

*Baptism – What We Understand, What We  
Must Not Misunderstand, and What We Must  
Not Forget.*



***Romans 6:1-4***

# Things We Understand

- The religious world has many misconceptions on baptism.
  - **The nature of Baptism** → βαπτίζω –a transliteration meaning: to dip, immerse, submerge (of vessels sunk); to be overwhelmed. (cf. Jn. 3:23; Col. 2:12; Acts 8:38-39)
  - **The urgency of baptism:**
    - Acts 2:41 – “the same day...”
    - Acts 8:36 – what doth hinder (prevent) me to be baptized?
    - Acts 10:47 – can any man forbid (hinder, prevent) water...
    - Acts 16:25,33 – the same hour of the night was baptized...immediately
    - Act 22:16 → why tarriest thou? (what are you waiting for –NET)

# Things We Understand

## – The purpose of baptism:

- **Acts 2:38** → 38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
- **Gal. 3:26-27** → 26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
- **Col. 2:11-13** → 11 In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: 12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation (powerful working –ESV) of God, who hath raised him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;

# Things We Understand

- Rom. 6:3-4 → 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
- I Pet. 3:21 → 21 Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you--not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience--through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, (NASB)

# Things We Must Not Misunderstand

- Baptism through the centuries:
  - For first three centuries hardly any dispute of N. T. teaching.
  - Novation (251 A.D.) was sprinkled. The beginning of “clinical” baptism.
  - Augustine (354-430 A.D.) taught “original sin” – infant “baptism”
  - Protestant Reformation (1500’s) – taught salvation by “faith only.” This is a very common perception among those who claim to follow Jesus today.

# Things We Must Not Misunderstand

- ***The connection between faith and baptism.***
  - God’s word is not contradictory and does not pit faith against baptism. Saving faith is trust in God that obeys.
    - **Jn. 3:16** → 16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
    - **Jn. 3:36** → 36 He that believeth on the Son hath eternal life; but he that obeyeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him. (ASV)
    - **Jn. 3:3-5** → 3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God...5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

# Things We Must Not Misunderstand

- **Acts 16:34** → 34 And he brought them up into his house, and set food before them, and rejoiced greatly, with all his house, having believed in God. (ASV)
- **Gal. 3:26-27** → 26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
- **Jas. 2:18** → 18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

# Things We Must Not Misunderstand

- ***The connection between grace and baptism.***
  - Eph. 2:8 → 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
  - We are saved by God's grace when we comply with his conditions.
  - Titus 2:11-12; Heb. 2:9; Matt. 7:13-14; Heb. 5:9; Titus 3:3-5
  - Consider the cleansing of Naaman (II Ki. 5) and the gift of Jericho. (Josh. 6)

# Things We Must Not Forget

- Baptism is not the arrival, the end of the life of a Christian, but the beginning point of a relationship with God – one that relates to every aspect of our lives.
- **Romans 6.**
  - We are baptized into the death of Jesus and raised to walk in a new life. (6:1-4)
  - The old man of sin is destroyed and being freed from sin, we should not serve sin. (6:5-9)
  - Being alive in Christ, we are to live unto God. (6:10-11)
  - We are to yield our members as instruments of righteousness, and become a servant of righteousness and holiness.(6:13-19)
  - We become servants of God and have fruit unto holiness and the end everlasting life. (6:22)
- **II Pet. 1:4-11.**
  - We are to grow in the character of Christ. (cf. Gal. 3:27)
  - We are to make our calling an election sure.
  - Those who fail to do so are blind and have forgotten that they were purged from their old sins.