NEW TESTAMENT BAPTISM

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Preface

In view of the numerous studies of baptism that have been published in recent years it would seem that the appearance of yet another volume on the subject requires some explanation. In point of fact few books dealing with New Testament baptism have come from those who believe that the theology of baptism requires it to be a responsible act. The standard work from this point of view is Dr. G. R. Beasley-Murray's Baptism in the New Testament (1962) which is unlikely to be superseded for a good time to come. The present study can in no sense rival his scholarly treatment, nor does it make any claim to be an original contribution to present debate. Rather it sets out to provide a shorter and more introductory study of baptism in the New Testament for which there does seem to be some need. It is the author's hope and prayer that this slim volume will go some way to fill this need and be used to promote a deeper awareness among Christians of all confessions of the centrality and importance of being baptised into Christ.

It is a pleasure to record my grateful thanks and appreciation for the valuable criticisms and help given by both Professor F. F. Bruce of Manchester and Mr. G. C. D. Howley of London at varying stages of the book's progress. I am also grateful to them both as editors of the Evangelical Quarterly and The Witness respectively, and also to the Rev. Dr. C. L. Mitton, the editor of The Expository Times, for permission to utilize material which originally appeared in their journals. Finally I am happy to record my sincere thanks to my father, who willingly

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spent several hours of a recent holiday in the arduous task of proof-reading, and to my wife for her continuing encouragement and her valuable help in preparing the index.

J.K.H.

List of Abbreviations

STANDARD abbreviations have been used for the books of the Bible, and they, together with other abbreviations in common use, are omitted from this list.

LITERATURE

CGT	Cambridge Greek Testament (Old Series)
CGTC	Cambridge Greek Testament Commentaries (New Series)
EGT	Expositor's Greek Testament (London)
EQ	Evangelical Quarterly
ExT	Expository Times
ICC	International Critical Commentary (Edinburgh)
$\mathcal{J}TS$	Journal of Theological Studies
LXX	Septuagint Version
MNTC	Moffatt New Testament Commentaries
NEB	New English Bible (New Testament, 1961)
NLC	New London Commentary on the New Testament
NTS	New Testament Studies (Cambridge)
PGC	Penguin Gospel Commentaries (London)
SB	H. L. Strack and P. Billerbeck, Kommentar zum Neuen Testament etc. (1922ff.)
SITh	Scottish Journal of Theology
TB	Babylonian Talmud
TWNT	·
1,7,111	Neuen Testament (ET as Theological Dictionary of the New Testament, i (1964), ii (1965), iii (1966), iv (1967)
VT	Vetus Testamentum (Leyden)

GENERAL

ad loc. at the appropriate place cf. compare
Ed. Editor edn. edition
ET English Translation

ff. or f. and the following verse(s), page(s), etc.

nd. no date

op. cit. in the work quoted s.v. under the heading of

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