

Benefit #2: The Spirit Came on Him Like a Dove

“For he is sent by God. He speaks God’s words, for God gives him the Spirit without limit.” (John 3:34, NLT)

“Again he said, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you.’ Then he breathed on them and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’” (John 20:21-22)

Benefit #3: Affirmation That God is Pleased With You.

When God calls you “My son...” or “My daughter in Whom I am well pleased,” He is telling you:

1. The lies of the devil are not true. Condemnation and feeling of inadequacy need to leave.
2. He sees you as sinless because of your faith in Jesus Christ.



Seated in the Heavens, Part Two: Baptism

“For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of his grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all he has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus.”
(Ephesians 2:6-7 NLT)

Baptism helps us understand our seat in heavenly places.

Baptism is much more than just a ritual.

Baptism is something we do out of obedience to God that also has great spiritual benefits.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”
(Matthew 28:19 ESV)

“Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”
(Mark 16:16 ESV)

Two questions before you get baptized:

1. Have you surrendered your life to Jesus Christ and acknowledge Him as the only way of salvation?
2. Do you renounce Satan and all of his works and all of his plans for your life?

How did baptism get started?

Ceremonial washing was a critical part of the Old Testament law, for example:

- Mildew on walls
- Purification after child birth
- Acceptance of a healed leper
- Aaron the high priest entering the temple

Why was Jesus baptized?

1. Jesus takes on our shame. He did this so He could identify with us. He came to earth to experience everything that we experience.
2. He never tells us to do something that He would not do. Jesus always leads by example. Because it is required of us, He also did it.
3. He shows us the expected benefits of baptism. He shows us that baptism is more than a ritual; that it has transforming power.

What happened when Jesus was baptized?

“And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.’” (Matthew 3:16-17)

Three things happened:

1. The heavens were parted
2. The Spirit came on Him like a dove
3. A Voice spoke from Heaven: “You are My Son in whom I am well pleased.”

Benefit #1: The Heavens Were Parted

1. A tearing open of the invisible realm for you.
2. Part of God’s plan to destroy the enemy in your life
3. Greater clarity over God’s Word.