

# Baptism: What It Does and Does Not Do

## Introduction

1. **Baptism is a prominent New Testament Theme.**
2. **Baptism is one subject that has been much abused:**
  - A. **Called "outward ceremony"; "non-essential"; "water salvation"; ridiculed, etc.**
  - B. **It is a New Testament command that we be baptized to be saved - This is why the Lord's church preaches on it so often.**
3. **Since Baptism is so important, we must have a clear understanding of what baptism does and what it does not do:**

## What Baptism Does

1. **It puts one into Christ.**

Galatians 3:26-27 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were **baptized into Christ** have put on Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all **baptized into one body**.....

- **1 Corinthians 12:20 "many members, yet one body."**
- **Ephesians 4:4 "one body."**

## 2. It washes away all of our sins.

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ **for the remission of sins**; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 22:16 'And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and **wash away your sins**, calling on the name of the Lord.'

- **Our sins are washed away only AFTER baptism.**

## 3. It saves us.

Mark 16:16 He who **believes and is baptized will be saved**; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

**A. Catholics – Baptism, Belief, Salvation**

**B. Baptists and many others – Belief, Salvation, Baptism**

1 Peter 3:21 The like figure whereunto even **baptism doth also now save us** (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: (KJV)

## 4. It puts us into the kingdom – the church.

John 3:5 Jesus answered, Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is **born of water and the Spirit**, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

Colossians 1:13-14 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom **we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins**.

- **Romans 6:3-4**

## **SOME THINGS BAPTISM DOES NOT DO:**

### **It Does Not Make A Minor An Adult**

- 1. If a young boy is convicted by scripture to believe on Christ, repent of his sin, confess Jesus and is baptized, then he is forgiven of his sins and becomes a Christian.**
  - A. Baptism does NOT make him a man! Nor does a girl who follows the Lord's plan of salvation become a woman just because she is baptized "for the forgiveness of sins."**
  
- 2. We rejoice when a young person comes to Christ, recognizing that they want to be right with God.**
  - A. However this action does not mean that this 9, 10, 11, 12 year old is now a grown man or grown woman.**
  
- 3. Sometimes when young boys become Christians, there are some who become concerned that a woman can no longer teach them without violating 1 Timothy 2:11-12**

1 Timothy 2:11-12 Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.

- A. This cannot be the case, for when the word "man" as used in 1 Timothy 2:11-12, we find this term meaning:**
  - 1) "with reference to sex, and so to distinguish a man from a woman .... with reference to age as to distinguish an adult man from a boy" (Thayer's, p. 45).**

- a) **Let's look at the remaining verses of 13-15 in our passage under consideration: (childbearing)**  
**1 Timothy 2:13-15**
- 2) **The “man” of 1 Timothy 2 was an adult male, not a “boy.”**
  - a) **Again, the definition for “man” “stands in distinction from a woman ... as distinct from a boy or infant” (Vine’s).**
4. **Therefore, if we know the difference between an infant, child, and a man, then we can understand Paul was forbidding a woman usurping authority “over the man” (not a boy) in 1 Timothy 2:11-12.**
  - A. **For further study, note that Jesus was called a “child” at one time in Luke 2:42-43.**
    - 1) **At 12 years old Jesus was called a child. Let us call a 12 year old boy or girl a child — as the Bible does.**
5. **Baptism forgives us from sin (Acts 2:38), puts us in a right relationship with God, and gives us life (Romans 6:3-4). It does not change the age or maturity level of anyone, turning a boy into a man or a girl into a woman.**

## It Does Not Remove Temptation

**1. Jesus was tempted immediately following His baptism (Matthew 3-4).**

**2. Those that live a godly life will suffer persecution.**

2 Timothy 3:12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

**A. Those of us that live a godly life also know that God will not allow us to be tempted beyond what we are able to bear.**

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who **will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able**, but with the temptation **will also make the way of escape**, that you may be able to bear it.

James 1:12 Blessed is the man who **endures temptation**; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

**B. Our Christianity; our allegiance will continue to be tested.**

**3. Song >Yield not to Temptation. We must continually look to Jesus.**

## It Does Not Guarantee Sinless Perfection

- 1. We are not perfect and that is why we need God. Baptism does not make us sinless----forever!**

I John 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

I John 3:9-10 Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God. In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: **Whoever does not practice righteousness** is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.

- A. Simon, a baptized believer still sinned.**  
**Acts 8:13-24 (Relate the Story)**

## It Does Not Guarantee Eternal Salvation

- 1. You may know of someone who believes that it does!**
  - A. However, there are many that act as if they believed this way - that baptism is their ticket to heaven!**
  - B. Many are baptized and then become indifferent.**
- 2. Eternal Salvation is given to “those that obey Him”.**

Hebrews 5:8-9 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation **to all who obey Him,**

### **3. Baptism is not the end of obedience.**

#### **A. A life of a Christian is to be one of continual obedience.**

Philippians 2:12 Therefore, my beloved, as **you have always obeyed**, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

#### **B. One must be steadfast in worship and in service to God.**

Hebrews 10:25 **not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together**, as is the manner of some, but **exhorting one another**, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Acts 2:42 And they **continued steadfastly** in the apostles' **doctrine** and **fellowship**, in the **breaking of bread**, and in **prayers**.

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, **always abounding in the work of the Lord**, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

John 8:31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, **"If you abide in My word**, you are My **disciples** indeed."

- **What does a true disciple of Christ want to do?**

#### **C. We must worship God our father properly.**

John 4:24 "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

- 1) This includes the Lord's Supper, Giving, Praying, Singing, and Studying.**

**D. Baptism is just the beginning of our walk as a Christian.**

Colossians 3:1-2 If then you were raised with Christ, **seek those things which are above**, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. **Set your mind on things above**, not on things on the earth.

Matthew 6:33 But **seek first the kingdom of God** and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

**E. Baptism results in ETERNAL LIFE: IF one is faithful - not through baptism only.**

Revelation 2:10 .....**Be faithful until death**, and I will give you the crown of life.

**Conclusion****REVIEW FINAL SLIDE**

- 1. Baptism puts one into Christ but in and of itself, does NOT guarantee eternal salvation.**
- 2. If you are already baptized into Christ, you need to realize that you must continue to abide in the teachings of Christ - being faithful until the day you die.**
- 3. If you are not baptized, you need to realize that you can't be saved without it.**

