

WHY SALVATION REMAINS DISTINCT FROM BAPTISM

INTRODUCTION:

Millions of people in the different denominations claim there is no salvation apart from baptism. This doctrine is called "Baptismal Regeneration". This doctrine teaches that a person is saved by means of baptism, or with the help of baptism.

Some religions believe a child or infant can be saved (regenerated) by the act of baptism. The millions of people who are taught their infant "baptism" saves them are not likely to listen to the Scriptural plan of salvation.

Who can estimate the countless multitudes of people who have died unsaved, largely because of this dangerous distortion of the gospel?

1. Catholic Church: Believes there is no hope even for a baby who dies un-sprinkled.
2. Mormons: Hold baptism as necessary to salvation, and if one dies without baptism they often have a living person be baptized for the person who died without it.
3. Church of Christ: Most dogmatic group to argue the importance of baptism for salvation.

According to the Word of God this doctrine of Immersion for salvation will send the souls of every person who believes it straight to hell. We will show this by the following scripture.

TRAN. SENTENCE: What does this false doctrine do?

I. IT DESTROYS THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINE OF GRACE.

- A. [Baptism Is A Form Of Works, And The Scripture Tell Us That Salvation Is Not By Works.](#)
- B. [Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 4:4; 11:6](#)

II. IT MAKES SALVATION THROUGH WATER INSTEAD OF THROUGH THE BLOOD.

- A. [I John 1:7; Hebrews 9:12. 22; Matthew 26:28](#)
- B. [The Substitution Of The Water Of Immersion For The Blood Of The Saviour Is A Wicked Thing.](#)

III. IT DENIES THE FINISHED WORK OF CHRIST FOR SALVATION, TEACHING THAT WE HAVE TO FINISH THE PLAN OF SALVATION THROUGH THE WORKS OF BAPTISM - [John 19:30; Hebrews 1:3.](#)

IV. IT PROMOTES TWO WAYS FOR SALVATION:

- A. The Church Of Christ Teaches "Falling from Grace," Yet They Teach That One Can Be Re-Saved. When A Supposedly Re-Saved Person Comes "Back Into The Fold", They Don't Re-Baptize Them.
1. First, he is saved partly through baptism.
 2. Second, he is re-saved in a different way and this time immersion is not necessary.
- B. We Can See An Inconsistency Of Theology! *John 14:6* – Shows One Way For Salvation And That Way Is Through Jesus Christ And Him Only!

V. IT IGNORES SPECIFIC CASES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT WHERE PERSONS WERE SAVED WITHOUT BEING BAPTIZED.

- A. The Woman At Simon's Home – *Luke 7:50*. Jesus Himself Pronounced This Woman Saved Upon The Basis Of Her Faith And He Didn't Even Mention Baptism. He Doesn't Have Different Ways Of Saving Different People.
- B. The Thief Who Repented On The Cross. He Promised The Man Who Turned To Him To Take Him Where He Was Going. Unsaved People Don't Go Where Jesus Is When They Die – *Luke 23:43*.
- C. Cornelius And His Household – *Acts 10:43-48*.
1. In *Verse 43*, we see that remission of sins is based upon faith in Christ alone.
 2. Cornelius and the others were baptized because they clearly showed they were already saved, and not in order to be saved.
 3. They did not receive the Holy Spirit in this marvelous way in their unsaved state.
- D. The Philippian Jailer – *Acts 16:30-31*.
1. The way of salvation given in these verses makes no mention at all of baptism which leaves no room to question God's plan of salvation.
 2. The man was baptized, but evidently because of the fact he had already been saved.
- E. The Teaching Of *Mark 16:16* Clearly Presents The Truth Concerning Salvation Being Independent Of Baptism.
1. It states the person who believes and is baptized shall be saved, and it could be added the person who believes and is baptized and eats grapefruit for breakfast every morning, or wears a red shirt and blue tie, or does hundreds of other things shall be saved.
 2. The question is what will cause one to be condemned?

- a. The same passage says: "*He that believeth not shall be damned.*"
- b. Damnation is for the unbeliever – NOT for failure to be baptized (immersed).
- c. *Ephesians 1:13.*

**VI. IT MINIMIZES THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD. – *I Peter 1:23;*
*I Corinthians 1:21.***

VII. IT IS WHOLLY UNSCRIPTURAL – *Mark 7:7-13*

CONCLUSION:

Baptism is important, but not in order to be saved! The above scriptures teach that biblical salvation is by "grace through faith," plus and minus nothing. *Ephesians 2:8-9*

While baptism is not necessary to be saved, it is important to one who has been saved as an act of obedience to the Lord's command.

Jesus Christ saw the need of baptism, not in order to become the Son of God, and walked 60 miles to be baptized by the only man who was authorized to baptize at that time.

The Holy Spirit knew it was important for He attended the baptism of Jesus. God the Father knew it was important for He sent John the Baptist to baptize, and voiced His approval when His only begotten Son was baptized.

The devil also must think it is important for he has tried to counterfeit it many times. Making baptism a part of salvation is one of his biggest accomplishments.