

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning – 5-19-24
Understanding the truth about Baptism

1. Introduction:

- a. This is a blessing to witness -
- b. Why is this so important?

- 1) If you haven't rightly divided the truth about baptism the result can be confusion and a false hope.
- 2) The dangerous misconception is to believe that being baptized somehow imparts salvation to a person.
- 3) We are quick to say "Amen" to the statement that salvation is not by works, but if baptism is what saves a person, then salvation is by works.

2. The Gospel is simple, but man likes to complicate it.

- a. These verses provide clarity and understanding.

- 1) The Gospel is Jesus! His life, suffering, death, burial and resurrection.

b. Text - **I Corinthians 15:1-4**

- 1) Vs. 1 - "**Moreover**" – let me remind you since it seems to have escaped you.
- 2) Vs.1 - "**brethren, I declare unto you the gospel**" – he is speaking to professing Christians.
- 3) Vs. 1 - "**which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand**".
 - a) It is the Gospel on which their faith "**ye stand**", rests.
- 4) Vs. 2 - "**By which also ye are saved**" – notice what isn't mentioned here?
- 5) Vs. 2 - "**if ye keep in memory (the truth of) what I preached unto you**" –
 - a) By faith alone in Christ alone.
- 6) Vs. 2 - "**unless ye have believed in vain**" – "**vain**" speaks of without effect.
 - a) Has your life changed?
- 7) Vs. 3 - "**For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received**" –
 - a) Here is the Gospel
- 8) Vs. 3 - "**how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures**"
 - a) If sin is the problem, then how does someone deal with the problem of sin?
- 9) Vs. 4 - "**and that he was buried**" –
 - a) Jesus did in fact die!
- 10) Vs. 4 - "**and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures**" –

c. **Ephesians 2:8-9** – Paul gives further clarity on the Gospel.

- 1) Vs. 8 - "**For by grace**" –
 - a) If it is by grace, then that means that there is no work that we could do to earn salvation.
- 2) Vs. 8 - "**are ye saved**" –
 - a) Salvation is by GRACE!
- 3) Vs. 8 - "**through faith**" –
 - a) Through your faith – that is personal.
 - b) It comes down to what YOU believe therefore it is important what you believe.
- 4) Vs. 8 - "**and that not of yourselves**" – YOU can't do it. Can't be by baptism then.
- 5) Vs. 8 - "**It is the gift of God**"
 - a) What is the gift? Listen close here.
- 6) Vs. 9 - "**Not of works**" –
 - a) In context he is likely speaking of the law here, but the truth remains that there is no work that a person can do to be saved.

7) Vs. 9 - **“lest any man should boast”** –

d. It is an important question!

1) How do you know that you are a Christian?

3. Baptism is important because it pictures what happened when you repented and believed.

1) Identification –

2) Burial and Resurrection –

3) Sin has been washed away -