

The Necessity Of Baptism Using One Scripture

By Mike Riley

If someone were to ask us to prove the necessity of baptism using only one Scripture, could we do it? Let us see if Acts 22:16 can fill the bill. The text in Acts 22:16 reads:

"And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord."

From this inspired text alone, let us logically make the following observations regarding baptism:

- 1) It is an act that is to be immediately carried out — not waiting days, weeks, or months to accomplish as some denominational bodies wish to do, i.e., "why are you waiting?"
- 2) The term "baptized" [Strong's 907] in this text is rendered "to dip, to immerse, to plunge" in the original Greek language. Thus one has to be "dipped"— "immersed" — or "plunged" into water in order for sins to be washed away [to be cleansed].
- 3) The phrase, "wash away your sins," states the purpose of the baptismal act [to cleanse]. Conversely, if an individual is not willing to be baptized [immersed] in water, that individual's sins are still present before God and the individual remains unclean. No unclean person will be found in heaven (Revelation 21:27 ESV).
- 4) The phrase "calling on the name of the Lord," is completing the command to "arise and be baptized" by the Lord's authority.

Note the pattern: urgency — "why are you waiting"; act — "baptized" [immersed]; purpose — "wash away sins" — authority — "calling on the name of the Lord."

Thus, by looking at this one Scripture, we can logically conclude that the physical act of being baptized in water, in order to "wash away our sins," is not an option, but an immediate required act by the Lord and by His authority (Matthew 28:18; Mark 16:16).



STERLINGTON
Church of Christ



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Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshiping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

Those to Serve

Today

Announcements- Travis Rogers **Opening prayer-** Arthur Binford

Communion- Wayne Fowler **Closing Prayer-** Gary Harris

Sermon- Don DeLukie

August 25th

Announcements- Wayne Fowler **Opening prayer-** Rick Cook

Communion- Paul Simpson **Closing Prayer-** Ed Haltom

Sermon- Don DeLukie

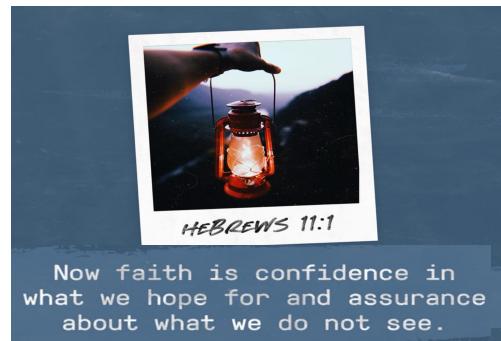
Announcements

—Potluck: We will have a potluck August 25th following the morning services. There will be no PM services that evening.

—Back to School Bowling Party: All children and their families are invited to a Back to School Bowling Party, (Sunday, August 25th) after the Potluck.

—Question & Answer Series: Our next Question & Answer Series will be when enough questions are collected. Give your questions to Don.

—Children's Home Collection: Our congregation is collecting items for the Children's Home in Paragould, AR. Collection boxes are by the nursery. A list of needed items is in the foyer.



Please Pray For:

Brenda Fricke, Kerry Clewell, David Repond, Ellisha Peyton, Rick Cook, Belinda Boykin, Virginia Cook, Joyce Moses, Rick Cook, Angelica Ross, Charlotte Martin, Kathy Gilbert, Tommy Franklin.

Bereaved: Families of Ronnie Tatum, David Reed.

Needing Long-Term Prayers:

Brigg DeLukie, Carol Granger, Arthur Binford, Dan Ross Jr, Ronnie & Dena White, Joanne Randolph, Bettye Flowers, Linda Garris, Sharon White-Ross, James Johnson, Bobby Barker, Cindy Smith, Renee Gee, Bobby Simmons, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross.



August birthdays

2 - Lisa Guice	8 - Travis Rodgers
2 - Larry Silmon	20 - Leo Goodwin
3 - Branson Wells	26 - Brandon Rogers
4 - Brenda Fricke	30 - David Garris
6 - Sandy Van Loon	
8 - Mandy Magee	

August Anniversaries

3 - Paul & Wanda Simpson
13 - Jerry & Joyce McDonald

