

Foundations of the Faith

Lesson 18 – Baptism
Calvary Chapel Northwest



Memory Verse

- [Mat 28:19 NLT] 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.



What is Baptism?

- The word comes from an un-translated Greek word (Baptisma) which means to be immersed, to wash by dipping in water. Source: Strong's Concordance)
- Beliefs and Practices
- The necessity of being baptized in a specific church depends on your religious beliefs and the doctrines of the church you are considering. Different Christian denominations have varying beliefs about baptism. Some believe that baptism should be administered in a specific way or by specific authorities, while others emphasize the symbolic significance of baptism and accept it regardless of the denomination. It's important to consult with leaders or representatives of the specific church you are interested in to understand their beliefs and practices regarding baptism. Ultimately, the decision may depend on your personal faith and conviction. Source: CHATGPT



What is Baptism?

- Three Major historic views
 - Means of saving grace (infants & adults)
 - Sign and seal of the covenant (infants & adults)
 - Token of salvation (Believing adults and believing children)





That is one cute kid!



Question: Historically What is Baptism?

- Historically Ritual washing was a Jewish practice that we performed on many occasions, but was also required of those who converted to Judaism (proselytes) – it was a public washing of their uncleanness, following their conversion.
- Baptism of Repentance -Historically John the Baptist's baptism was a ritual of purification and repentance. He baptized people in the Jordan River as a symbol of the desire to turn away from sin and to prepare themselves for the coming of Messiah.



What is Baptism?

- [Mat 3:1-3, 6 NLT] 1 In those days John the Baptist came to the Judean wilderness and began preaching. His message was, 2 "Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near." 3 The prophet Isaiah was speaking about John when he said, "He is a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the LORD's coming! Clear the road for him!'" ... 6 And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River.

WHAT WE BELIEVE AT CALVARY CHAPEL

- Public declaration of who you belong to
- A Biblical response to who Jesus is in your life
- An act of obedience
- **Not a “saving” act or means of saving grace**



Jesus' Baptism Example

- John the Baptist was baptizing when Jesus started his ministry
- [Mar 1:9-11 NKJV] 9 It came to pass in those days [that] Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10 And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and the Spirit descending upon Him like a dove. 11 Then a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."



Jesus was Baptized

- This marked the beginning of Jesus' ministry, where not only the Prophet John testified to His deity, but God the Father and the Holy Spirit also appeared
- **[Mar 1:9-11 NLT] 9 One day Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. 10 As Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the heavens splitting apart and the Holy Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 And a voice from heaven said, "You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy."**



Jesus was Baptized

- Jesus had nothing to repent of-He was publically demonstrating that His private life was now over, and that His public ministry was now beginning.



Historical Picture of Baptism

- [Exo 14:10-31 NLT] 10 As Pharaoh approached, the people of Israel looked up and panicked when they saw the Egyptians overtaking them. They cried out to the LORD, 11 and they said to Moses, "Why did you bring us out here to die in the wilderness? Weren't there enough graves for us in Egypt? What have you done to us? Why did you make us leave Egypt? 12 Didn't we tell you this would happen while we were still in Egypt? We said, 'Leave us alone! Let us be slaves to the Egyptians. It's better to be a slave in Egypt than a corpse in the wilderness!'" 13 But Moses told the people, "Don't be afraid. Just stand still and watch the LORD rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. 14 The LORD himself will fight for you. Just stay calm." 15 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving! 16 Pick up your staff and raise your hand over the sea. Divide the water so the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground. 17 And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they will charge in after the Israelites. My great glory will be displayed through Pharaoh and his troops, his chariots, and his charioteers. 18 When my glory is displayed through them, all Egypt will see my glory and know that I am the LORD!" 19 Then the angel of God, who had been leading the people of Israel, moved to the rear of the camp. The pillar of cloud also moved from the front and stood behind them. 20 The cloud settled between the Egyptian and Israelite camps. As darkness fell, the cloud turned to fire, lighting up the night. But the Egyptians and Israelites did not approach each other all night. 21 Then Moses raised his hand over the sea,



Historical Picture of Baptism

- and the LORD opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the seabed into dry land. 22 So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side! 23 Then the Egyptians--all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and charioteers--chased them into the middle of the sea. 24 But just before dawn the LORD looked down on the Egyptian army from the pillar of fire and cloud, and he threw their forces into total confusion. 25 He twisted their chariot wheels, making their chariots difficult to drive. "Let's get out of here--away from these Israelites!" the Egyptians shouted. "The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt!" 26 When all the Israelites had reached the other side, the LORD said to Moses, "Raise your hand over the sea again. Then the waters will rush back and cover the Egyptians and their chariots and charioteers." 27 So as the sun began to rise, Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the water rushed back into its usual place. The Egyptians tried to escape, but the LORD swept them into the sea. 28 Then the waters returned and covered all the chariots and charioteers--the entire army of Pharaoh. Of all the Egyptians who had chased the Israelites into the sea, not a single one survived. 29 But the people of Israel had walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, as the water stood up like a wall on both sides. 30 That is how the LORD rescued Israel from the hand of the Egyptians that day. And the Israelites saw the bodies of the Egyptians washed up on the seashore. 31 When the people of Israel saw the mighty power that the LORD had unleashed against the Egyptians, they were filled with awe before him. They put their faith in the LORD and in his servant Moses.



Commanded of those who believe

- [Mat 28:19 NLT] 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.



Commanded of those who believe

- [Act 10:45-48 NLT] 45 The Jewish believers who came with Peter were amazed that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles, too. 46 For they heard them speaking in other tongues and praising God. Then Peter asked, 47 "Can anyone object to their being baptized, now that they have received the Holy Spirit just as we did?" 48 So he gave orders for them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterward Cornelius asked him to stay with them for several days.



Commanded of those who believe

- [Act 8:26-28, 35-36 NLT] 26 As for Philip, an angel of the Lord said to him, "Go south down the desert road that runs from Jerusalem to Gaza." 27 So he started out, and he met the treasurer of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under the Kandace, the queen of Ethiopia. The eunuch had gone to Jerusalem to worship, 28 and he was now returning. Seated in his carriage, he was reading aloud from the book of the prophet Isaiah. ... 35 So beginning with this same Scripture, Philip told him the Good News about Jesus. 36 As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look! There's some water! Why can't I be baptized?"



Two major views of baptism

- Baptism saves a person unto salvation
- Baptism is a symbol of what Christ has done for us



#1 Question...Does Baptism Save?

- Salvation is by faith alone

[Rom 10:10-13 NLT] 10 For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved. 11 As the Scriptures tell us, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced." 12 Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. 13 For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved."



Does Baptism Save?



- Thief on the cross was not baptized
- [Luk 23:42-43 NLT] 42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom." 43 And Jesus replied, "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise."



But wait...isn't there Biblical proof of Infant Baptism and its Ability to Save?

[Act 16:33 NLT] 33 Even at that hour of the night, the jailer cared for them and washed their wounds. Then he and everyone in his household were immediately baptized.

[Mar 16:16 NKJV] 16 "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.



Question #2: Which is right...Sprinkled,
Poured or Dunked?



What Does the Bible Say?

- Best example is Jesus himself being baptized
- Scholars disagree on the word used for baptism...whether dunked or sprinkled
- The word comes from an un-translated Greek word (Baptisma) which means to be immersed, to wash by dipping in water. Source: Strong's Concordance)



Question #3: How Many Times do I Need to Get Baptized?

- [Mar 16:16 NKJV] 16 "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.



Question #4: Can You Get Baptized Again?

- There is no Biblical admonition about doing it again...but it is used in the past tense and not an on-going thing.
- Perhaps a better question is why would you?



Question #5: Do I have to Get Baptized by a Calvary Chapel Pastor?

- You do not!
- Nor do you have to get baptized in the Jordan River
- [1Co 1:12-17 NLT] 12 Some of you are saying, "I am a follower of Paul." Others are saying, "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Peter," or "I follow only Christ." 13 Has Christ been divided into factions? Was I, Paul, crucified for you? Were any of you baptized in the name of Paul? Of course not! 14 I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15 for now no one can say they were baptized in my name. 16 (Oh yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas, but I don't remember baptizing anyone else.) 17 For Christ didn't send me to baptize, but to preach the Good News--and not with clever speech, for fear that the cross of Christ would lose its power.



Other Questions & Comments



Housekeeping

- Next Baptism 15 May 2024
- If you are interested, please see Deacon Dale or Pastor Ellis
- Next week: Dylan presents New Testament Church Model
- Let's Pray

