BIBLE AND BAPTISM

INTRODUCTION - When God's word says it, that settles it, whether I believe it or not.

1. ESTABLISHING THE AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE

- 1) God gave His word to Jesus: (John 12:48-50) "but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak"
- 2) Jesus gave that word to His apostles: (John 17:7-9) "For I have given them the words which You have given Me, and they have received them"
 - Jesus also gave the apostles the Holy Spirit for a purpose: (John 14:26) "the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you" (John 16:12-14) "He will guide you into all truth; He will not speak on his own"
- 3) The apostles spoke (preached) that word delivered to them: (1 Corinthians 2:10-13) "God has revealed to us through the Spirit ... These things we also speak ..."
 - The apostles also wrote their spoken word: (John 20:30-31) "these are written" (Ephesians 3:3-4) "as I have briefly written already" (Colossians 3:3-4) "now when this epistle is read among you"
- 4) The written word comes with a warning: (John 12:48) "the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day" (Revelation 22:18-19) "adds ... takes away ... "

2. WHAT IS "BAPTISM?"

- 1) Greek definitions:
 - "Baptize" a Greek word "baptize" brought over into the English language.
 W.E. Vine "the process of immersion, submersion and emergence."
 - "Epicheo" a Greek word meaning "to pour on." Note (Luke 10:34)
 - "Rhantizo" a Greek word for "sprinkle" Note (Hebrews 11:28)
 - If Jesus and the inspired writers wanted to use another word than "baptize," they would have used "epicheo" or "rhantizo." They said, "baptize!"
- 2) Bible description of baptism: (element to be immersed in)
 - (John 3:23) "Now John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was much water there, and they came and were baptized" (Mark 1:9) "Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan" (Acts 8:36-39) "they came to some water ... so both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him" (Romans 6:3-4) "we were buried with Him through baptism ... raised ... " (Colossians 2:12) "buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised through the faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead"
- 3. WHERE MAY I BE BAPTIZED? anywhere there is sufficient water to be immersed in.

 The place has no Biblical significance; rather, significance of form and purpose.