

Today's sermon is *JESUS GAVE BAPTISM TO HIS CHURCH* - week #8 in our series "Jesus And His Church."

6 Questions I'm going to ask and seek to answer.

1. WHAT IS BAPTISM? (Romans 6:3-7)

Baptism a picture of Jesus' Death (Romans 6:3), Burial (Romans 6:4a), & Resurrection (Romans 6:4b).

ROMANS 6:3-4 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

Baptism is about our spiritual death to sin and new life with Jesus. Since Jesus died and was buried, we/our sins died and were buried. Baptism shows that!

Q. Are you scared of your sins defining you? If you're "in Christ" your sin died & was buried with Jesus.

The Patriot: Benjamin Martin says, "I have long feared that my sins would return to visit me, and the cost is more than I can bear." **THEY WILL BE, unless you're connected to Jesus.*

Since Jesus resurrected to life, we too get to walk in a new life. Baptism shows that!

Q. Are you scared of your sins defining you? If you're "in Christ" your sin died & was buried with Jesus.

ROMANS 6:5 “For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.”

Baptism is about our physical death and resurrection with Jesus. Since Jesus died, was buried, but resurrected: we will one day die but arise with Jesus!

Q. Have you ever feared death? *I used to lay awake at night. *My Mom used to have panic attacks. **A.** If you’re “in Christ” you will die because of sin, but you will *RISE* to be with Jesus! Death = Victory

ROMANS 6:6-7 “We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin.”

- Baptism is about our physical death and resurrection with Jesus.

Because Jesus died for sin & arose victorious over sin we are freed & can put our sin to death!

Q. What are you addicted to? Do you fear that you can’t change? **A.** If you’re “in Christ” you have been set free from being enslaved to sin, you can say “NO!” to sin.

EXAMPLE: Old Nature = Loved Sin. New Nature = Loves Jesus/Righteousness.

*There used to be pattern in my life of lust & pornography... But has freed me and is continually freeing me from the idol of lust!

BAPTISM IS ABOUT ALL OF THIS! All about Jesus! All about what Jesus has accomplished for us!

2. HOW DO WE BAPTIZE? (John 3:23 & Mark 1:9-10)

Q. Sprinkle water on? Pour water over? or Immerse/Submerge in?

Paul told us in Romans 6, that Baptism is all about Jesus' *Death, Burial, and Resurrection!*

JOHN 3:23 “John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because water was plentiful there, and people were coming and being baptized.”

MARK 1:9-10 “In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water...”

3. WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED? (Mark 16:15-16)

THEOLOGY = Pedo Baptism/Credo Baptism

Pedo = Infant Baptism **Explain

Credo = Believers Baptism **Explain

MARK 16:15-16 15 And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. 16 Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.”

Believers should be baptized.

4. SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED AGAIN? (Ephesians 4:5 & Acts 19:2-5)

EPHESIANS 4:5 “One Lord, one faith, one baptism.”

- We don't believe you should get baptized over & over. *Rededication/Re-Baptism

- EXAMPLE: Multiple High School Graduations. Q. Why does Dave keep having a graduation?
- EXAMPLE: Multiple Wedding's. Q. Why do Brett and Clain keep having ceremonies?
- BUT, If you were baptized when you weren't yet "In Christ" -- through repentance from sin and living faith in the living Jesus -- then you weren't actually baptized, you just got wet.

ACTS 19:2-5 "2 And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." 3 And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." 4 And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." 5 On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

5. DOES BAPTISM SAVE? (Ephesians 2:8-10 & Titus 3:5-6)

EPHESIANS 2:8-10 "For by grace you have been *saved* through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, that he prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."

TITUS 3:5-6 "He (Jesus) saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior."

- *Baptism* doesn't save- Jesus saves you- Jesus' life, death, and resurrection; *doing* good works doesn't save- Jesus' good works save; *repenting* doesn't save- the one you turn *TO* saves; *faith* in the right things doesn't save- the *OBJECT* of your faith saves; *confessing* your sin to a holy man doesn't save- the ONLY HOLY MAN- Jesus- saves; *thinking* that truth everyone is saved doesn't save. JESUS SAVES!

Q. So, if Baptism doesn't save; if baptism doesn't give us the Holy Spirit, why do we baptize?

6. WHY DO WE BAPTIZE? (Matthew 28:19-20)

MATTHEW 28:18-20 18 And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

- As an act of obedience to King Jesus. Act of Worship. Act of Celebration.
- **EXAMPLE:** Imagine you proposed, she said yes, but then wouldn't legally marry you or have a wedding because she was shy or prideful.

C.H. SPURGEON once said, "If heaven were by merit, it would never be heaven to me, for if I were in it I should say, "I am sure I am here by mistake; I am sure this is not my place; I have no claim to it." But if it be of grace and not of works, then we may walk into heaven with boldness."