

What Happens At Baptism #2

Text : **Romans 6: 1-7, 15-23**

INTRODUCTION :

A. This is our second lesson on baptism. In the first one we observed that :

1. Baptism is clearly commanded in the N.T.
 - a. It is the second most often repeated command. (*Love is most often commanded.*)
 - b. It was commanded by Jesus, by the Apostles and by N.T. evangelists.
2. Baptism is an emersion in water.
 - a. It is a transliterated Greek word which was commonly used in ancient times.
 - b. Our text describes it as a burial. (**Rom. 6: 1-7**)
 - c. Both Philip and the Ethiopian treasures went down into the water. (**Acts 8: 38**)
3. We saw that the water doesn't save anyone, but that it is essential to salvation.

**B. Our last lesson looked at a few specific things that happen when one is baptized
For example, we saw that :**

1. All who call on the name of our Lord Jesus the Christ will be saved. (**Rom. 10: 8-13**)
 - a. Salvation is by grace through faith (**Eph. 2: 8-10**) so the call must be made in faith
 - b. One calls on the name of the Lord by being baptized.
**Acts 22:16 – Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized,
and wash away your sins, calling on His name.** (cf. – **I Pet. 3: 21**)
 - c. It's during the act of baptism that one's sins are washed away by the blood of Jesus
2. Baptism places one into Christ. (**Gal. 3: 26-27**)
 - a. God's grace is **in** Christ. (**I Cor. 1: 4, II Tim. 2: 1**)
 - b. Salvation is **by** grace. (**Eph. 2: 8-10**)
 - c. So, being placed **into** Christ is being put **into** salvation. (**II Tim. 2:10, Acts 4:12**)
3. When one is in Christ, he has a different relationship with God.
 - a. He is no longer considered a rebellious enemy and deserving of God's wrath.
 - b. When one is baptized he is reconciled to God. (**II Cor. 5: 18-21**)
 - c. At baptism one is born again. (**Rom. 6: 4, I Pet. 1: 22-23**)
 - d. When one is born again he is adopted into the family of God. (**Rom. 8: 14-17**)
4. Baptism is a faith response so it is only of significance to believers. (**Acts 8: 37-38**)

With this lesson we will observe that baptism marks a transition in one's life and in his entire relationship with God.

1. Baptism creates a new relationship with the world ... Separated.
2. At baptism one is sealed with the Holy Spirit to identify him in the spiritual realm.
3. The baptized believers are given a new name ... Christian.
4. Baptism places one into the kingdom of God where he gets a new citizenship.
5. The new citizen has a new and different purpose in life.
6. Being a citizen gives one the opportunity to glorify his king and earn rewards.
7. After baptism one has a new destiny ... life in the promised land ... Heaven.

I. Baptism marks the beginning of a new relationship with the world.

A. This is a concept that is missed by many. (*Concentrate on new relationship w/ God*)

1. Many don't realize the commitment they're making when they're baptized.
 - a. In the mind of some it's just obedience to a command. (*It's commanded, but more.*)
 - b. To others, it's an appeal for the forgiveness of sins. (*It's that, but more.*)
2. When one becomes a Christian he is added to the church. (*God's elect, separated*)
 - a. All saved people are added to the church ... **Acts 2: 41, 47.**
 - b. The "**church**" is composed of those who were "**called out**" of the world. "*ekklesia*"

B. Being "*called out*" of the world has very significant implications.

1. **II Cor. 6: 14-17** Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? **15** Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? **16** Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I will dwell in them and walk among them; And I will be their God, and they shall be My people. **17** "Therefore, (*Spirit of God indwells*) come out from their midst and be separate," says the Lord. "And do not touch what is unclean; And I will welcome you. **18** "And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty. (*Taught in O.T. via Israel*)

**** One joined to Christ can't join himself to those who are separated from Christ.**

2. One who is in Christ can't maintain a friendship with the enemy. (cf – **Rom 5: 9-10**)
James 4: 4 – You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.
3. Relationship with Christ is an all or nothing proposition. (cf – **Matt 12: 30** .. + or –)

II. When one is baptized, he receives the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

A. This promise was made to those who responded to the very first gospel sermon.

1. **Acts 2: 38** – Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (i.e. *Receive the H.S. as a gift.*)
2. That promise is for everyone who becomes a Christian.
 - a. **Acts 2: 39** – For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.
 - b. All who are called to Christ are called in the same way ... by the gospel message.
II Thes. 2: 14 – It was for this He called you through our gospel,
 that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

B. All who obey the gospel message are “sealed” with the Holy Spirit.

1. **Eph. 1: 13–14** In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God’s own possession, to the praise of His glory. (*resurrection*)
2. **Eph. 4: 30** – Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (*resurrection*)

C. Being “sealed” means that God has indentified Christians as His own.

1. The presence of the Holy Spirit within us is not detectable by any of our senses.
2. We can’t see spirits, but they are clearly apparent to each other.
3. **Thus :** When one is baptized, Satan and his minions identify him as :
 - a. As one protected by the power of God. (**I Pet. 1: 3-5**)
 - b. As an enemy. (**Eph. 6: 10-17**) { *Declared or not, there are no noncombatants.* }

III. Baptized believers are given a new name ... Christian.

A. The prophets of old foretold that we would be called by a new name.

Isa. 62: 2 – The nations will see your righteousness, And all kings your glory;
 And you will be called by a new name which the mouth of the Lord will designate.

B. When the church was primarily just in Jews regions, it was called “the Way.”

1. **Acts 9: 2** – ... so that if he found any belonging to the Way. ..., he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.
2. Compare ... **Acts 19: 9, 23 ; 24: 14, 22**

C. As the gospel spread into the gentile regions believers were given a new name.

1. **Acts 11: 26** – and when he had found him, he brought him the Antioch. And for an entire year they met with the church and taught considerable numbers; and the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.
2. Christians are now those gentiles who were prophesied to be called by His name.
Acts 15: 17 – So that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, (*Christian means follower of Christ.*)
And all the Gentiles who are called by My name,

D. We must wear our new name proudly before the world.

Luke 12: 8-9 And I say to you, everyone who confesses Me before men, the Son of Man will confess him also before the angels of God; **9** but he who denies Me before men will be denied before the angels of God.

IV. At baptism one is placed into the kingdom of God where he gets a new citizenship.

A. When one is called by the gospel, he is called into the kingdom of God.

I Thes. 2: 11-12 just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children, **12** so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory. (cf – **II Thes 2:14**)

B. When one becomes a Christian he is translated into the kingdom of God.

1. **Col. 1: 13-14** For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, (*Past tense*)
14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
2. A kingdom is ruled over by a king ; Jesus rules with absolute sovereignty.
 - a. Jesus commands us based on “All authority in Heaven and on earth.” (**Matt 28:18**)
 - b. Paul affirmed that Jesus is about all authorities. (**Eph. 1: 19-21**)
 - c. The Apostle later describes Jesus as being “...He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords,” – **I Tim. 6: 15**

C. Being a servant of God in His kingdom, we have become citizens of Heaven.

Phil. 3: 20 – For our citizenship is in Heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; (cf. – **Eph. 2: 19**)

D. This changes our status on the earth. (*Resident aliens*)

1. We are referred to as being strangers, aliens, sojourners, pilgrims, etc. (**I Pet. 2: 11**)
2. Christians are no longer to be accepted as citizens of planet earth.
- ** 3. God does not recognize dual citizenship. **We MUST choose.** (**Luke 16: 13**)

V. The new citizen has a new purpose in life.

A. To accept Christ is to become His bondservant. (Text ... **Rom. 6**)

1. **Eph. 2: 10** – For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.
 - a. Christians exist to do things for God. (“good works”)
 - b. God is the one who selects the things Christians must do.
 - c. Doing the selected things must be a lifestyle, i.e., done consistently.
2. **Rom. 6: 16-19** ... All serve either God or Satan ... lifestyle demonstrates which.

B. Baptism marks the point at which one’s life changes. (**II Cor. 5: 14-21**) *wedding*

1. **II Cor. 5: 14-15** For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; **15** and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.
2. Define living for one’s self .. cf .. living for someone else.
 - a. Compare ... **Eph. 2: 3** ... *People in the world live to please themselves. (formerly)*
 - b. When we work for an employer (God), we seek his goals, not our own.

VI. Being servants we have the opportunity to glorify our King and earn rewards.

A. In all that the servant of God does, his objective is to glorify God.

1. **I Pet. 4: 11** – Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever.
2. The glory we receive from the Father is linked to the glory we bring to the Son.

II Thes. 1: 11-12 To this end also we pray for you always, that our God will count you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power, **12** so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. Our righteous deeds bring glory to God in Heaven and on earth. For Example :

II Cor. 9: 13 – Because of the proof given by this ministry, they will glorify God for your obedience to your confession of the gospel of Christ and for the liberality of your contribution to them and to all, ...

B. Salvation is a free gift, but in addition we can earn rewards by doing good.

1. **Matt. 10: 42** – And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you, he shall not lose his reward. (*This reward is obviously not Heaven.*)
2. **I Cor. 3: 8** – Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.
3. There is such a thing as a lesser reward.
II John 8 – Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward. (*Can't be partially in Heaven.*)

VII. When one is baptized into Christ he has a new destiny .. the promised land .. Heaven**A. At baptism he has committed himself to repent, .. i.e., .. to change directions.**

1. **Acts 2: 38, 3: 19, 17: 30-31, etc.**
2. This life is a dead end street ... it ends abruptly.
3. The sojourner who places his citizenship in Heaven is on a road that never ends.

B. Those who don't go through the process of committing themselves to follow Jesus (including baptism) will be excluded from Heaven.

1. **II Thes. 1: 7b-9** ... when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from Heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, ⁸ dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,
2. **Heb. 10: 26-27** For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, ²⁷ but a terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries.

C. Christians live in expectation of eternity with God in Heaven.

1. **Col. 1: 3-5** We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always always for you, ⁴ since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love which you have for all the saints; ⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in Heaven, of which you previously heard in the word of truth, the gospel ..
2. We have this expectation of Heaven because Christ dwells within us.
Col. 1: 27 – to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

D. Do you have Christ in you and live in anticipation of eternal glory ?

Or do you live in terrifying expectation of judgment ? God wants for you to be saved.

Lesson Text :**Romans 6: 1-7**

1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase? **2** May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it? **3** Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? **4** Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. **5** For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection, **6** knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; **7** for he who has died is freed from sin.

Romans 6: 15-23

15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? May it never be! **16** Do you not know that when you present yourselves to someone as slaves for obedience, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin resulting in death, or of obedience resulting in righteousness? **17** But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, **18** and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. **19** I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in *further* lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification.

20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. **21** Therefore what benefit were you then deriving from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the outcome of those things is death. **22** But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life. **23** For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.