

**This is a response from a World renowned English Language professor to my question " Is He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved a statement or command?". Will you please tell the audience why this man is wrong in His conclusion regarding the words " He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved "?**

**First of all, "statement" and "command" are not grammatical terms; they denote speech acts, i.e. things people do with utterances. We need to distinguish those from the terms "declarative" and "imperative", which are syntactic names for clause types. Declaratives quite often convey statements, and imperatives quite often express commands, so that's the link.**

**Now, it is totally clear that "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (like "The one who believes and is baptized will be saved") is a declarative. To be more precise, it has a declarative main clause (there is also an embedded relative clause, "who believes and is baptized", modifying "one"). Notice that the subject ("he that believeth and is baptized") is third person, and precedes the auxiliary verb "shall", and no on. What's more, the sentences clearly expresses a statement: it is true if and only if all those who believe and are baptized are destined to be saved.**

**Sincerely,**

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