

Baptism And The New Life

By Ronnie W. Wolfe – June 7, 2018

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Quotes:

Writing about baptism, one writer in 381 AD said, “We call it, the Gift, the Grace, Baptism, Uction, Illumination, the Clothing of Immortality, the Laver of Regeneration, the Seal, and everything that is honourable.” -Gregory Nazianzen – 381 AD -It is also called a Sacrament.

But we know that baptism is simply an ordinance of a local church to portray the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ for our redemption, salvation, security, and glorification.

In baptism a person is doing three things:

1. Painting A Picture
2. Practicing An Ordinance
3. Preparing To Serve Christ

See: <http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/310240.htm>

Romans 5

21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6

- 1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?
- 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:

9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion

over him.

10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive.

I. BAPTISM IS A REJECTION OF SIN, 5:21 - 6:2

A. Before taking up the subject of baptism itself, Paul speaks of the “end game” of baptism, the result of immersion, the purpose and prospect of its being done.

B. The object of the exercise of baptism is to set forth as a testimony the work of Jesus Christ in his death, burial, and resurrection; but there is an end result of its portrayal.

C. A believer should at some stage in his Christian life understand that baptism is a burying of our old self and a resurrection of our new self.

D. This is done in a picture, but the new character that grace produces is in this picture shown as a testimony of the believer that his life of sin has ended.

E. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

F. The Picture:

1. When your feet go into the water of baptism, those feet are going into death. Although it is only a picture in the water, it is to be taken physically as a dedication of a new life in Christ that was given when that person believed in Christ.

2. Those feet should no longer walk into places the person need not be.

3. Those feet should not follow the deeds of wicked men.

4. Those feet should, rather, follow in the footsteps of Christ to live a righteous and holy life before him.

5. When those hands go down into that deep, dark, deadly water, it should remind the believers that those hands are instruments of God and not of man.

6. Those hands are no more meant to condemn people, harm people, or gesture nasty gestures or steal or kill.

7. Those hands belong to the Lord.

8. When the head goes under water, that is an indication that we have a renewing of the mind that points our thinking toward the word of God and its instructions for our living in the world. It becomes our guide, and we think of things of God.

a. *Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.*

II. BAPTISM IS IS A RECOLLECTION OF DEATH, 6:3-5

A. *Romans 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that*

*like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk **in newness of life**. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:*

- B. We are buried with him in baptism in HIS death.
 - 1. This reminds us that it is only by Jesus' death that brings salvation to us. He suffered, the just for the unjust, that we might be brought to God in salvation by grace through faith.
 - 2. It was HIS death that canceled our sin and gave us eternal life.
- C. We are also buried with him in baptism in OUR death.
 - 1. We are to become dead to sin after our salvation, and baptism tells forth our witness that we are no longer servants of the flesh, but we live in the Spirit.
 - 2. Galatians 2:20 *I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*

III. BAPTISM IS A RESURRECTION FROM SIN, 6:6-7

- A. The old man died in Christ when we believed.
- B. That old man can never again condemn us to hell. Even when we sin as believers, the old man has no more dominion or rule over our spiritual lives.
- C. But this body of sin can be destroyed only by not serving sin.
- D. It is our business now, in our spiritual new life, to destroy this body of sin by resisting the temptations of the world and living above the wickedness and vanity of the world.
 - 1. 1 John 2:15 *Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.*
 - 2. Our sin in the flesh is attached to this body, which is dying.
 - 3. Sin and our body are temporal, not eternal.
 - 4. John 10:10 *The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.*
 - 5. We have false teachers who desire to steal God's sheep and to kill and destroy them, but Christ came to give us life more abundantly.
- E. Sin is our enemy, and it is always lurking around, and its author, Satan, is walking around as a lion seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8).
- F. So, we should not serve sin but serve Christ with our feet, our hands, our head, and every part of our bodies, which temple is God's, not ours.

IV. BAPTISM IS A REFLECTION OF OUR HOPE, 6:8-10

- A. Romans 6:8-10 *Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: 9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.*
- B. Now that we are dead to sin through the grace of God and faith in Christ, we have assurance that we "shall also live with him" (8).
- C. Verses 9-10 instruct us in inference that, as long as Christ lives, we live. Christ "dieth no

more; death hath no more dominion over him.”

- D. He died once unto sin and condemned sin in the flesh, but he now lives unto God.
- E. So, as we died in him, we also live unto God to serve him.
- F. And we will be included in that great inheritance that Peter speaks of 1 Peter 1:4-5, one that is incorruptible, undefiled, and reserved for us in heaven.
- G. Baptism shows forth our eternal life and our security in Christ, our blessed hope.

V. BAPTISM IS A RECKONING CONCERNING DEATH, 6:11-12

- A. Romans 6:11-13 *Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.*

VI. BAPTISM IS A RECEPTION INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST

- A. 1 Corinthians 12:13-14 *For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For the body is not one member, but many.*
- B. This local body of believers is a group to which we as members owe our allegiance as unto God, for it is in the local church that God receives glory.
- C. Ephesians 3:21 *Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*

VII. CONCLUSION

- A. We have now come to know Christ as our Savior. We have believed on him for eternal life. He has accepted us in the beloved. We have been baptized in water showing forth both the Lord's death and resurrection and our own spiritual death and resurrection in a great picture as a testimony to our church and to others that we are denying the body of sin and will continually serve Jesus Christ to destroy this body of sin and replace it with a vessel of honor that will bring glory to God, to Christ, and to the Holy Spirit.
- B. In New Testament times, those who were saved were baptized. Today too many people separate salvation from baptism, thinking that one is done and then another decision is to be made concerning the other.
- C. But this should not be. When you are saved, you should immediately submit to scriptural baptism. It is your testimony of true regeneration and conversion.
- D. It is your confession of sin before men implying that sin has already been confessed and forgiven before God.
- E. Only saved people can be baptized; so, if you have never been saved, do not submit to baptism.
- F. Trust the Lord for salvation; then submit to scriptural baptism to use the instruments of your body to bring glory to God in his local church.
- G. If you are saved and not baptized, come today and talk with this pastor about being baptized to bring glory to God and to surrender your life to completely serve God in

Christ.

H. We are the children of God by faith, but we are members of Christ's churches through baptism.