INTRODUCTION:

1. The subject of Baptism is a much-discussed subject in the religious world.
2. It is a much misunderstood subject.
3. Most religious people have engaged in some ACT called BAPTISM -- many have had water sprinkled or poured on them and have called it baptism.
   a. Baptism is immersion in water, not sprinkling or pouring of water on a person. Rom. 6: 4; Col.2:12
4. Many have been immersed in water, but for the WRONG purpose -- not to be saved, but to get into some denomination.
5. Most religious people deny the scriptural purpose of baptism; baptism is for the remission of sins. Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:16
6. In this study of Baptism we want to study the SUBJECT, the ACTION, the PURPOSE, the ELEMENT, and ADMINISTRATOR.

I. THE SUBJECT OF BAPTISM

1. Many teach that infants are subjects of baptism.
   a. The practice of "infant baptism" grew out of the false doctrine of "Inherited Depravity". Ezek. 18:20
   b. Infants are not lost. Matt. 18:3
   c. Infants are safe, never been lost, and have no need of baptism.
2. Many teach baptism is for those who are already saved.
   a. The Bible teaches baptism is in order to be saved. Acts 2:38; 22:16
3. The SUBJECT of Baptism is one who:
   a. Has been TAUGHT the gospel. Mk. 16:15 -16; Matt. 28: 19 - 20; Acts 8:12, 26 - 39; Acts 18: 8
   b. Believes -- Mk. 16:16; John 1:12; John 8: 24; Acts 8: 36 - 37; 8:12
   c. Has Repented -- Lk. 24:47; 13:3; Acts 17: 30; 2: 38
   d. Has Confessed Christ -- Acts 8:37; Rom. 10:10; Matt. 10: 32 - 33

II. THE ACTION OF BAPTISM

1. The idea that Baptism can be performed in either one of three ways is without scriptural authority.
2. The creeds of men authorize sprinkling and pouring, BUT the New Testament DOES NOT!
3. The noun "baptisma" (baptism) means: Immersion, submersion, and emergence (from bapto, to dip) VINE
4. The verb Baptizo -- To dip
5. The examples of those who were baptized shows they were immersed.
   a. Jesus was baptized "In Jordan" and came up out of the water. Mk. 1: 9 - 10
   b. The Ethiopian Eunuch -- Acts 8: 36 - 39
i. Philip and the Eunuch both went down into the water, and Philip baptized him while they were in the water.

6. The description of the ACTION of Baptism shows it is immersion.
   a. "Washing of the body" Heb. 10:22
   b. "The washing of water by the word" Eph. 5:26
   c. A burial -- Rom. 6:3 -4
   d. A resurrection -- Col. 2:12
   e. A birth -- John 3:5
   f. A planting -- Rom. 6:5

7. I think you can see from the evidence in the Word of God that baptism is not a sprinkling or a pouring.

8. The Roman Catholic church did not officially substitute sprinkling for immersion until the Council of Ravenna in 1311 A.D.

III. THE PURPOSE OR DESIGN OF BAPTISM

1. The New Testament teaches that baptism has but one design -- the salvation of the soul of man.
2. The design is expressed several different ways, but is the same in purpose.
3. Baptism saves -- Mk. 16:16; I Pet. 3:21
4. "For the remission of sins" -- Acts 2:38
5. Washes away sins -- Acts 22:16
6. Baptized into Christ -- Gal. 3:27; Rom. 6:3
7. Baptized into one body -- I Cor. 12:13
8. Baptized to enter into the Kingdom -- John 3:5; Col. 1:13
9. Baptized into the death of Christ -- Rom. 6:3; Heb. 10:22

IV. THE ELEMENT THAT ONE IS BAPTIZED IN IS WATER

1. Philip baptized the Eunuch in WATER -- Acts 8:36 - 38
2. Peter named the element that Cornelius was to be baptized in -- it was WATER -- Acts 10:47
3. Paul named the element -- WATER -- Eph. 5:26
4. Peter names the element in I Pet. 3:20 - 21
5. Heb. 10:22

V. THE ADMINISTRATOR OF WATER BAPTISM IS MAN

1. The apostles were to baptize those they taught -- Matt. 28:19
2. Philip baptized the Eunuch -- Acts 8:36
3. Paul baptized Crispus and Gaius -- I Cor. 1:14

CONCLUSION:
1. I think you can see from this study that the subject of baptism is an alien sinner who has been taught, believes, has repented, and confessed Christ.
2. The action is IMMERSION, the PURPOSE is to be saved, the ELEMENT is water, the ADMINISTRATOR is man.
3. Are you here and out of Christ? Won't you be baptized for the remission of your sins now?