

Church of Christ

3361 West State Street, Fremont, OH 43420

Worship Services

Sunday Bible Study	10:00 am
Sunday Worship	10:45 am
Sunday Worship	6:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 pm

Classes for all ages

Preachers: Ted Bowen and Sean Rizor

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

1. Learn the truth (Hear) (John 8:32; 17:17; Rom 10:14-18)
2. Believe in Christ (John 8:24; 20:31; Heb 11:6)
3. Repent of all sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30; Rom 2:4; 2 Cor 7:9,10)
4. Confess faith in Christ (Rom 10:10; Acts 17:30; Matt 16:16)
5. Be baptized into Christ for remission of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)
6. Live faithfully (Revelation 2:10)

7 THINGS TO REMEMBER DURING THE LORD'S SUPPER!

- 1 LORD. "There is one Lord." (Ephesians 4:5)
- 2 THIEVES. "There were also 2 others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death."
(Luke 23:32)
- 3 CROSSES. (Luke 23:39-43; Ephesians 1:7)
- 4 PARTS of HIS GARMENTS. "Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier, a part, and also the tunic." (John 19:23)
- 5 WOUNDS. His head was crowned with thorns. His back was scourged.
His side was cut open. His hands were pierced. His feet were pierced. (John 19-20)
- 6 HOURS of AGONY. Christ was crucified at the 3rd hour and died at the 9th hour.
(Mark 15:25-37)
- 7 SAYINGS of The CROSS. (Matthew 27:46; Luke 23:34, 43-46; John 19:26-30)

June 13, 2021

Sunday Morning

Speaker: Sean Rizor

Sunday Morning Worship Only

Birthdays

- 18 Jessie Davis
- 18 Makayla Rizor

Anniversaries

- 20 Chris & Heidi Frantz

Prayer List

Kaitlin Baker
Gen Stanley
Nora Wiseman
Jean Adkins
Jamie Hall
Kaitlyn Hall
Ashley Hall
Nick Hall
Tina Smith
Kathy Grove
Betty Davis
Mike Foes
Debbie Rowan
Stacy Appelhans
Charlotte Williams

BAPTISM – THE REST OF THE STORY (Part II)

Michael R. Baggett

In part I concerning baptism I clearly showed that baptism is immersion based on the original Greek word and explanations in Scripture. The Bible shows clearly that baptism cannot be sprinkling or pouring. In part II we explore the popular belief that baptism is optional to becoming a Christian. There are those who tell us baptism is simply a "follow-up" and that baptism has nothing to do with salvation. Please, read this and do follow-up study on your own. Resist the temptation to take a short-cut and go ask your preacher because those who already believe baptism is merely a follow-up will strongly discourage you from studying on your own or even reading articles that challenge long held beliefs, so be warned. Now, the rest of the story.

Before I proceed, please read this carefully: I am not saying that baptism is the savior. Jesus Christ, The Only Begotten Son of God, is the way, the truth and the life. It is true, in Jesus alone we have salvation. Without Jesus, nothing else would matter. But consider this line of reason: If I said we must repent; that is, turn away from sin to be saved, would I be saying repentance is the

savior? Would anyone disagree if I said repentance is a necessary step to salvation? (see Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 17:30, 31). Is confessing faith in Jesus a necessary step to salvation? (Matthew 10:32, 33; Romans 10:9, 10). These Scriptures clearly the necessity, but does this in anyway replace Jesus as the Savior? I hope you are following me. If the Bible said in addition to believing, repenting and confessing faith in Jesus we must also be baptized, would this replace Jesus as the Savior? Of course not! Why are these things necessary? Because if there was nothing for man to do to respond to God's grace it would follow logically that everyone would be saved the very instant they were old enough to become accountable for their sins! Now, you be the judge about baptism as we look at life after Jesus gave us the Great Commission.

And Just what does the Great Commission have to do with the matter of baptism? Well, just everything. Have you considered that you must answer to the requirements of the Great Commission given by Jesus? You do not answer to the requirements of the Law of Moses or to the baptism of John the Baptist (see Galatians 5:4; Acts 19:1-4). Oh yes, Jesus forgave a lot of sins in person, for example, the thief on the cross, but was Jesus talking to you or me when he told an individual his sins were forgiven? The simple answer is "No." When does Jesus talk to you and me about how to have sins forgiven and become a Christian? It starts with the Great Commission. After Jesus rose from the dead and just before He ascended to heaven, He told the Apostles: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19). Mark gave this account of the Great Commission in Mark 16:15, 16: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature [all people]. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believes not shall be condemned." Luke writes in Luke 24:47: "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." Now, which of these conditions of salvation Jesus gives us in the Great Commission accounts of the gospel can we cast aside? The answer is none! What we are interested in is how we receive the remission of our sins.

When the Apostles started preaching the Great Commission in Acts Chapter Two, the hearers asked what they must do? (Acts 2:37). See if you recognize any of this language: Peter told them to, "...repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins..." (Acts 2:38). Note that the audience must have come to faith in Jesus Christ, else why would they ask the question about what to do in Acts 2:37? Had they done all that was required of them to do? Think about it, if faith were all that was required, Peter would have said they are already saved, but note what else he told them as he gave them requirements mentioned in the Great Commission of the gospels. Look back up in the last paragraph and compare the different gospel accounts of the Great Commission. Put the requirements all together and you see this is what Peter tells them to do! If you ask me what to do to be saved, I'll tell you exactly as Jesus and Peter tells us according to the Great Commission. By the way, on down in Acts 2:41 after Peter continues to plead with them to respond to the Great Commission ("save yourselves"- Acts 2:40), we learn that about 3000 souls gladly received the word and were baptized and that the Lord added them to the Church (please compare verses 41 with 47). How do we receive remission or forgiveness of our sins? What did Peter tell the believing audience? (cf. Luke 24:47 with Acts 2:38). Jesus had said to preach repentance and remission of sins. What was included in receiving remission of sins? (Acts 2:38). The answer is as inescapable as eternity itself!

Did you know that an Apostle said that baptism is a step of faith? Do you have faith in what the Holy Spirit has revealed in Scripture about baptism? See Colossians 2:12). The Bible teaches that baptism is where we receive remission of sins (Acts 2:38). Baptism is where sins are washed away by the Blood of Jesus (Acts 22:16). We contact the Blood of Jesus (spiritually) when we are buried with Jesus in baptism and raised to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:3, 4).). The Bible says baptism is when we put on Christ and become sons and daughters of Abraham (see Galatians 3:26-29). Are you aware that baptism is a command (Acts 10:47)? (Other references: Acts Chapters 8, 16, 18).

Those who tell us baptism is just a follow-up and not necessary are being very presumptuous. You be the judge because God gave you a brain to do your own thinking. The noble Bereans searched the Scriptures to see if the things they heard were so (Acts 17:11). No one will answer for you in the Judgement Day but you. What does the Bible say about baptism? I think you have seen enough to understand the rest of the story. Thank you kindly for reading this and keep on studying your Bible.