

# The Purpose of Baptism

# I. What Does Baptism Do For Us?

♦ Jn.3:5, enter kingdom of God

♦ Mt.19:16-26, synonyms

♦ Col.1:13-14

• Dependence . . . (upon God)

– Father's mercy

– Son's sacrifice

– Spirit's revelation

Baptized into spiritual  
fellowship; all spiritual  
blessings – Ep.1:3

## **‘...into the name’ – Mt.28:19**

To be baptized into the name  
of anyone implies . . .

- Dependence . . . (upon God)

**“To be baptized into someone’s name  
therefore means to pass into new ownership  
(Matt.28:19; 1 Cor.1:13,15)” – ZPDB, 571.**

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- Dedication . . . (to God)

- Soldier puts on uniform... (Gal.3:27)
- Mt.28:18, 20

# Saves from sin – Mk.16:16

Who can be saved...? (Mk.10:26)

- Final answer: Mk.16

Unconditional?

Only belief?

Belief and repentance?

Belief and baptism?

# Remission of sins – Acts.2:38

Mt.28 / Mk.16, last directions to disciples

Acts 2: first directions to lost

- Precedent: repentance
- Precept: baptism
- Power: in name of Jesus Christ
- Purpose: for forgiveness of sins

# Wash away sins – Acts.22:16

How does a soul get dirty?

How does a soul become clean?

- Expresses same result as Acts 2:38



# Baptized into Christ – Ro.6:3

Similar to 1 Co.10:2 – baptized into Moses

How?

Believed LORD and His servant Moses

Ex.14:26-31

- United them with Moses as the . . .
  1. Deliverer to trust.
  2. Leader to follow.
  3. Mediator whose covenant they shared.

# Baptized into His death – Ro.6:3

Share with Christ in result of His own death

Immersion: burial. Emergence: resurrection

10-11: baptism prefigures our life in Christ:

1) a death and 2) a life

- We die to sin; participate in benefits of His death. “But didn’t He die for all?”
- 1. Yes, but not all are saved.
- 2. Romans 6 tells us how to receive benefits of His death.
- 3. In baptism, we conform to His death...

# Baptized into His death – Ro.6:3

Die to sin, buried in water, rise again

If saved before baptism, bury live person.

Jesus died

Jesus rose

Jesus buried

We die to sin

We rise

We are buried

## Baptized into new life – Ro.6:4

Newness is opposite of old life in sin (v.2)

NEW, not in time, but quality

Old sinful life vs new holy life (1-7).

In baptism, we die as He died.

In baptism, we rise as He arose.

I. What Does Baptism Do For Us?

II. Baptism Cannot . . .

# 1. Baptism cannot change the heart

- Ac.2:37, the heart problem...
- Ac.8:12-13 . . . 19-21
  - Faith changes the heart

## 2. Baptism cannot change the life

- Ac.8:...22-24
  - Repentance changes the life

### 3. Baptism cannot save one who changes the command

- Ac.19:1-7

John's baptism had been done away (Ac.19)

Only one baptism was valid (Ep.4; Ac.19 / 2)

Principle illustrated: 1 Co.11



## 4. Baptism cannot remove temptation

- 1 Co.10:1-13
  - **Israelites** were baptized; ate special food...then surrendered to temptation.
  - **Corinthians** were baptized; ate special food...in danger of falling (11-12)
  - 13: the promise: a way of escape...

## 5. Baptism cannot prevent all wrongs

**12** for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision.

**13** And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy. **14** But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, “If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews? – Gal.2

## 6. Baptism cannot guarantee eternal life, Rv.22:18-19

**18** For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book;

**19** and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.