUR HEART**

Why does GOD allow certain things?  
Why does it sometimes seem that GOD is DEAF, or SLOW to respond?

GOD's calendar is different from ours.

God wants to see: who really believes in Him;

who really follows God;

to the point of not exchanging God for anyone else.

### **THE BURNING FIERY FURNACE**

When we do not bow down like Meshach, Shadrach, Abed-Nego in the burning fiery furnace, the devil will increase the heat of the furnace twice as much. (*Daniel 3*)

If the person continues to NOT bow down:

- the devil HEATS it UP 3 times more

- the devil HEATS it up 4 times, until it reaches 7 times more!

It seems like GOD will not APPEAR, but He is there by your side!

### **GOD WAS IN THE MIDST OF THE PROBLEM**

God didn't take the young men out of the problem, but God was with the young men in the MIDST of the problem. God protected them, and delivered them.

#### *Daniel 3:28*

28 Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God!

### **THE VICTORY**

Meanwhile God's people PASSED through the Red Sea:

- they were travelling on foot with children, suitcases (they were going slowly)

- and Pharaoh's army had horses and weapons.

Why couldn't the army reach the people?

What happened?

God did something supernatural

***Exodus 14:19,20***

19 And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them.

20 So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus, it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.

God put LIGHT in front, so the people could see the way, BUT He put such profound DARKNESS behind them, that Pharaoh's army could not see God's people.

If you TRUST GOD, not only will HE make a WAY, but he will make it so your enemy cannot catch up to you.

It may seem like they are ALMOST catching up,  
it may seem like things are getting worse,  
BUT they will not reach you,  
because if GOD is with you, no-one can be against you!

The Red Sea opened,  
it was a MASS baptism in water.

The baptism of those people was that they LEFT the land of SLAVERY and crossed to the other side.

## 5. THE PRACTICAL ASPECT OF BAPTISM – ALL THE DEMONS ARE DROWNED IN THE BAPTISM WATERS

When God's people reached the other side of the Red Sea, Moses touched the water and the sea CLOSED! So, all the enemies of GOD drowned!

### *Exodus 14:26-28*

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen."

And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth... So the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained.

### **TWO THINGS HAPPENED:**

- 1- The enemy came after the people, even after the people were SAVED.
- 2- The enemy was drowned in the Red Sea (at the baptism).

The most important part when you are BAPTISED in the WATERS, is the practical aspect of Baptism:

the demons coming after you,  
(whether you knew it or not)  
are drowned in the water!

That is why almost always the person who is going to be baptised is attacked with problems, with strange things happening just before. WHY? Because the devil knows that he will be DROWNED once and for all when the person is baptised in water.



## **6. AFTER BEING BAPTISED – THERE IS ONLY ONE PATH: TO WALK WITH GOD**

After the baptism:

- 1<sup>ST</sup>. I cannot GO BACK – the Sea has already closed
- 2<sup>ND</sup> – I only have ONE path – walk with God

### **THE DESERT**

God took the people through the DESERT before they reached the PROMISED LAND.

But even so, the people

- did not go HUNGRY in the desert
- did not suffer from DISEASE in the desert

Even though they were in the desert, they lacked nothing!

It is very important to say this, because many BELIEVERS do not understand what it is to be SAVED.

They want GOD ´S blessing:

- BUT they continue to LIVE the same way**
- BUT they continue to live the way of the WORLD**
- BUT they still have friends who despise God**

Many believers are never BLESSED (or if they are, it is very little),

- because they continue to BELIEVE in Pharaoh's System
- because they continue to BELIEVE in a man-made System, thinking that this is what will help them, save them, etc.

As a result, GOD becomes angry and refuses to bless these believers.

What could be found in the desert?

- there were no PHARMACIES or HOSPITALS
- there were no HOUSES or CARS
- there were no SHOPS
- there was NOTHING

So, God's people only had one option, DEPEND on God!  
And that is what GOD wanted to TEACH the people.

### **GOD SUPPLIES ALL OUR NEEDS**

God can SUPPLY ALL OUR NEEDS, and we don't need ANYONE else!

During that time in the desert,

- no-one WAS HUNGRY
- no-one was thirsty
- clothes were not TORN or WORN OUT
- there were no SICK people.

At night in the DESERT, it can be very COLD, the temperatures can reach -20 degrees.

And during the day it reaches 40-50 degrees.

But nobody died from the COLD because at night GOD put a FIREPLACE which was the PILLAR of FIRE.

Nor did anyone DIE from the heat during the day, because there was a WHITE CLOUD, which provided AIR CONDITIONING.

### **Exodus 13:22**

He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people.

God wanted to teach His people:

*“I AM your GOD,  
I am the one who SUPPLIES all your needs,  
I AM the GOD who HEALS your infirmities,  
I AM the GOD who PROVIDES for you.”*

## **I AM NO LONGER OF THIS WORLD**

I live in this world, but I do not belong to this world.

When God led the people through the desert, He wanted to show them many things, but the people’s hearts were still FULL of the world.

It is easy for GOD to save a person from SLAVERY, disease and poverty, etc. BUT it is difficult to remove Egypt from their hearts.

It is not up to God to remove Egypt from your heart, you have to WORK on it.

In Africa they say: *“It is easy to REMOVE a monkey from the jungle, but to REMOVE the jungle from INSIDE the monkey’s HEART...”*

You may dress up the monkey:

*Put him in a suit and tie*

*Put him in a car or an aeroplane*

*Give him glasses to wear*

*But I guarantee you that the monkey will always do monkey business.*

The Bible mentions a man called Nebuchadnezzar. He was emperor over numerous nations.

So, Nebuchadnezzar's heart was FILLED with VANITY, and he desired to be God.

One thing led to another, and God PUNISHED him:  
removed the HUMAN spirit  
and replaced it with the spirit of a bull.

### ***Daniel 4:33***

33 That very hour the word was fulfilled concerning Nebuchadnezzar; he was driven from men and ate grass like oxen; his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair had grown like eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws.

What happened? Nebuchadnezzar, a man with a lot of money and a large army, was seen eating GRASS, like an animal!

After a while, God put back the human spirit inside of him, to see if he had learnt his lesson.

### ***Daniel 4:34***

34 And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honoured Him who lives forever: For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom is from generation to generation.

King Nebuchadnezzar recognised that God is indeed God. But, for example, King Nebuchadnezzar's son, did not learn from his fathers' story!

### ***Daniel 5:1-31***

2 ... gave the command to bring the gold and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the temple which had been in Jerusalem, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them.

A mysterious hand appears, and begins to write on the wall:

5 In the same hour the fingers of a man's hand appeared and wrote opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.

The king summoned all of his wisemen, but not one of them could read it

8 Now all the king's wise men came, but they could not read the writing, or make known to the king its interpretation.

So, the king (Nebuchadnezzar's son) summoned Daniel

***Daniel 5:17-24***

17 Then Daniel answered, and said before the king..., I will read the writing to the king, and make known to him the interpretation.

18 O king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father a kingdom and majesty, glory and honour

20 But when his heart was lifted up, and his spirit was hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him.

21 Then he was driven from the sons of men, his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild donkeys...

22 "But you his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, although you knew all this.

23 And you have lifted yourself up against the Lord of heaven. They have brought the vessels of His house before you, and you and your lords, your wives and your concubines, have drunk wine from them. And you have praised the gods of silver and gold, bronze and iron, wood and stone,

which do not see or hear or know; and the God who holds your breath in His hand and owns all your ways, you have not glorified.

24 Then the fingers of the hand were sent from Him, and this writing was written.

Daniel said:

*““God is calling you a fool! Do you consider yourself a wonderful person, simply because you are king and you have money and an army?*

*You are working with God’s instruments! You have exceeded your limit. You should have learned by observing who your father was, what God did to him in order for him to learn his lesson, BUT you have learnt nothing!”*

***Daniel 5:25-28***

25 And this is the inscription that was written: Mene, Mene, Tekel and Upharsin.

26 This is the interpretation of each word. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it; 27 TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting; 28 PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.”

That SAME night, he DIED, and his empire, which was built by his father, was given to another to govern.

Here we see that nobody PLAYS with GOD!



## **4 – WHAT DOES BAPTISM MEAN?**

### **1- UNDERSTANDING THAT GOD DESPISES THE WORLD**

Baptism in water also means that deep in our HEART, we understand that God despises the world.

Do you know why God despises the world?  
Because no one cares about God!

During elections, they make many promises, but they are merely promises since they accomplish nothing! Even if they claim to be Catholics, they are not! Check to see whether they attend Mass to hear the priest?

How can a Christian in his heart RESPECT such a person?!

If he does respect, GOD will have nothing to do with him!

This is why many individuals who call themselves “believers” continue to have problems.



## 2. THE SECRET TO EVERLASTING SUCCESS IS HONOURING GOD

What is the SECRET to SUCCESS?

It is to HONOUR GOD in the big things and in the small things!

It is not honouring God only on Sunday, it is honouring God EVERY day.

It is believing that there is no other god above our God:

- nobody PLAYS with Him
- if someone ATTACKS us, He will DEFEND us
- if we have problems, He will BLESS us, because GOD is with us!

## 3. WE MUST REMOVE EGYPT FROM OUR HEART

Read the book *“Convert to Disciple.”*

When you read this book, EGYPT (the world) will LEAVE your HEART:

- you will THINK differently
- you will become a DIFFERENT PERSON on the inside
- you will begin to RESPECT GOD and stop going after people who are enemies of GOD.

Then GOD will be your friend like never before!

It is not enough for you to leave Egypt. It's not enough for you to be free from slavery. You have to REMOVE Egypt from your heart.

When the people arrived at the gates of the Promised Land, of the 12 spies, 10 (that is, 80%) COMPLAINED! They said:

*“The Promised Land is fantastic, but there are giants there! They are so big and important! We are nothing.”*

God became angry with those 10 leaders, and said:

*“For you, the people outside are more important!*

*Do you respect a minister more than a pastor?!*

*Would you rather go visit someone than go visit God in his house?!*

*Do you think it is more important for your child to GO TO UNIVERSITY than to go to GOD’S school?!”*

Schools and universities produce ANTICHRISTS! They produce people who are AGAINST Christ and against everything that has to do with God.

How can a person like and accept that that person is important?  
NEVER!

What is important is

- a minister of God
- an assistant of God
- the Bible School, etc.

Everything that has to do with GOD is important!

### **THERE WILL ALWAYS BE PEOPLE LIVING IN THE DESERT**

There are people who know that there is a God, and have even LIVED a miracle or two, but now nothing HAPPENS!

Now the person only experiences PROBLEMS:

in their finances

in their health

in their Family

The CURSES are piling up!

They are constantly praying, but nothing WORKS!

## **BUT NOT FOR THOSE WHO DO NOT BOW DOWN TO THE WORLD**

Who is going to OCCUPY the Promised Land:

- those who believe that everything that has to do with GOD is SUPERIOR
- those who DO NOT believe that the individuals who are in power etc. are the important ones.

God will give us the Promised Land!

If God is with you, WHO can be AGAINST you?

It is God who DEFENDS us

It is God who BLESSES us

It is God who FEEDS us

It is God who SAVES

It is God who gives us HEALTH and VICTORY

## **FINAL EXHORTATION:**

**EXCHANGE EVERYTHING TO WALK WITH GOD**

**AND RECEIVE THE PROMISED LAND THAT GOD HAS FOR YOU**

I was once on that side. I was an engineer and could have opted for the system of the world! I was actually earning well!

I could have chosen to be a believer with one foot inside the church and one foot outside, a believer who wasn't going anywhere!

But, like Moses, I also chose the best thing.

Moses exchanged being the owner of the greatest empire of the time, to become a man of God!

It seems as if he was not smart, because now he was mocked by society.

But Moses' name will live on forever.  
You too can become a great Moses for God!

I made the best choice; I traded EVERYTHING to walk with God.

Here I am, constantly preaching the Word of God, because God is wonderful!

I encourage you to read the book *“Convert to Disciple”*. This book has tremendous things to help you remove Egypt from your heart,

- Your way of thinking
- Your way of believing
- Your way of looking at the people who are lost in the world

Then you will be able to PLEASE God,  
and RECEIVE the PROMISED LAND that He has for you!

## **FINAL PRAYER**

I want to end this course with a PRAYER for you and your family, so that the devil does not steal the blessing of Baptism from you and that you may enjoy the great practical benefits of being BAPTISED in the waters.

*Father, it is in the name of Jesus that I bind the devil  
in the life of these people, who are reading this course.*

*Satan, I say to you, you are already bound in the family of  
these people.*

*You cannot stop them from following (walking with) God and  
being baptised in the waters.*

*Now, Lord Jesus, I give you thanks,  
because they have all decided to be baptised  
and their lives will never be the same.*

*Therefore, I command the blessings of Abraham over this  
house, over this family, over these people  
In the name of Jesus  
Amen and amen!*