

I BELIEVE IN BAPTISM

HOW TO BE BAPTIZED WITHOUT GETTING WET

"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?"

~ Romans 6:3

1. I Believe in Baptism

- a. Me: I believe in baptism. (People: Which one?)
 - i. Was it a sacrament, ordinance, suggestion, command, or symbol?
 - ii. How? By sprinkle, pour, tank, river, fire hose? Who did it? In whose name?
 - iii. When? Infant or adult, before or after regeneration?
 - iv. Why? Obedience, sign, testimony, entry to church, means of grace, remit sins
- b. "We don't water baptize" = unacceptable; "we don't believe in baptism" = wrong
- c. Paul wrote we are all baptized, buried with Christ in baptism, one Lord = one baptism
- d. There is a doctrine of baptism for us that must be understood.

2. Identifying Baptisms

- a. I have been baptized and didn't get wet. (People: Huh?)
- b. There are many baptisms in the Bible, in the OT and NT - Heb 6:2, 9:10, Exo 29:4
- c. They differ in who baptizes, into what, and for what purpose - Acts 19:3
- d. **Baptism ≠ water.** See Matt 3:11, 1 Cor 10:1-2 and...
- e. Jesus was baptized twice, and the second was not with water - Luke 12:50

3. Baptism and Salvation

- a. **Baptism** ~*def.* Immersed into for identification/association (aka christening)
 - i. To be baptized was to be made a Christian (i.e. christening)
- b. I believe in baptism, b/c it identifies me with his death, blood, burial, resurrection
- c. Our baptism into Jesus Christ was into his death - Romans 6:3-4, Col 2:12
- d. We need to be identified with him to be saved - 2 Cor 5:21
- e. If you make baptism = water; you miss the gospel of your salvation.

4. Baptism and Church Membership

- a. I believe in baptism, because without it I am not a member of the church, His body.
- b. Our baptism into Christ is how we put on Christ - 2 Cor 5:17, Gal 3:27, Eph 4:24
- c. By one Spirit are we all baptized into one body (no exceptions) - 1 Cor 12:13
 - i. (The body of Christ is not what was happening in Acts 8:14-17)
- d. If you make baptism = water, you miss what makes you the church today.

5. How to Be Baptized Without Getting Wet

- a. I was not baptized into water, but into the cross of Christ - Eph 5:26, 1 Cor 1:17
- b. The Spirit does its identifying work when you believe - Eph 1:13, 3:6, 4:5, 1 Cor 6:19
- c. I *believe* in baptism - because it is something I did not see happen (i.e. faith)
- d. If you make baptism = water, then it is not God's operation - Col 2:12, Gal 2:20
- e. We are christened without water by the Spirit when we believe - Titus 3:5-7