

THE LORD'S SUPPER and WATER BAPTISM

By Augie Kooistra, 23 Nov. 2013

If a person claims to be a believer in Jesus Christ and has not been water baptized by immersion, that person should not be allowed to partake of the Lord's Supper or, more properly called Passover. As Scripture clearly shows in the New Testament, when a person believed on Jesus Christ and was baptized that same day, that person was saved from eternal death to eternal life and realized a "day of salvation." This is the "Good News of the Gospel."

Later, when the same person partakes of the Passover elements, the wine and the bread, that new Christian (follower of Christ) is obeying the command "when you do this" or "as often as you do this."

The bread represents the Body of Christ and wine represents His blood that was shed for my sin and when we take of Passover, we do this in remembering what Jesus did—He was crucified, died and buried, and was resurrected on the third day.

When we are water baptized by immersion, we are buried with Jesus Christ, our old sin nature bodies are buried and dead in the water and our sin is washed away by the water, and the blood shed on the cross by Christ covers our sin. When we come up and out of the water, we are resurrected to a new creation in Christ Jesus. We have just been baptized into the body of Christ. We have just been baptized into Church of God. We have just become members officially, biblically of the universal Church of Jesus Christ.

So when we partake of Passover, we remember what Jesus Christ did for us, we remember that we personally identified with His death, burial, and resurrection in the water of baptism by immersion, our mikveh, our purification, our death and burial to sin and resurrection to new life in Christ. Notice the pattern, believing, repenting, confessing, baptizing, and discipling. This is the new birth experience, being spiritually Born-Again, becoming a true Christian according to the Holy Bible. All of the above could be easily expanded to include much more. How very cruel to declare all of the above to a two-week old baby by another person and religious group and expect that baby to grow up and live up to all this when the baby did not understand anything at all. Baby baptism is a false teaching and practice.