

# Belief and Baptism

A silhouette of a person standing in water, with their arms raised and water splashing around them. In the background, a bright rainbow is visible against a dark, cloudy sky. The overall scene is bathed in a blue light.

Luke 7:24-30

# Jesus' words of salvation..

- **Mark 16:15-16** And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.  
<sup>16</sup> He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.
  - Supporting scriptures: Acts 2:38, 22:16; Gal 3:27; 1 Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3-4

Many today deny baptism is essential..

# Jesus had taught earlier..

- Luke 7:24-30 two responses to John's baptism
  - **Common people** -- 29 And when all the people heard *Him*, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John.
  - **Jewish leaders** -- 30 But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.

**Baptism was the test of acceptance**

# Jesus is later questioned

- Matthew 21:23-27 By what authority?
  - **Jesus' answer:** I will ask you one thing.. The baptism of John.. from heaven or men?
  - **They reasoned:** “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ He will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’

They knew: not being baptized = not believing



# Jesus uses a parable..

- Matthew 21:28-32 parable of the two sons
  - **The first son**: initially rebellious.. but later repented and obeyed the father's command
  - **The second son**: made pretense of regard for father's will.. but did not go and obey

Which of the two did the will of the father?

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A silhouette of a person standing in water, with their arms raised and water splashing around them. In the background, a bright rainbow is visible against a cloudy sky. The overall color palette is dominated by blues and greens, with the rainbow providing a splash of color.

Luke 7:24-30