

FAMILY CONFIRMATION

Worksheet #21

“The Power of Baptism and What It Indicates”

Memory Work: How can water do such great things? Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without **God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism**, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three:

“He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying.” (Titus 3:5-8)

1. We see only water in Baptism. How does water work the forgiveness of sins, rescue from death and the devil, and give eternal salvation? See Question 315.

2. Why is Baptism called “the washing of rebirth and renewal of the Holy Spirit”? See Question 316.

Memory Work: What does such baptizing with water indicate? It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written? St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: “We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” (Romans 6:4)

3. What is the Old Adam? What is the new man? How do they interact? See Questions 319-321.

Prayer: Conclude your study time with the prayer on page 305.

NOTES