

Lesson 2: Divers Washings

Introduction:

- Baptism in the Bible isn't what many think it is - this series is designed to give you a basic and fundamental understanding of baptism
- The reality of the case is the doctrine of baptism has sown much disagreement and discord in the church of the living God.
 - None of this discord is God's fault, but comes from a failure to "rightly divide the word of truth" and "properly handle God's Word.
 - Clear of confusion that exists around baptism
- We noted the definition:
 - **Baptism**: a purification unto sanctification, that results in a new identification
 - **Purification**: to make pure and clean unto something uncommon for God's holy purpose, resulting in a new identity.
- Also, the doctrine of baptisms
 - Many, many of them

Preview:

- We will see more the same in this lesson
- Do so in the context of "divers washings"
 - Look at many more baptisms, but many "water baptisms"
- What is water baptism?
 1. Carnal Ordinance
 2. Limited Use
 3. 1 of 3 baptisms for God's prescription of cleansing of the nation of Israel not the body of Christ

Sermon:

Divers Washings

- Hebrews 9:6-10
 - In fact, there are numerous "water baptisms"
 - "divers washings"
- Exodus 29:1-4
 - Washing before coming a priest

Leviticus 1:9, 13	Washing sacrifice
Leviticus 11:25, 28	Wash clothes if you touch carcass
Leviticus 13-14	Washing of leprosy
Leviticus 15	Washing of personal defilements
Leviticus 16:4, 24	Washing of priest

What is water baptism?

1. Carnal Ordinance - one of the many "rudiments of the world", "elements of the world", "carnal ordinances" contained in the law (OT) that God used with Israel

- Galatians 4:1-9
- Colossians 2:9

- Adoption
 - Rom. 9:4 - "pertaineth...the adoption"
 - John 1:6-13 - "become sons of God"
 - Heb. 2:10 - "bringing man sons unto glory"
 - Heb. 6:1-8 - move to "perfection"
 - Heb. 9:10 - "imposed on them until the time of reformation"

- Romans 6
 - We are not under the law

2. Limited Use - limited specified use as long as the law covenant was in effect

- Leviticus 26:23, 40
 - "reformed" - "confessed sins"
 - "re" - again
 - "form" - structure, organize

- Hosea 14:1-2
 - "take away all iniquity"
 - "receive us graciously"
 - "words" and "render the calves of our lips"

 - JTB - the reformer
 - Isa. 40:1-11
 - Mal. 3:1-3

- Once the reformation would take place (the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ) then the carnal ordinances wouldn't be used anymore at least not by those who knew about the "reformation".

3. 1 of 3 baptisms for God's prescription of cleansing of the nation of Israel

- A special water baptism would be a sign to Israel regarding the end of the world (Matt. 3)
 - There would be a Priest that would come - prophesied priest
 - Unlike the Priests in Jerusalem
 - Prophet and Priest and would come in the spirit and power of Elijah
 - He would administer the 1 of 3 baptisms for Israel's national prescription of cleansing

- Ezekiel 36:21-29
 - :25 - first baptism

- :27 - second baptism
- Initiation rite for consecrating priests
 - Israel to be a kingdom of priests (1 Peter 2:1-5)
- Under grace God is not employing the physical, observable teaching aids of a spiritual reality
 - Instead, we have the doctrine of the spiritual reality
 - There is a "real" baptism that water baptism was only a shadow of (Col. 2)
 - There is a "real" circumcision that physical circumcision was only a shadow of.
- Water (word)
 - John 4:1ff
 - Luke 7:24-30
 - Ephesians 5

Conclusion:

- Water baptism was an imposed carnal ordinances upon Israel under the law covenant and JTB water baptism signified a prophesied and therefore long-awaited national water baptism that would start the reforming of the nation, tied to the counsel of God against their sin thus Israel would confess their sins - but a carnal ordinances that wouldn't be employed by those reformed having received the adoption.
- We are not under the law, but under grace therefore, do not need to be water baptized, but we do need to be baptized.
- In next lesson we will examine "water baptism" some more and see further evidence in God's Word that God has not imposed this carnal ordinance upon the church, but that it was a shadow of the "one baptism" that has now come!