Joshua 3:15 (feet of the priests were dipped in the brim of Jordan) Ruth 2:4 (dip thy morsel in vinegar) I Samuel 14:27 (Jonathan dipped the end of his rod in honeycomb) II Kings 8:15 (Hazael dipped a thick cloth in water) Job 9:31 (thou shalt plunge me in the ditch) Psalm 67 (68): 23 (foot, tongue of dogs dipped in blood) Daniel 4:33, 5:21 (Nebuchadnezzar's body was wet with dew)

BAPTIZO is used 4 times in the LXX:

In II Kings 5:10, Elisha sends a messenger to Naaman, who is ill with leprosy, and tells him, "Go and wash (LOUO) in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored to you and you shall be clean." After some temporizing, Naaman obeys: "So he went down and dipped (BAPTIZO) himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean." (verse 14)

In the Hebrew of this passage Elisha tells Naaman in verse 10 to <u>wash</u> (RACHATS) in the Jordan. He does not specify the mode of washing. Naaman, in reluctant obedience, goes and <u>washes</u> (TABAL) and comes back clean.

The Hebrew word TABAL is used 16 times in the Old Testament. The LXX translates TABAL 14 times by BAPTO, once by MOLUNO (Genesis 37:31), and once by BAPTIZO (II Kings 5:14). Both BDB and K & B say that TABAL means "dip in" or "dip into". BDB says that TABAL with MIN means "moisten with".

The Hebrew of Genesis 37:31 is quite clear: "And they dipped the coat (Joseph's coat) in the blood." But the LXX did not use BAPTO to translate TABAL, but MOLUNO, which means "to defile". It would appear that the LXX translators wished to add an idea, and therefore used MOLUNO instead of BAPTO to translate TABAL. To the LXX translator this act was not merely a dipping, but a defiling by dipping. Defiling the coat could have been done in a number of ways, but in this case it was done by dipping.

The Hebrew of II Kings 5:14 is also quite clear: "And he went down and he dipped in the Jordan seven times according to the word of the man of God;". But the LXX did not use BAPTO to translate TABAL, but BAPTIZO. Unless BAPTO and BAPTIZO mean exactly the same thing, it would appear that the LXX translators wished to add an idea, and therefore used BAPTIZO instead of BAPTO to translate TABAL. Since Elisha told Naarnan to <u>wash</u> in the Jordan; and since Naaman went and <u>washed</u> in the Jordan; could it be that to the LXX translators this act was not merely a dipping (BAPTO), but a <u>washing</u> by dipping, and so they used BAPTIZO instead of BAPTO to express a washing by dipping? Washing could have been done in a number of ways, but in this case it was done by dipping.

In Judith 12:7 the heroine of this Apocryphal book risked her life by going down from her city, Bethulia, to the camp of the Assyrian army and to the tent of its general, Holofernes, allegedly as a defector from Israel. "And she remained in the camp three days, and at night she went out into the valley of Bethulia and washed herself (BAPTIZO) at the spring in the camp." in Judith 7:3 we discover that 182,000 infantry and cavalry made their encampment in the valley near Bethulia by the spring. Since