

(20.10.27)

(1) BAPTISM, WHY BOTHER?

1. Objection

*“What matters is the inward change of the heart, not external ritual.
It is faith that saves, not rituals. So why bother with baptism?”*

(2) WHAT IS BAPTISM?

1. The meaning of _____ baptism

A. Jesus was _____

- (Matt 3:1-15)
- (Mk 10:38)

B. Why?

- To _____ with us
- (Matt 3:15)
- (Isa 53:4-6; 2Cor. 5:21)

2. The meaning of _____ baptism

A. Something _____

- _____ with Christ (Rom 6:3-4; Gal 2:20)
- PCA Baptism Question 3)

Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope except in His sovereign mercy?

B. Something _____

- (Mk 8:38)
- "He clearly anticipated that his church would be a minority movement in the world; and it requires courage to side with the few against the many, especially if the few are unpopular and we may not be naturally drawn to them." – John Stott

C. Something _____

- Union with Christ → _____ with _____
- (1Cor. 12:12-13, 27; Eph 4:16)

(3) WHY DO WE BAPTIZE?

1. Jesus _____ it

- A. (Lk 6:47)
- B. (Mt 28:18-10)

2. Church _____ it

- A. (Acts 2:37-38, 41)
- B. (Acts 8:36)
- C. (Acts 9:18)
- D. (Acts 10:47-48)
- E. (Acts 16:15, 33)
- F. (Rom 6:1-4)

- "Baptism was part of church life from the very first...We have no knowledge of a time when the church was without baptism or unsure of baptism. It is difficult to explain this apart from a definite command of Jesus" – Leon Morris

(4) HOW SHOULD WE THINK ABOUT BAPTISM?

1. Do not _____ baptism

A. By _____ it

- (Ex 4:24-26)
- (LK 7:30)

B. By _____ it

- Baptism is _____ for salvation
- (Acts 10:45,47)
- (Lk 23:39-43)
- Westminster Confession of Faith 28.5.

“Although it is a great sin to despise or neglect this ordinance, nevertheless, grace and salvation are not so inseparably connected with it that a person cannot be regenerated or saved without it. Neither is it true that all who are baptized are undoubtedly regenerated.”

“Let us beware on the other hand, that we do not DISHONOR the sacrament of baptism. It is dishonored when it is thrust out of sight, and never publicly noticed in the congregation. A sacrament ordained by Christ Himself ought not to be treated in this way. The admission of every new member into the ranks of the visible church, whether young or grown up, is an event which ought to excite a lively interest in a Christian assembly. It is an event that ought to call forth the fervent prayers of all praying people. The more deeply we are convinced that baptism and grace are not inseparably tied together, the more we ought to feel bound to join in prayer for a blessing, whenever anyone is baptized.” – J.C. Ryle