

Lesson 8: Baptism

How important is Baptism? What exactly is it? First, let's look at what the bible says about this next step. In the second chapter of Acts, Peter had been preaching the gospel. The people interested asked him what should they do, and Peter replied to their smitten conscience that they were to Repent.

1. What did Peter ask them to do next?

Acts 2:38 - Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be _____ in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

- B. What are the two things that God promises to do for you if you are baptized?

1. _____

2. _____

- C. How important was Baptism to Jesus?

John 3:3 - Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is _____, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

- D. What does it mean to be born again?

John 3:5 - Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the _____, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

2. We have seen from the above texts that Baptism is necessary, so that God can forgive you of your past sins and all future sins, provided you repent. It gives God permission to send the Holy Spirit into your heart and mind.

- A. We are now going to look at how Paul deepens the idea of Baptism and its centrality to the gospel. What does Baptism offer us?

Romans 6:1-12 _____

*“There is no safety for one who has merely a legal religion, a form of godliness.
The Christian's life is not a modification or improvement of the old, but a
transformation of nature. There is a death to self and sin, and a new life
altogether” Maranatha chapter 50*

B. When are we crucified with Christ?

Galatians 2:20 _____

3. While we are initially baptized once, and sometimes rebaptized, what does Paul mean in the following text?

1 Corinthians 15:31 - I affirm, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.

• How do you die daily? _____

4. What are other key ideas that come with Baptism?

Colossians 2:11-13 _____

What do we put on at Baptism?

Colossians 3:10 – “and have put on the _____ man who is _____ in knowledge according to the _____ of Him who created him.”

A. How does God make us a new man at Baptism? What specifically does He give to us?

Hebrews 8:10 - For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My _____ within their mind and write them on their _____; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

B. At Baptism what very special title do we receive?

Galatians 3:26-27 _____

The Christian's Oath of Allegiance—As Christians submit to the solemn rite of baptism, He registers the vow that they make to be true to Him. This vow is their oath of allegiance. They are baptized in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Thus they are united with the three great powers of heaven. They pledge themselves to renounce the world and to observe the laws of the kingdom of God. Henceforth they are to walk in newness of life. EV306.3

5. Of all the things that we have discussed about what baptism is today what does this text in **1 Corinthians 2:14** reveal about the true nature of baptism? What one word would you use to describe this text? _____
6. After going through this lesson, as well as the previous lectures there are many people who feel like they did not understand what Baptism was really about, and they express a desire to be rebaptized. Is it biblical to be rebaptized?
Acts 19:1-5 _____

The Lord calls for a decided reformation. And when a soul is truly reconverted, let him be rebaptized. Let him renew his covenant with God, and God will renew His covenant with him. . . . Reconversion must take place among the members, that as God's witnesses they may testify to the authoritative power of the truth that sanctifies the soul.”-- Letter 63, 1903. {Ev 375.2}

7. This entire process from the first lecture through baptism is known as what?
Romans 5:8-9 _____

Martin Luther: “To put on Christ according to the Gospel means to clothe oneself with the righteousness, wisdom, power, life, and Spirit of Christ. By nature, we are clad in the garb of Adam. This garb Paul likes to call “the old man.” Before we can become the children of God this old man must be put off, as Paul says, Ephesians 4:29. The garment of Adam must come off like soiled clothes. Of course, it is not as simple as changing one's clothes. But God makes it simple. He clothes us with the righteousness of Christ by means of Baptism,” 1535 commentary on Galatians

Discuss this statement:

“But while God can be just, and yet justify the sinner through the merits of Christ, no man can cover his soul with the garments of Christ's righteousness while practicing known sins or neglecting known duties. God requires the entire surrender of the heart, before justification can take place; and in order for man to retain justification, there must be continual obedience, through active, living faith that works by love and purifies the soul.” FW 100

Find a biblical text to support this idea and share at class.

Summary: Baptism is an essential part of what it means to be justified by faith. We receive the forgiveness of sins, we receive the Holy Spirit, we die to self and are raised into the newness of life, we become sons and daughters of God, we receive power to live holy lives and God writes His law on our minds and hearts. What a powerful and wonderful ceremony God gave to us.

Are you desiring baptism or rebaptism? Why wait with such wonder working power and salvation waiting for you.