Welcome to Spiritual Wisdom Knowledge and Understanding

My name is Lisa Kane

This message focuses on Water Baptism, whether you need it to be saved, and what is the purpose of water baptism.

Make sure you watch my first video upload on Salvation. You need that as your foundation to understand what this message is about.

Let's begin...

Do you need water baptism to be saved or to go to heaven?

No. When Jesus was dying on the cross, there were two criminals hung on separate crosses on each side of Him. Here's their conversation:

Luke 23:39-43 New King James Version (NKJV)

³⁹Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ,^[a] save Yourself and us."

⁴⁰ But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said to Jesus, "Lord,[b] remember me when You come into Your kingdom."

⁴³ And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Footnotes:

- a. Luke 23:39 NU-Text reads Are You not the Christ?
- b. Luke 23:42 NU-Text reads And he said, "Jesus, remember me.

New King James Version (NKJV)

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As you can see here, the thief on the cross didn't have time to get water baptized. So you don't need to be water baptized to be saved. Note, this also reaffirms my first message on salvation that all it takes is a declaration 'Lord Jesus' and this thief did it and actually was speaking nearly face-to-face with Him saying 'Lord' and Jesus promised him that He would see him in paradise that very day.

This also means that there is a different purpose to water baptism.

So what is the purpose of water baptism? Is it just about the symbol of Jesus dying on the cross and rising from the dead? I'm going to show you a mystery related to Water Baptism and how it relates to being fruitful.

Many teachers teach that water baptism represents dying to self (going under the water) and rising above self into Christ (coming out of the water). That this is a declaration to everyone that you are ready to be a Christian.

Here's a look at what the definition of the word baptism means according to dictionary.com:





Synonyms Word Origin

See more synonyms on Thesaurus.com

noun

- Ecclesiastical. a ceremonial immersion in water, or application of water, as an initiatory rite or sacrament of the Christian church.
- any similar ceremony or action of initiation, dedication, etc.
- 3. a trying or purifying experience or initiation.
- Christian Science. purification of thought and character.

Immersion is a good way to understand water baptism. But you must ask yourself, what are you being immersed into? What kind of life are we talking about and this is where the difference between what's taught in the world vs what's in the Bible.

Let's look at scripture to see what you are immersing yourself into when you are water baptized and what is the purpose of this immersion if it isn't to get into heaven...

John 3:1-5 New King James Version (NKJV)

The New Birth

- **3** There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him."
- 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."
- ⁴ Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"
- ⁵ Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

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I truly love this conversation between Nicodemus and Jesus. It really shows how us (humankind) needs to be listening to Jesus to really grasp the understanding of spiritual matters.

Jesus states that unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

Note, He isn't saying kingdom of heaven. He is saying kingdom of God. Kingdom of heaven is self-explanatory. It's the afterlife – heaven. The kingdom of God is something different and this is the life we are immersing ourselves into when we become water baptized because Jesus said we cannot enter this kingdom of God unless we're born of water and spirit.

So what is the kingdom of God? Let's read Mark 4:1-20, the parable of the sower. Very important and we need to read all of it.

The Parable of the Sower

- 4 And again He began to teach by the sea. And a great multitude was gathered to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat *in it* on the sea; and the whole multitude was on the land facing the sea. ² Then He taught them many things by parables, and said to them in His teaching:
- ³ "Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow. ⁴ And it happened, as he sowed, *that* some *seed* fell by the wayside; and the birds of the air^[a] came and devoured it. ⁵ Some fell on stony ground, where it did not have much earth; and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of earth. ⁶ But when the sun was up it was scorched, and because it had no root it withered away. ⁷ And some *seed* fell among thorns; and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no crop. ⁸ But other *seed* fell on good ground and yielded a crop that sprang up, increased and produced: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred."
- ⁹ And He said to them, ^[b] "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

The Purpose of Parables

¹⁰ But when He was alone, those around Him with the twelve asked Him about the parable.

'Seeing they may see and not perceive, And hearing they may hear and not understand; Lest they should turn, And *their* sins be forgiven them.'"[c]

The Parable of the Sower Explained

¹³ And He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? ¹⁴ The sower sows the word. ¹⁵ And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts. ¹⁶ These likewise are the ones sown on stony ground who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with gladness; ¹⁷ and they have no root in themselves, and so endure only for a time. Afterward, when tribulation or persecution arises for the word's sake, immediately they stumble. ¹⁸ Now these are the ones sown among thorns; *they are* the ones who hear the word, ¹⁹ and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes **unfruitful**. ²⁰ But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept *it*, and **bear fruit**: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred."

This parable explains the ministry of Jesus at the basic root. The kingdom of God is receiving the word, accepting it, bearing the fruit of it, some thirtyfold, sixty and some a hundred. You see, bearing fruit by ministering the Word of God is the Kingdom of God. Immersing yourself into Jesus is to be fruitful – sow the Word just like Him.

Let me show you how Jesus explains this further in Matthew 12:22-28

¹¹ And He said to them, "To you it has been given to know the **mystery of the kingdom of God**; but to those who are outside, all things come in parables, ¹² so that

A House Divided Cannot Stand

²²Then one was brought to Him who was demon-possessed, blind and mute; and He healed him, so that the blind and^[b] mute man both spoke and saw. ²³And all the multitudes were amazed and said, "Could this be the Son of David?"

²⁴Now when the Pharisees heard *it* they said, "This *fellow* does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, [c] the ruler of the demons."

²⁵ But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. ²⁶ If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? ²⁷ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast *them* out? Therefore they shall be your judges. ²⁸ But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.

Footnotes:

- a. Matthew 12:21 Isaiah 42:1-4
- b. Matthew 12:22 NU-Text omits blind and.
- c. Matthew 12:24 NU-Text and M-Text read Beelzebul.

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You can see this same story in Luke chapter 11. Remember, when you see something written in the Word of God more than once it is very important.

Note, the kingdom of God has come upon you. The kingdom of God is using the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit **to bear fruit** like Jesus. Jesus did (bear fruit) in this case by delivering this man who was blind and mute. He showed it as a witness to all around. Notice, some believed and some didn't. Reaffirming the parable of the sower. By immersing ourselves into the same life of Jesus, we're called to walk in this power to heal and cast out demons.

Remember the same scripture I used in the Salvation message, Ephesians 2:10. It explains why we're here.

Ephesians 2:10 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

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Here's the mystery of water baptism. Jesus is a tree or a plant who dropped seed. The seed has landed on each of us. What do you do with this new seed? Remember the parable of the sower. Which one are you?

Are you one who hears the word by the wayside and Satan comes immediately and takes it away? Or are you one who hears the Word with gladness but have no root and only endure for a short time? Or are you one who is so worried about the cares of this world that you can't be fruitful? Or are you one who hears the Word, accepts it, and bears fruit?

The seed of the word you heard is planted in you by Jesus.

Guess what, we're made of dirt...

Genesis 2:7 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁷And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

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Jesus planted a seed in us: a pile of dirt. What's the first thing you do when you plant a seed in dirt? You saturate it with water. When you are placed under the water in water baptism, you – the dirt and the seed are merged to become a new growth – a new plant or a new tree. This is a new creature, a new being God has made. This being is a mix of Jesus and me the individual. That places the power of Jesus inside of me or you or whoever takes this seed and merges with it.

Water baptism initiates the power of God in you by watering the seed to cause it to germinate to grow into a powerful fruitful being cultivated by God Himself.

Amazing...

Next, we need to maintain the growth of this new creature and learn about this power that we've been entrusted with. Even with a new plant after its initial saturation, it will need water and sunshine on a regular basis.

How do you water this new creature?

Ephesians 5:25-31 New King James Version (NKJV)

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. ²⁸ So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord *does* the church. ³⁰ For we are members of His body,^[a] of His flesh and of His bones. ³¹ "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." ^[b]

As you can see in Ephesians 5 the Lord nourishes and cherishes the church. How does He do that?

John 1:1-5 New King James Version (NKJV)

The Eternal Word

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ⁴In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend[a] it.

Jesus is the Word. You need to be reading and understanding the Bible regularly to receive your nourishment to grow to be fruitful as God created you to be. Notice also in John 1 verse 4 and 5, He is the light of men. Plants also need light to grow...He is the light too. You also need to learn how to operate in the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit. You need to be in His Word to receive that knowledge.

In essence, He provides the full nourishment you need to grow but you must take the effort to grow.

Remember the parable, some chose and went away because they had no root or depth...some went aside because the cares of the world got in the way. Don't let those activities distract you and don't let Satan interfere with the Word and You growing.

Move forward with listening to the Word, the Holy Bible and grow. Jesus planted His seed in you to grow to be fruitful by demonstrating His power of casting out demons and healing the sick – another words, ministering to others at the level of his or her need.

Let's pray...Dear Heavenly Father, we pray and declare you Lord Jesus over our heart and mind to understand and receive the message of water baptism to be fruitful and to walk in Your annointing. We thank You for being our Lord and Savior and lift You up in our lives and pray for strength and endurance to not be distracted by the cares of this world and to not be deceived by Satan in confusing us with Your word. Be our Lord and Savior over everything and help me to minister to others in Your power. In Jesus' name, Amen.

If you have never been water baptized, find a church that teaches directly from the Holy Bible and find out when it will next have a water baptism ceremony...then take the plunge.

Let me just say that when you do, you will be changed. You will now become a creature that God created and wants to grow. Let Him grow you.

May God richly bless you...and tune in for the next message on keeping yourself focused on God to continually grow as well as beginning to learn how to operate in the power of God. That's going to be another exciting message. Until next time...