

A BRIEF HISTORY OF INITIATION PRACTICES

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BEFORE THE TIME OF CHRIST

- Jewish precedents of ritual washing, purifications
- John the Baptist calling for repentance and baptizing with water

NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGIES OF BAPTISM

- John 3:5 -- Born again of water and the Spirit
- Romans 6:3-11, 22 -- Die with Christ...will also live with him

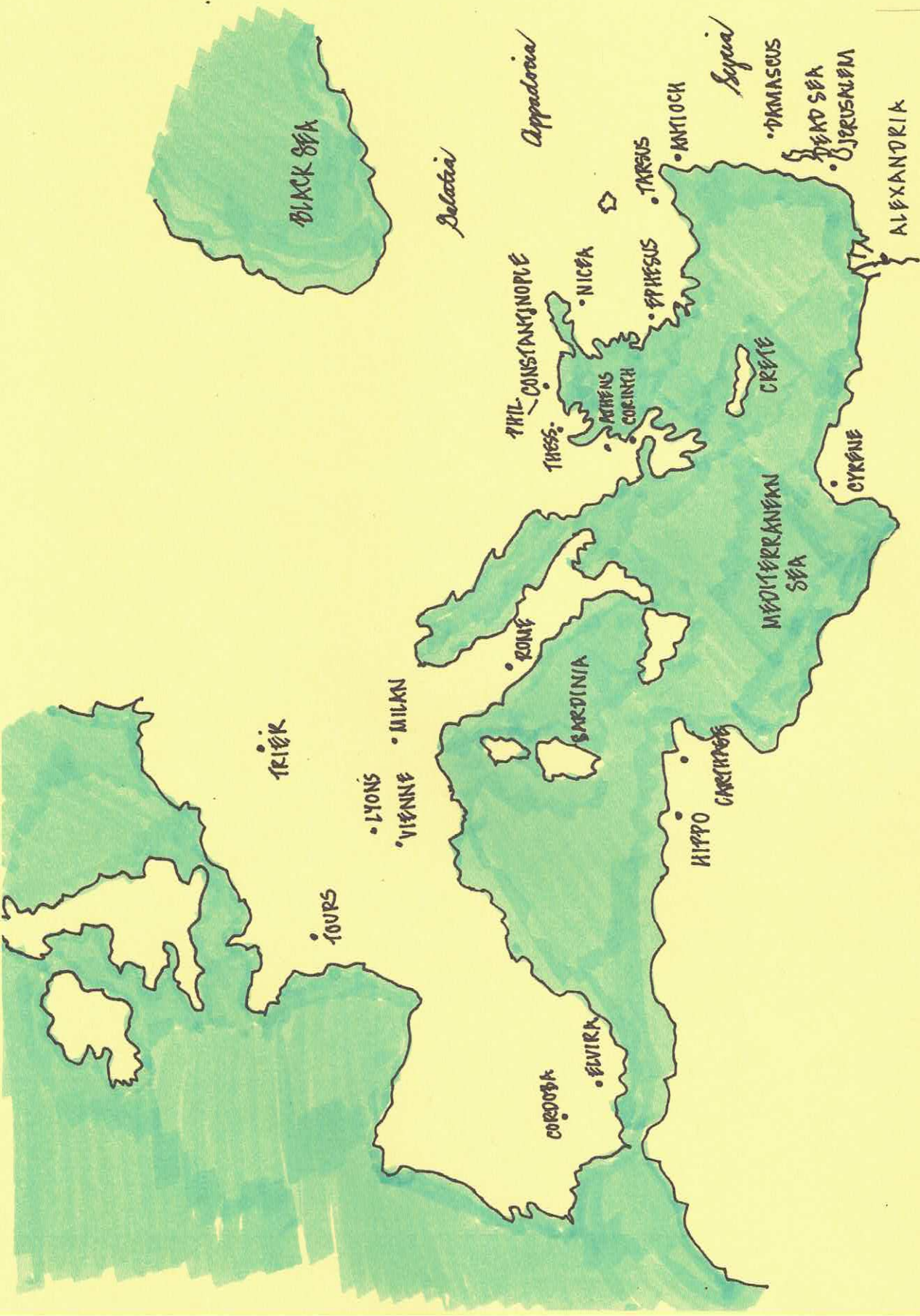
NEW TESTAMENT ACCOUNTS

- Matthew 3:13-17 -- Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan (in Synoptics only)
- Did Jesus baptize? – cf. John 3:22, 3:26. 4:1-3 (not in Synoptics)
- Acts 2:1-8, 12b-21 -- Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost
- Matthew 28:19 – Jesus’s command to “Go and make disciples... baptize in the name of the F, S, HS”
- John 6:32-40, 47-51 – Bread of Life Discourse
- Eucharist – Table fellowship; multiple accounts in Mark and Luke, 1 Corinth 11

EARLY CHURCH -- METHODOLOGIES

- Variety of forms, no source pattern
- Proclamation of the Gospel; conversion to faith in Jesus
- Rituals -- water bath, foot washing, anointing, hand laying
- Life in a Spirit-filled community – apostolic witness, prayer, community, ethics

APPROX. DATE	LOCATION	AUTHOR	TITLE
60-90	Syria	Author unknown	Didache (“Teaching of the Twelve Apostles”)
160	Rome	St. Justin Martyr	First Apology (addressed to Emperor Antonius Pius)
203	Carthage	Tertullian	de Baptismo
215	Rome	Hippolytus [?]	Apostolic Tradition (*heavily influenced our current rite)
256	Carthage	St. Cyprian	Letters 69, 70, 73, 74, 75
186-253	Antioch	W. Syrian Bishop	<i>Didascalia Apostolorum</i> (“Catholic Teaching of the Twelve Holy Apostles and Disciples of Our Saviour”)
350	Jerusalem	St. Cyril of Jerusalem	Protocatechesis— Introduction to Lent 18 Catecheses – Lectures in Lent based on the Creed Mystagogiae –five lectures in Easter Week
375	W. Syrian	Anon. church order	Apostolic Constitutions (<i>Didascalia et Constitutiones Apostolorum</i>)
388, 390	Antioch	St. John Chrysostom	Baptismal Instructions
400	Jerusalem	Egeria/Aetheria	<i>Peregrinatio Egeria</i> /Pilgrimage of Egeria
428	Antioch	Theodore of Mopsuestia	Instructions to Candidates for Baptism
380-390	Milan	St. Ambrose	<i>De Sacramentis; De Mysteriis</i>
390-410	Hippo and Carthage	St. Augustine	Sermons 56, 57, 58, 59, 132, 212, 213, 214, 215 <i>De Catechizandis Rudibus</i> Confessions, Book I
7-8c	Rome		Gelasian Sacramentary -presider text for Mass and other rites <i>Ordo Romanus XI</i> – rubrical guide
10 c	Milan		Ambrosian Manual – Two baptismal orders, Lent to Paschal Season (Note: Samaritan Woman, Man Born Blind, Raising of Lazarus)
16 c	Rome	Pope Pius V	Roman Ritual of 1614 (after Trent)
20 c	Rome/ USA	Vatican II & Consilium	<i>Ordo initiationis christianae adultorum</i> (1972) Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (1986) Mandatory 3-18-88 Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (USCCB Nov. 2021, pending) Order of Baptism of Children (1969, 2020) Confirmation (1970, 2015)



THE ROMAN WORLD AT THE END OF THE FOURTH CENTURY

AMY THIRON, JUNE 2008