Water Baptism

'And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."Amen' (Matt.28:18-20)

'And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:15-16) 1) We are saved by faith in Jesus, not by water baptism

Examples - the thief on the cross, the Philippian jailor, etc.

'For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God. Not by works, lest any man should boast' (Eph.2:8-9)

'...therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ' (Rom.5:1) **2)Baptism follows faith**

The Bible only knows one kind of baptism believer's baptism. E.g. Mk.16:16.

'Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them' (Acts 2:41)

However, by 5th century infant baptism had become standard practice. This was a departure from apostolic teaching and example 'So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized' (Acts 16:31-33)

'Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him' (Acts 8:36-38) 3)Baptism is by full immersion

'...both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water...' (Acts 8:38-39)

'When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water' (Matt.3:16)

'Now John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was much water there. And they came and were baptized' (John 3:23)

The word 'baptize' comes from the Greek word baptidzo, meaning to dip, dip under, dip in, sink, immerse, plunge, cover wholly in liquid

4)Baptism is a symbol of our baptism into Christ

'Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection' (Rom.6:3-5)

 We are saved by believing Jesus died, was buried and rose again for our salvation

We live the Christian life by believing we died, was buried and rose to new life with Him

As He died upon the cross, we died with Him

As He was buried, we were buried with Him

We also share in His resurrection life

Baptism is an outward symbol of an inner reality

We give testimony to these truths in our lives when we are baptized in water 'Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord' (Rom.6:11)