



**Title:** Living in 3D part II  
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James 2:17 (NKJV) <sup>17</sup> *Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.*

**\*\*How is your dying?**

## **Self – our worst enemy;**

James 1:21 *...lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.*

**\*The heart of man is like a garden.**

Proverbs 14:12 (NKJV) <sup>12</sup> *There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.*

## **Control**

**Comfort** – the kingdom of God happens outside our comfort zone.

**Principle:** *If you want it, you need to give it away.*

Matthew 16:24–25 (NKJV) <sup>24</sup> *Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. <sup>25</sup> For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake **will** find it.*

When we lay down our lives unto God, then we step into the Kingdom.

## **A call to come to the cross**

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV) <sup>20</sup> *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

## **A sacrifice of self**

Genesis 22:1–2 (NKJV) <sup>1</sup> *Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” <sup>2</sup> Then He said, “Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”*

Genesis 22:4–5 (NKJV) <sup>4</sup> *Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off. <sup>5</sup> And Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you.”*

- **Worship. Worship is a sacrifice of self.**

Genesis 22:15–18 (NKJV) <sup>15</sup> *Then the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, <sup>16</sup> and said: “By Myself I have sworn, says the LORD, because you **have done** this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—<sup>17</sup> **blessing I will bless you**, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. <sup>18</sup> In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, **because you have obeyed My voice.**”*

Romans 12:1 (NKJV) <sup>1</sup> *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.*

## **Baptism – our graveyard and place of new beginnings**

**Here is why:** Jesus and the early church leaders commanded that all believers must be baptised in water as a form of initiation into the adventure of following Christ. See Matthew 28:19, Acts 2:37, 38, Acts 10:48. We do not get baptised because we feel like it, but because we take Christ's leadership seriously.

**Baptism in water is the first step of obedience to Jesus Christ.**

Romans 6:4 (NLT) <sup>4</sup> *For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.*

**Baptism is also a picture of new life. It is the beginning of new life in Christ.**

## Conclusion

**What baptism means...**

**The baptism waters are like a press release.** Although choosing to follow Christ is a deeply personal decision, it is not a private matter. Jesus instructed us to go public with our choice (Mark 8:38). Baptism is an outward sign to all, of what has already happened on the inside.

**The baptism waters are like a bath.** In Acts 22:16 Paul was “baptised, washing away his sins.” It depicts spiritual cleansing from the guilt of sin.

**The baptism waters are like graveyard.** Romans 6:4. Baptism reflects an inward decision to die to “the old you” who rejected and ignored Christ’s leadership over your life. Baptism is a break from your sinful past.

**The baptism waters are like a maternity ward.** Baptism also reflects how we are united with Christ in his resurrection. We have a new life. (2 Cor 5:17)