

Comparing Bible Baptism with Various Beliefs and Practices

	Catholic	BIBLE	Denominational
Baptism's Purpose	Remission of sins, Membership into the Catholic Church	Remission of sins, gift of the Holy Spirit, and membership into the Church of Christ universal (Ac. 2:38-41)	Membership into the local church, and/or to obey the command of Christ to be baptized as an outward sign of an inward grace
Baptism's Candidate	Infants, children, or adults of any age or mental state	A person of responsible age and of sound mind who has believed, repented, and confessed before men that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God (James 4:17)	A person of responsible age and sound mind who has prayed "the sinner's prayer", or was "confirmed" in a membership class
Baptism's Mode	Sprinkling	Immersion (Jn. 3:23; Ac. 8:38; Co. 6:4)	Sprinkling, pouring, or immersion
Baptism's Occasion	Soon after birth for infants, or for adults if not yet baptized by the Catholic Church	Immediately upon confession of faith Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God (Ac. 8:37; Ac. 2:41)	Any convenient time after the sinner's prayer and/or membership class has been completed; often delayed for weeks

What standard should we live up to? **The Bible's!** (Ephesians 4:14; 2 Timothy 3:16)