

BAPTISM BASICS

Matthew 28:18-20

Is Christ's last command our first concern?

I. THE PRESCRIPTION FOR BAPTISM

- A. The PLAN of Jesus - Mt.28:18-20
- B. The PRACTICE of the First Church - Acts 2:40-41
- C. The PRIORITY according to Peter - I Peter 3:21

II. THE PICTURES IN BAPTISM

- A. ASSOCIATION: I am repentant!
 - Baptism is a picture of association with the need for repentance - **Luke 3:3-14**
 - 1. A Sermon of Repentance (3)
 - 2. A Showing of Repentance (8)
 - 3. A Summons to Repentance (8-14)
- B. TRANSFORMATION: I am changed!
 - Baptism is a physical demonstration of a spiritual transformation - **Romans 6:3-14**
 - 1. A New Creation (3-6)
 - 2. A New Condition (11-14)
- C. IDENTIFICATION: I am a Christian!
 - Baptism identifies you with Christ and Christians - **Galatians 3:26-28**
 - 1. Trusting Christ (26)
 - 2. Clothed with Christ (27)
 - 3. United in Christ (28)
- D. LIBERATION: I am free!
 - Baptism is a demonstration of freedom - **Colossians 2:11-14**
 - 1. Death free (11-12)
 - 2. Debt free (13-14)
 - 3. Demon free (15)

III. THE PRACTICE OF BAPTISM

A. REQUIREMENTS

1. Baptism is for believers only - Acts 8:12 and 18:8
2. Baptism is to be by immersion – Mark 1:9-10 and Acts 8:36-39
3. Baptism is to be administered by a local church - Acts 2:41

B. RESTRICTIONS

1. No sprinkling
2. No infant baptism
3. No baptismal regeneration - Acts 2:38
4. No grace bestowed - it is not a sacrament

CONCLUSION:

Are you a designated disciple of Jesus Christ?

ARE YOU READY TO BE BAPTIZED?

1. In order to obey Christ's command regarding baptism
2. So that you can have a pure conscience in knowing you have obeyed God's command
3. To communicate to others the fact that you have repented from sin
4. To demonstrate that Christ has changed your life
5. To identify with Christ's death, burial and resurrection for you on the cross
6. To show the world that Christ has freed you from sin

If you have been saved why have you not been baptized?