

**THE BAPTISMS OF
SCRIPTURE UNFOLDED,
IN TWO PARTS**

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The baptisms of Scripture unfolded, in two parts by Sarah Bull

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SARAH BULL

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IN TWO PARTS.

BY
SARAH BULL.

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PREFACE.

To understand the first principles of Christianity is the duty of every Christian : yet how many are there who neglect this important duty, who profess Christianity, and think themselves Christians, yet never inquire into the principles they profess, never examine the ordinance by which they were made Christians. Surely one would suppose this would be their first inquiry ; but few ever think of it, and, of the few who do, still fewer understand it ; and why ?—because it is so difficult to be understood ? No ; but because they do not take the Scriptures, and the Scriptures alone, for their guide.

The subject of Baptism having been of late much agitated, the writer was led to examine the subject ; and, endeavouring to lay aside all prejudice for any particular view of the ordinance,

adopted the following plan to find the true scriptural meaning thereof. First, To ascertain how many baptisms are referred to in the Scriptures, and examine the nature of each. Second, To examine the apostolical illustrations of the baptism used in the Church since the Ascension of our Lord, in order to elucidate the real nature of this ordinance, the importance of coming under it, and the solemn responsibility resting upon all those whose privilege it is to be numbered amongst its subjects. This plan is carried out in the following pages: the illustrations made use of are the illustrations of Scripture; and though not enlarged upon so much as they might have been by an abler pen, yet the Author trusts they will be found to convey such conceptions of this solemn ordinance as will not fail to impress the mind with its importance and responsibility, and will be found in strict accordance with the whole tenor of Scripture—the only infallible guide to truth.

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PART THE FIRST.

THE TWO FUNDAMENTAL AND TWO CIRCUMSTANTIAL
BAPTISMS.

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INTRODUCTION.

BAPTISM is a term used in Scripture to express the initiatory ordinance of dedication, or consecration, of a person, or a people, to a particular end or service.*

There are four Baptisms spoken of in the New Testament. Two fundamental, and two circumstantial. The two fundamental Baptisms are, the

* Acts, xix. 3; 1 Cor. x. 2; Gal. iii. 27.