

traditions of the elders". It is divided into six orders (or divisions) which, taken together, contain 63 tractates (or sections).

The sixth order, entitled TOHAROTH ("cleannesses") includes a tractate entitled MIKVOAT ("pools of water") in which regulations are found relating to the ceremonial cleansing of unclean vessels, utensils, beds, and persons. All of the pools referred to in this tractate are immersion pools.

(5) Mode in the writings of the Church Fathers

(a) The Apostolic Father

In the epistles of Clement of Rome, the epistles of Ignatius, and the epistle of Polycarp, no mention of water baptism is made.

In *The Didache* or *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles*, Chapter 7, the following statement is found:

"Concerning Baptism. And concerning baptism, thus baptize ye; Having first said all these things, baptize into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, in living water. But if thou have not living water, baptize into other water; and if thou canst not in cold, in warm. But if thou have not either, pour out water thrice upon the head into the name of Father and Son and Holy Spirit. But before the baptism let the baptizer fast, and the baptized, and whatever others can; but thou shalt order the baptized to fast one or two days before."

--The Ante-Nicene Fathers ed. Alexander Roberts and James Donaldson, American Reprint of the Edinburgh Edition (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1957), Volume 7, p. 379.

In The Epistle of Barnabas paragraph 11, the following is found:

"And again He saith in another prophet; And He that doeth these things shall be as the tree that is planted by the parting streams of waters, which shall yield his fruit at his proper season, . . . this is the meaning; Blessed are they that set their hope on the cross, and go down into the water; for He speaketh of the reward at his proper season; . . . Next what saith He? And there was a river streaming from the right hand, and beautiful trees rose up from it; and whosoever shall eat of them shall live for ever. This He saith, because we go down into the water laden with sins and filth, and rise up from it bearing fruit in the heart, resting our fear and hope on Jesus in the spirit."

--J. B. Lightfoot, *The Apostolic Fathers* ed. J. R. Harmer (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1956), p. 148.