



BAPTISM
PART 2

INTRODUCTION:

In the previous lesson, we looked at the priority, prerequisites and practice of baptism. In this lesson, we will look at the person to be baptized, the purpose of baptism and the proceeds of baptism. All need to be studied very carefully.

I. THE PERSON TO BE BAPTIZED:

A. Although this topic will follow closely our discussion on the prerequisites of baptism, there are some other factors that need to be considered.

1. As we saw earlier, a person who is to be baptized must obviously confess a faith in Christ and display a genuine _____ (Acts 8:37; Matthew 3:7-8).
2. A person is not eligible for baptism who does not know who Jesus is, or what sin is, or if they deny that they have sin. Therefore, _____ are not eligible for baptism.
3. However, there are people who have a belief in Jesus and are sorry for their sin but because of _____ or a bias from their upbringing they say that baptism has nothing to do with their salvation.
4. In order for a person to truly be baptized, he/she must be totally submissive to the whole counsel of God and have a humility that allows them to be lowered into the watery grave of baptism that shows, not just says, they need God's forgiveness.

DISCOVERING SERIES

- B. Some people are concerned about _____ they are baptized.
 - 1. Other than showing that it was a place that had enough water to immerse, the Bible never puts an importance on where a baptism was to take place.
 - 2. It can be done in any church baptistery, a river, a creek, a swimming pool, a bath tub, a hole in the ground lined with plastic to hold the water if necessary.
- C. Also, some people are concerned about _____ baptized them.
 - 1. Again, the Bible never places an importance on who is doing the baptizing.
 - 2. Jesus commissioned all of His disciples to go and baptize (Matthew 28:19).
 - 3. Paul got upset with the Corinthian Christians when they were making an issue of who baptized whom (I Corinthians 1:11-17).
 - 4. What is important is what is in the heart of the person who is being baptized because it is by the intentions of the heart that God will forgive.

II. THE PURPOSE OF BAPTISM:

- A. This topic has been the battleground of the church for at least two centuries, if not more, when there is absolutely no reason for it.
 - 1. The purpose of baptism is not a gray area. The Bible speaks clearly and concisely on the matter. From the following passages, tell the purpose of baptism:

Mark 16:16

Acts 2:38

Acts 19:1-5

Acts 22:16

Colossians 2:11-14

I Peter 3:21

B. Since one of the things that makes a baptism valid is an understanding and acceptance of what God has promised He will do at baptism isn't it important that we understand it's purpose?

1. Otherwise, isn't the person just getting wet?

III. THE PROCEEDS (results) OF BAPTISM:

A. The proceeds of our baptism logically and consistently connect with the purposes of our baptism.

1. Read the following passages and note the results of baptism:

Romans 6:1-6

Galatians 3:27

I Corinthians 12:13

II Corinthians 5:17

CONCLUSION:

Grace is the _____ of our salvation. If Christ had not died voluntarily for our sins then none of us could be saved - period.

Faith is the _____ of our salvation. It is what allows us to accept all that Jesus has done for us.

Baptism is the time or the _____ of our salvation. When our faith moves us to submit to God in baptism, God applies the merits of Christ's death to us (Romans 6:1-6) thus, saving us.

To conclude, let us note what Dr. Jack Cottrell has written on the subject in his book, “His Truth”:

“The uniform teaching of Scripture is that the sinner receives the gifts of grace in Christian baptism. This is the point where he enters the saving union with Jesus Christ...Baptism is the point of time when the guilt and penalty of sin are removed and the sinner becomes a forgiven or justified person...Baptism is consistent with grace because it is in essence a promise of God in which we put our trust. It is not so much a command (law) as it is a promise (grace), and this is the way we should preach it. Baptism is the place where God has promised to meet the sinner and bestow upon him the gifts of salvation. Saving faith will immediately accept this promise and will rush to meet the Savior in the baptismal waters.”