Matthew 28:18 (Baptism is a fundamental part of the scheme of redemption, used in this passage as a summary for the process of being saved which includes faith, repentance and baptism, all three.)

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”

Mark 16:15-16 (Baptism is equal to faith. “And,” is a conjunction which coordinates “believes” and “baptized,” two words of equal importance relative to the verb “shall be saved.”]

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”

John 3:3-5 (The new birth in water is necessary in order to enter the kingdom. Other passages also picture baptism as a resurrection or new birth)

“Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. 4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, and be born? 5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”

Acts 2:37-38 (Baptism of repentant believers is for remission of sins. The context of this passage shows that those baptized already believed and repented [see verse 37] and yet Peter tells them in verse 40 that they still need to save themselves and be separated from that sinful non-believers. This tells us that they are not saved before baptism.)

“Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

Acts 22:16 (Saul, a repentant believer is told to wash his sins away in baptism. That Saul believed earlier and was repentant is proven by verse ten which reveals that Saul called Jesus “Lord” and was willing to change his plans and do whatever Jesus told him to do. Yet, even though he believed and had repented, he was later told to rid himself of his sins in baptism.)

“And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”

Romans 6:3-6 (Baptism, a burial, puts us into Christ and into His death resulting in resurrection from death in sin. One is dead in sin before baptism, but when buried in baptism he dies to sin because he makes contact with Christ’s death, resulting in resurrection to a new life in Christ. This passage is especially important because of its context. Paul asked rhetorically if we should continue in sin in order to enhance the grace of God. [Verse One] His answer was an emphatic, “No.” We cannot continue in sin, Paul reminds his readers, because we expended a lot of effort to get rid of sin in the first place. Getting rid of sin is what becoming a Christian is all about. What does Paul discuss when he wants the Roman church to remember how they rid themselves of sin? Baptism.)

“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.”

1Corinthians 12:12-13 (Through baptism we enter the kingdom, the body of saved. In this passage the Holy Spirit is the instrument *“by* “ which we were encouraged to be baptized [through His sword, the word, as in Ephesians 5:26 below] and is not the element in which we are to be baptized.)

“For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.”

Galatians 3:26-28 (Through faith we are baptized into Christ and clothed in Him. Putting on Christ suggests a purpose for baptism which is more effective and functional than simply becoming His disciple through an outward ceremony. A mistake some might make with regard to baptism.)

“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.”

Ephesians 5:25-27 (The church has been cleansed by washing in water)

“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”

Colossians 2:11-13 (Spiritual circumcision, resurrection from spiritual death based on our faith, and forgiveness of sins all happen during baptism. In this passage our faith in God’s power to grant our request for forgiveness is what causes the removal of our sins [called spiritual circumcision is verse eleven]. The reason Jesus’ resurrection is mentioned is that we believe our sins are forgiven during baptism because that same power resurrected Jesus from the dead.)

“In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, 12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses”

Titus 3:5 (Saved during washing of regeneration)

“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.”

Hebrews 10:19-22 (We enter into the presence of God [fellowship with God] by the blood of Jesus applied during baptism [the washing of our body, See 1 Peter 3:21]. This process cleanses our conscience, suggesting the removal of our sins during the washing of the body.)

“Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.”

1Peter 3:20-21 (Water baptism saves us and is our request to God for a clean conscience. The KJV “answer” should be translated as “request,” for that is what this Greek word means. That baptism is a request for cleansing fits well with Acts 22:16 which shows that Ananias considered baptism a “calling on the name of the Lord.”)

“Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. 21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ“