

“Why Do I Need to Be Baptized?”

Mark 16:15-16

Introduction

- I. One of the most divisive issues that exists in the religious world is the necessity of baptism.
 - A. Many groups and individuals exist that teach that baptism is not essential for a person to be saved.
 - B. Numerous souls have been led to believe that they are spiritually well even without having been baptized.
- II. We must not rely on ideas and thoughts of men, but rather we must examine God's Word to determine what is necessary or not (John 5:39; 2 Tim. 2:15).
- III. The Bible shows that I need to be baptized for certain reasons.
 - A. I need to be baptized to have my sins washed/remitted/forgiven.
 - B. I need to be baptized to begin a new life.
 - C. I need to be baptized “into Christ” so that I can “put on Christ”.
 - D. I need to be baptized to enter the church.
 - E. I need to be baptized to be “Abraham's seed”.
 - F. I need to be baptized to be saved.

Discussion

- I. I need to be baptized to have my sins washed/remitted/forgiven.
 - A. Peter taught that baptism is necessary (Acts 2:38)
 - B. Saul of Tarsus learned that baptism is necessary (Acts 9:4; 22:16).
 - C. The only thing that can wash my sins is the blood of Jesus (Eph. 1:7).
 - D. I come in contact with the blood when I am baptized.
- II. I need to be baptized to begin a new life.
 - A. Nicodemus learned this directly from Jesus (John 3:1-5).
 - B. Paul established this truth in his letter to the Romans and in one of his letters to the Corinthians (Rom. 6:1-6; 2 Cor. 5:17).
- III. I need to be baptized “into Christ” so that I can “put on Christ”.
 - A. There is no other action that allows me these privileges.
 - B. Only by being baptized can I be found in the right location (Gal. 3:26-27; see 2 Cor. 5:17 again).
- IV. I need to be baptized to enter the church.
 - A. Being a part of the church is extremely serious (Eph. 5:23-27).
 - B. I cannot be a part of the body/the bride of Christ/the church without being baptized (Acts 2:41, 47).
- V. I need to be baptized to be “Abraham's seed”.
 - A. A promise was made long ago (Gen. 12:1-3).
 - B. We must be baptized in order to be “heirs according to the promise” (Gal. 3:16, 26-29).
- VI. I need to be baptized to be saved.
 - A. Jesus taught the necessity of baptism (Mark 16:15-16).
 - B. Noah and his family serve as an example for why being baptized is essential for salvation (1 Pet. 3:18-22).

Conclusion

- I. There is a great deal of information in the Bible that shows why I need to be baptized.
 - A. The question then becomes “have I been baptized?”
 - B. If not, then do not wait until it is too late.
 1. Hear the Word of God (Rom. 10:17).
 2. Believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God (John 8:24).
 3. Repent of your past sins (Acts 17:30-31).
 4. Confess your faith that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God (Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 8:37).
 5. It is then that you are ready to be baptized (Mark 16:16).
- II. Even though Jesus had no sins to be remitted, He, by His example showed that being baptized is necessary (Matt. 3:13-17).