

Baptism

(Theological Bible Training: Week 4, Session2)

The *importance* of the topic

1. Baptism is part of the **Great Commission**, the Church's 'marching orders'

Matthew 28v28: And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The *importance* of the topic

1. Baptism is part of the **Great Commission**
2. Baptism is part of the inspiring summary of **the first church**, in Jerusalem

Acts 2v41: So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

The *importance* of the topic

1. Baptism is part of the **Great Commission**
2. ...**the first church**, in Jerusalem
3. Baptism is on Paul's list of **great uniting realities**

Ephesians 4v4: There is one body and one Spirit – just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call – ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all...

Method... (for studying any topic)

1. Gather ‘ingredients’ (Bible references)

2. Look at ‘past recipes’ (Historical summaries)

- 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith
- Benjamin Keach’s catechism

3. ‘Create your own...’

What does Baptism do?

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Gospel facts

Matthew 28v19: “Go and make disciples, baptizing them...”

Acts 2v38: “Repent and be baptized...in the name of Jesus Christ...”

Romans 6v3: “...of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death...”

Acts 2v23: “...this Jesus... you crucified... ²⁴ God raised him up...”

Romans 6v9: ...Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again...

¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God...”

What does Baptism do?

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2. Baptism expresses ***repentance, faith*** and ***submission***

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Gospel requirements

- **“I need to be made clean”** (Acts 2v36-38, Psalm 51v2)
Acts 22v16: “And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.”
- **“I’m trusting Jesus and his saving work”** – *identifying*
Romans 6
- **“I belong to a new master”**
Matt.28v20: a life of learning to obey

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3. Baptism looks to God for ***forgiveness, new life, eternal life!***

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Gospel promises

- **Forgiveness of sins** (Acts 2v38) (all I contribute is the dirt!)
- **New life now**, a break with the old (Rom.6; Mt.28v20), 2Cor.5v17 ...by the outpoured Holy Spirit (Acts 2v38)
- **Future Resurrection!** Rom.6v5 (“if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.”)
- **Already true** (from the moment of penitent, saving faith), **yet seeking more** of God, and of the Spirit’s transformation

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3. Baptism looks to God for *forgiveness*, *new life*, *eternal life!*
4. Baptism ***joins*** you, publicly, to God's people

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Initiation

- **Acts 2v41**: ...those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.
- **1Corinthians 12v13**: For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and all were made to drink of one Spirit.
- “Baptism doesn't make you a Christian...”

H.S.B.C (Baptism and the Lord's Supper)

- **Historical Event** and Redemptive significance
- **Self-Involvement** (professing/expressing faith)
- **Benefits** (symbolised and experienced)
- **Corporate Context** (i.e. Church Community)