

Mikvah (מקווה) Revisited

Most forms of ritual impurity can be purified through immersion in any natural collection of water. This requires "living or running water", such as springs or groundwater wells.

Living water has the further advantage of being able to purify even while flowing, as opposed to rainwater which must be stationary in order to purify. The mikveh is designed to simplify this requirement, by providing a facility that remains in contact with a natural source of water.

"The Greek word for baptism is baptizo meaning to immerse or dip a cloth into a vat of dye. The word is derived from an industry of dying cloth in Lebanon. The vats used to hold the different colors of dye, and the process of placing the cloth into the vats was called baptizo.

The ritual purity process of immersion, in the Torah and time of Yahshua, was known as Mikvah.

The Hebrew word for immersion is tevilah and means literally immersing in a ritual bath known as a mikvah

Immersion is the act of washing, performed to correct a condition of ritual impurity and restore the impure to a state of ritual purity. It is never for the purpose of cleaning or bathing the body.

The mikvah was of great importance to the first century Jew. It was understood that if a community or village had only enough money for a synagogue or a mikvah, the mikvah would be built first.

The Torah speaks of numerous things that make a person Tomeh (ritually unclean), and a number of processes of purification. The one act required in all purification processes was immersion in the mikvah.

Life for the average Jew, in the average village, depended on access to the mikvah. A man from the tribe of Levi, a son of Aaron could not assume his office as priest until he had gone through a mikvah.

Before a person could be tahor (ritually clean) to enter the grounds of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem, he must be immersed in the mikvah.

The severest punishment was imposed on a person for entering the Temple area in the state of tomeh (ritual impurity).

A woman in her monthly cycle was required to wear special clothing so all would know that she was in a state of niddah (ritually unclean due to monthly cycle). She would not be tahor (ritually clean) until after entering the mikvah.

Immersion in a mikvah is an integral part of conversion to **Judaism. Without immersion** conversion is not valid. There are many more times an immersion in a mikvah is customary.

The Mikvah is a ritual bath, the Hebrew word mikvah means a "pool" or "gathering" of water.

Leviticus 11:36 ³⁶"Only a spring and a pit, a gathering (Mikvah) of water, shall be clean..."



Baptism (mikvah) is done by complete immersion in water only. This is the only method found in the Bible, and therefore is the only legitimate one with God. The first proof is that people were traveling to bodies of water to be baptized.

Now if they were baptizing by sprinkling or pouring water on them, why would then have been traveling to bodies of water when they could have just used some water from their well or cistern? Because it was a mikvah, not a baptism.

Baptism was not a religious rite in the Old Testament or the Gospels – one was Mikvah

Yohannan Ben Zechariah was performing the mikvah in the Jordan River:

⁶And were baptized (*mikvah*) of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.

Mark 1:5

⁵And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized (*mikvah*) of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins.

Yahshua was mikvah in the Jordan River by Yohannan Ben Zechariah

(Mark 1:9)

⁹At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized (*mikvah*) by John in the Jordan.

Yahshua's mikvah was by immersion

Matthew 3:16 ¹⁶"he went up straightway out of the water".

Yahshua had been under the water.

Another reason why immersion is the only valid method is because it is the only one that portrays the death and resurrection of our Yahshua. The submersion under the water symbolizes both death and burial.

<u>Romans 6:4</u> 4"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism (*mikvah*) into

death..."

Nothing about sprinkling or pouring symbolizes death. Immersion also is the only one that portrays a resurrection from the dead. Just as Yahshua rose from the dead, you rise out of the water.

Colossians 2:12 ¹²"Buried with him in baptism (mikvah), wherein also ye are risen with [him] through the faith of the operation of Yahovah, who hath raised him from the dead".

Immersion is the only acceptable method of Mikvah because it is the only one used in the Bible, and it is the only one that symbolizes Yahshua's death and resurrection

Six Reasons For Mikvah



Six Reasons For Mikvah

Purification **Repentance Identification** Spirit Fire Suffering

Six Reasons - Purification

Purification

You are contaminated by the world and the mikvah will wash away the uncleanliness and leave it behind you

Six Reasons- Purification

Acts 21:26 ²⁶The next day Paul took the men and purified himself along with them. Then he went to the temple to give notice of the date when the days of purification would end and the offering would be made for each of them.
Six Reasons- Purification

John 11:55 ⁵⁵When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, many went up from the country to Jerusalem for their ceremonial cleansing before the Passover.

Six Reasons- Purification

You would go to the Temple with your sin offering (a sacrificial animal) - disrobe enter the mikvah pool, totally immerse yourself - allow the moving water to wash over you removing any uncleanness allowing it to wash away with the water, never to come back. That's your past, it is over. The uncleanliness is gone.

Repentance

Your past sins are separated from you by the mikvah. This provides redemption from your past.

Matthew 3:11 ¹¹ I indeed baptize (*mikvah*) you with water unto repentance. but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize (*mikvah*) you with the Holy Spirit, and with fire.

Luke 3:3 ³ And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism (*mikvah*) of repentance for the remission of sins;

Mark 1:4

⁴ John did baptize (*mikvah*) in the wilderness, and preach the baptism (*mikvah*) of repentance for the remission of sins.

Acts 19:4-5

⁴ Then said Paul, John verily baptized (mikvah) with the baptism (mikvah) of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Yahshua. ⁵ When they heard this, they were baptized (mikvah) in the name of Yahshua.

Identification

Identifying with Messiah through His act of burial and resurrection into a new life.

Acts 2:38 ³⁸ Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized (mikvah) every one of you in the name of Yahshua for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 6:3-4

³ Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized (*mikvah*) into Yahshua were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we are buried with him by baptism (*mikvah*) into death: that like as Yahshua was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Galatians 3:27-29 ²⁷ For as many of you as have been baptized (mikvah) into Yahshua have put on Yahshua. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Yahshua.²⁹ And if ye be Yahshua's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.



Receiving the Holy Spirit; sealing each Believer for the day of redemption

Mark 1:8

⁸I indeed have baptized (*mikvah*) you with water: but he shall baptize (*mikvah*) you with the Holy Spirit.

John 14:26

²⁶ But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Acts 11:15 ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them, as on us at the beginning.

Galatians 5:22-23 ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, ²³ Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Six Reasons - Spirit 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; ⁹ To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

¹⁰To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: ¹¹ But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.



Being Spirit-filled by holy fire through His teachings, fruitbearing, and gifts

Acts 2:3-4

³ And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:17-21 ¹⁷ And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith Yahovah, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: ¹⁸ And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

¹⁹ And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: ²⁰ The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Yahovah come: ²¹ And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Yahovah shall be saved.

Suffering

We learn His ways by laying down our own self-will

Romans 5:3-5

³ And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; ⁴ And patience, experience; and experience, hope: ⁵ And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of Yahovah is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us.

Romans 8:17-18

¹⁷ And if children, then heirs; heirs of Yahovah, and joint-heirs with Yahshua; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. ¹⁸ For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

² Timothy 3:12 ¹² Yea, and all that will live godly in Yahshua shall suffer persecution.

Six Reasons

There is so much more to mikvah than that of being immersed completely into water as a new Believer through obedience. It also the immersion of teachings, the fruit-bearing and the gifts that are received from the Holy Spirit; and not to be left unmentioned, our sealing to Yahshua!





Baptism is not Mikvah

Mikvah requires "living or running water"

Yahshua was mikvah, not baptized.

Raised as a Jew, Yahshua was familiar with mikvah, how it was practiced, and what it meant. He had never heard of baptism.

Summary There are six reasons for Mikvah:

Purification **Repentance Identification** Spirit Fire Suffering

There is so much more to mikvah than being immersed completely into water

Prophetically, Yahshua has Mikvah Israel and all those who believe in Him.

BONUS

Tomorrow, Messianic Delaware will conduct it's first Mikvah

Men and women would not Mikvah together.

When one goes to the mikvah, three blessings are said upon immersing three times.

The Traditional Jewish Mikvah Regardless of the occasion (conversion, before marriage, recovery from cancer, niddah (family purity), etc.) two blessings always remain the same, whereas the third blessing changes depending on the occasion

The Traditional Jewish Mikvah ENTER MIKVAH, TAKE DEEP BREATH, IMMERSÉ COMPLETELY AND REMAIN UNDER WATER FOR A FEW MOMENTS. STAND, TAKE A BREATH. AND SAY THE BLESSING:

The Traditional Jewish Mikvah בָּרוּךָ אַתָּה אֲדֹנִי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּרוּךָ אַתָּה אֲדֹנִי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְשָׁנוּ Barukh atah Adonay Eloheynu melekh ha-olam, asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al hat'vilah.

Blessed are you, Eternal God, ruler of the universe, who sanctifies us through mitzvot and has enjoined us concerning immersion.

IMMERSE A SECOND TIME! STAND, TAKE A BREATH, AND SAY THE BLESSING:

שָׁהֶחֶיָנוּ וְקִיְמָנוּ ,בְּרוּרְ אַתָּה אֲדֹנִי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לַזְּמָן הַזֶּה

Barukh atah Adonay, Eloheynu melekh ha-olam, shehekheyanu, v'kiy'manu, v'higianu, la-z'man ha-zeh.

Blessed is the Eternal, the God of all creation, who has blessed me with life, sustained me, and enabled me to reach this moment.

The third and final blessing changes depending on the occasion.

