

BAPTISM STUDY (Part 2)

1. Review Plan of Salvation

- A. Hear—**Romans 10:17**
- B. Believe—**Hebrews 11:6**
- C. Repent—**Luke 13:3**
- D. Confess—**Romans 10:9, 1 Timothy 6:12**
- E. Baptized—**Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21**

2. The Major Conversions in Acts

- A. **Acts 2:36-47**—first Christians in Jerusalem
- B. **Acts 8:26-38**—Ethiopian Eunuch
- C. **Acts 16:22-34**—Philippian jailer and his family
- D. **Acts 18:24-26**—Apollos
- E. **Acts 19:1-5**—Ephesians
- F. **Acts 22:3-16**—Paul

3. Refuting False Doctrines

A. Infant Baptism

- 1. Personal faith is required—**Colossians 2:12**
- 2. Began approximately 3rd Century
- 3. Original sin (born with sin of Adam on your soul)
 - a) **Ezekiel 18:20**
 - b) Immaculate Conception (Mary born without sin on her soul)
 - c) Became “church doctrine” 549 A.D.

B. “Pray Christ Into Your Heart”—This phrase is never mentioned in the Bible. They may use **Revelation 3:20** about Jesus knocking at the door, however, You must examine scripture in context. This scripture tells not how to become a Christian and be saved, but how to come back to God after becoming lukewarm. It is addressed to Christians who have already responded to Christ in faith, repentance, confession and baptism.

C. “Accept Jesus Into Your Heart”—(Same as praying Jesus into your heart—just different terminology). Based on **Romans 10:9**. You must look at Scripture in context. Paul is addressing the problem of the Israelites; unbelief that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God. Read further on to **Romans 10:13**-when do you call on the name of the Lord to be saved? At baptism (**Acts 16:22**).

D. “Baptism is a work—we are saved by faith, not by works (Eph 2:8)”—It is true we are not saved by works but baptism is not a work (no more than praying or accepting!)...the question is what the correct response is! **Col 2:12** says we are saved by FAITH in the WORKING OF GOD at baptism. God is the one who at work in baptism....not man.

- E. **“Baptism is an outward sign of an inward grace.”—Romans 6:2-4** says baptism is a sharing in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. It is not just a sign or a symbol. **Acts 2:38**....God forgives and God gives the Holy Spirit.
- F. **“Baptism is not important, after all, look at what Paul said about it in 1 Corinthians 1:10-17.”**—Paul does not diminish the importance of baptism here. (Paul himself was baptized to have his sins forgiven in **Acts 22:16**.) In context, he makes the point that he does not want people following men or personalities (denominationalism). He mentions baptism several times in the passage.
- G. **“The thief on the cross was never water baptized and Jesus told him they would see each other in Paradise.”**—Jesus had not even died yet. This man was under the Old Covenant. Baptism is participating in Jesus’ death, burial and resurrection (**Romans 6:2-4**). None of this had taken place. Jesus forgave the sins of many different people while he was on earth, not just the thief on the cross. He had the power (authority) to forgive sins. (**Matthew 9:2-6**)
- H. **“Believers baptism”**—This is the baptism as an adult, but it is not in conjunction with the understanding that one is being saved at this point in time (**John 3:5; Acts 2:38**). Retroactive understanding is not sufficient for salvation. This makes no sense....to bury a person who is *alive in Christ* in baptism. No, you bury a person who is *dead in sin* in baptism!
- I. **“Baptism does not save you”**—**1 Peter 3:21** says baptism DOES save you through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. **Acts 2:38** teaches that sin is forgiven in baptism—one is saved at the point in time that sin is forgiven.

4. **What do you believe you need to do?**

- A. Decide the time, date and location of the next study. Ask them to come with any questions they may have as they study on your own.