

THE IMPORTANCE OF BAPTISM

I Corinthians 12:13

- **WE ARE BAPTIZED INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST (THE CHURCH)**
 - Baptism puts us into God's church.

John 3:1-5

- **WE ARE BORN AGAIN OF THE WATER AND THE SPIRIT**
 - Being born of the water and the Spirit is essential to entering the Kingdom of God.

Acts 2:38

- **WE HAVE OUR SINS FORGIVEN AND RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT**
 - Repenting and being baptized are essential for forgiveness of sins and the reception of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 6:1-5

- **BAPTISM CONNECTS US TO THE SAVING ACT OF JESUS (DEATH, BURIAL, RESURRECTION)**
 - We are buried with Christ through baptism. We are baptized so that we may begin a new life. If we are not united with Christ in his death (through baptism), then we are not united with Him in His resurrection (v.5)
 - What is the meaning of the word "baptism"?
 - "Baptism" is a transliteration of the Greek word "baptisma". The word, when translated means to bury, plunge, immerse, or dip. It is used in non-Biblical literature to refer to sunken ships.

Galatians 3:26-27

- **BAPTISM CLOTHES US WITH CHRIST**

Colossians 2:9-12

- **BAPTISM IS A BURIAL IN WATER**
 - Baptism is always referred to as a burial in scripture. There is no reference anywhere in scripture to baptism as sprinkling or pouring.

I Peter 3:18-21

- **BAPTISM SAVES US BY THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS**
 - Only Jesus saves us and he does this through his death, burial and resurrection. Baptism is how we receive this forgiveness. It is how we unwrap the free gift of his grace.
- Note: Many people are teaching "Pray Jesus into your heart": There is no example of this in the New Testament. In fact, the phrase cannot be found anywhere in the Bible. Also, there is no example or command regarding the baptism of infants in scripture. How can a baby believe or repent?

Acts 22:16

- **BAPTISM WASHES OUR SINS AWAY**
 - Our sins are washed away in baptism: Saul already believed in Jesus and called him "Lord", but he was still in his sins. Baptism is calling on the name of the Lord.

Recap the major points and ask yourself the question of Acts 22:16.