

I KNOW THAT I BELONG TO CHRIST - BAPTISM

Matthew 28:19-20 (September 15, 2024)

I. THE METHOD OF BAPTISM - IMMERSION

1. Example of Jesus

Mark 1:9 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.

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

2. Example of Philip and the Ethiopian

Acts 8:36-38 And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he replied, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.

3. Example of the Early Church

BAPTIZE - an untranslated word: to immerse.

II. THE MEANING OF BAPTISM

1. Baptism Pictures the Saving Work of Jesus Christ

Romans 6:4-7 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin.

(1) The Gospel

1 Cor. 15:3-4 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.

(2) Death and Burial

Romans 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Acts 2:41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

Acts 10:46-47 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, "Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"

Acts 16:31-33 So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household." Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their stripes. And immediately he and all his family were baptized.

(3) New Life

Romans 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

III. THE MOTIVE FOR BAPTISM

1. A Master to Confess; 2. A Message to Convey; 3. A Mandate to Complete

John 14:15 If You Love Me, Keep My Commandments.

Mark 4:25 For whoever has, to him more will be given; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. (Begin doing what you already know.)

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What makes the practice of immersion in baptism so descriptive of our salvation experience with Christ, as well as so illustrative of what life thereafter is free to mean? What important principles does baptism teach?

2. What are some of the main indicators of "new life" in a follower of Christ? How do you experience this renewal on an ongoing basis, and how would you describe its benefits to someone who's unconvinced of what Christ can do?

3. What other biblical commands and expectations (besides baptism) would be much more convenient to avoid, or which seem like they could be handled in a less costly fashion? Why do you think God wants His followers to express their faith so publicly?

4. How have you continued to express your full confidence in the gospel of Jesus Christ as the only means of receiving eternal life? Why is baptism too often one of the last strong pieces of Christian testimony a believer gives to others?

I AM INTERESTED IN TAKING A CLASS FOR MY SPIRITUAL GROWTH.

- Membership 101
- Maturity 201
- Ministry 301
- Mission/Evangelism 401

OTHER CLASSES

- Foundations for basic Christian doctrines
- Fresh Start for starting my faith in Christ
- How to do daily Quiet Time with God

NEED TO TALK TO A PASTOR?

- I would like to talk with a pastor to understand the biblical view on a subject.
- I would like to know what it means to be a member of MBF (NVCCC)

ANY OTHER QUESTION? LET US KNOW, PLEASE.
