1 John 5:7-8  7For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. 8And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

JESUS' DEATH

John 19:34  But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.

PAUL’S GOSPEL

1 Corinthians 15:1-4  1Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

TYPE: EXODUS (BLOOD, RED SEA, PILLAR OF CLOUD AND FIRE)

1 Corinthians 10:1-2  Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; 2And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

TYPE: TABERNACLE (BRAZEN ALTAR, BRAZEN LAVER, ARK)

ILLUSTRATION: SEED (DEATH, BURIAL, RESURRECTION)

John 12:24  Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

ILLUSTRATION: NATURAL BIRTH (CONCEPTION, WOMB, BIRTH)

REALITY: SPIRITUAL BIRTH (BLOOD, WATER, SPIRIT)

John 3:3-5  3Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. 4Nicodemus 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? 5Jesus 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.

OBEDIENCE TO THE GOSPEL

Acts 2:38  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.

HOW GOD CREATES A NEW LIFE:

Genesis 2:6-7  6But there went up a mist from the earth, and watered the whole face of the ground. 7And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

HOW GOD DESTROYS AN OLD LIFE:

Genesis 6:17  And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die.

2 Peter 3:12  Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

THE “NEW BIRTH” IS ALSO A “DEATH” …

Romans 6:3-7 (KJV)  3Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4Therefore 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. 5If we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7For he that is dead is freed from sin.

Romans 6:3-7 (CEV)  3Don't you know that all who share in Christ Jesus by being baptized also share in his death? 4When we were baptized, we died and were buried with Christ. We were baptized, so that we would live a new life, as Christ was raised to life by the glory of God the Father. 5If we shared in Jesus' death by being baptized, we will be raised to life with him. 6We know that the persons we used to be were nailed to the cross with Jesus. This was done, so that our sinful bodies would no longer be the slaves of sin. 7We know that sin doesn’t have power over dead people.

In the Tabernacle, the altar and laver were acts of men; the Shekinah was an act of God.

At Calvary, Jesus’ death and burial were acts of men; His resurrection was an act of God.

In the New Birth, repentance and baptism are acts of men; the baptism of the Holy Ghost is an act of God.

Elijah (1 Kings 18) – sacrifice (blood), 12 barrels of water (baptism), God answered by fire!

When we do what we can do, God will do what only He can do!