

## WHY DON'T YOU BAPTIZE BABIES?

A person calls our church and asks, "Will you baptize my baby?" When I say, "No, we don't do that", they are surprised! I have been asked this many times, and even when I give a Biblical answer, people still don't understand. Here are seven *Scriptural* reasons to consider ...

### BELIEVING MUST PRECEDE BAPTISM

1. A person must be a "believer" first before true baptism can take place, and an infant certainly cannot intellectually do that. The Bible sequence is first, personal belief, and then baptism afterward.

*"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: ...", Acts 2:41*

*"... and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest ...", Acts 8:36b-37a*

### REPENTANCE MUST PRECEDE BAPTISM

2. Repentance is a conscious turning from sin. Before John the Baptist would baptize anyone, he said, "Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance," Matthew 3:8. Can babies repent? Can they be personally convicted of some sin?

### TRUE SALVATION MUST PRECEDE BAPTISM

3. Baptism is only for those who are already Christians, not those who want to be! As the Eunuch asked Philip, "What doth hinder me to be baptized?", then Philip told him the condition,

*"If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.", Acts 8:36-38.*

Newborn babies cannot believe with all their heart. They do not even know what is going on!

### THERE ARE NO BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF INFANT BAPTISM

4. There are no examples of infant or baby baptism in the Bible! None! It was entirely fabricated by men and has no Scriptural basis, teaching or example. "There was not any recorded 'infant baptism' prior to 370 A.D. It was in that year when the Roman Emperor Valens insisted that his dying son be baptized. It was in the year 416 A.D. that infant baptism was made "law" by the Catholic Council of Melta."

### IT IS ONLY AN OUTWARD EXERCISE

5. An outward physical act cannot cause a spiritual change, in an infant or an adult. How can physical water wash away sin? How can the physical affect the spiritual?

*"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." John 4:24*

*"That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." John 3:6*

### BABIES AND INFANTS GO TO HEAVEN

6. Babies and young children, should they die, go to heaven to be with the Lord.

*"But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 19:14*

Where were "little children" to go? Where is Jesus now? Baptism would, in effect, add a condition and be a type of "forbidding" that the Lord commanded not to be done. Babies and young children go to be with

the Lord! Baptized or not! Otherwise it would be contrary to what the Lord clearly taught.

### INFANT BAPTISM DECEIVES PEOPLE

7. We do not baptize babies because we do not want to mislead people spiritually. Unbiblical baptism gives a person false assurance and unfounded peace that he is right with God when in reality he is not! Many people who have been baptized will not end up in heaven because salvation is not by any good work that is done by men, including the good work of baptism!

*"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;" Titus 3:5*

People who are baptized, but not really "born again", fill many churches. Those "baptized" babies grow up into adults thinking that their baptism made them a Christian and a member of the church. Baptism is a self-work but Scriptural salvation is totally by God's grace through the substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross of Calvary!

*"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:8,9*

Therefore, because of these and other biblical reasons, we find that infant baptism is seriously wrong and spiritually misleading.

Now, how about you? Has your baptism, or other religious good works, given you unbiblical assurance? Or have you truly been "born again"? Have you "repented" of your sins? Do you have real biblical "faith" and

"belief"? Are you trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ, or are you trusting in your own good religious works such as ... baptism, church attendance or membership, offerings, etc.?

How can you find the truth? How can you know and be sure? "Search the scriptures". The Bible will not leave you without answers.

*"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17*

Get a Bible and read it!  
Pray that the Lord will help you to understand.

*"Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law." Psalms 119:18*

Go to a Bible-believing church, not one where they baptize babies.

The truth of God's salvation can be found, and then true peace and heaven will be waiting for you.

Is this an important issue?  
Is where you will spend eternity important?

A suggested prayer ...

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Please help me to understand the truth.

Forgive me for trusting in my baptism and religious good works instead of you.

I want to turn from my sins and ask you now to become the Lord and Saviour of my life!

Amen

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