

Academy: The Ordinances pt. 6 notes

Baptism Introduction

1. Presuppositions
 - a. Clear texts interpret less clear passages
 - b. New Testament gives light to the Old.
 - c. Each Covenant defines its own terms
2. Scripture commands Baptism
 - a. Great Commission, Matthew 28:18-20
 - i. And Jesus came and said to them, ‘ All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’”
 - b. Carried on by Apostles, Acts 2:37-38
 - c. Relates to the Spiritual reality of regeneration, Colossians 2:11-12
3. Definition
 - a. “A symbol of regeneration, in which a believer is made a partaker of those divine conveyances, those communications of grace, and increasings of faith, promised by the Lord Jesus to His sincere followers.” ~ William Kiffin
4. Why Water?
 - a. Typological lessons
 - i. Noah
 1. Flood of God’s wrath (1 Peter 3:18-22)
 - ii. Moses
 1. Walking through the sea united the people to Moses (1 Corinthians 10:1-5)
 - iii. Psalms
 1. Floodwaters related to consuming fury (Psalm 69:1-2)
5. Mode of Baptism
 - a. Baptizo = immerse
 - b. Greek literature uses it exclusively for this meaning
 - c. Other words could have been used
 - i. “Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having **cleansed** her by the washing of the water with the word.” Ephesians 5:25-26
 - d. Scripture shows the practice of baptism fits immersion
 - i. Jesus’ Baptism
 1. “In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John **in the Jordan**. And when he **came up out of the water**, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.” Mark 1:9-10 ESV
 - ii. John’s choice location

1. "John also was baptizing at Aenon near Salim, **because water was plentiful there**, and people were coming and being baptized" John 3:23 ESV
 - iii. Ethiopian Eunuch
 1. "And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "**See, here is water!** What prevents me from being baptized?" And he commanded the chariot to stop, and the both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Phillip away," Acts 8:36, 38-39
6. Recipients of Baptism
- a. Individual believers
 - i. John's Baptism = baptism for repentance
 - ii. Christ's command to make disciples and baptize them
 1. "This is not like some occasional historical mention of baptism, but it is the very commission of Christ to his apostles, for preaching and baptizing, and purposely expresseth their several works in their several places and order. Their first task, says he, is by teaching to make disciples, who are by St. Mark called believers: the second work is to baptize them, whereto is annexed the promise of their salvation: the third work is to teach them all other things which are afterwards to be learned in the school of Christ."
~ Richard Baxter
 - iii. Spiritual nature of Baptism for believers
 - iv. The church in Acts practiced this
 1. Acts 2:37, 8:5-12, 10:47, 18:8, etc.
 - b. Households?
 - i. Crispus: entire household believed
 1. Acts 18:8
 - ii. Philippian Jailor: entire household was preached to and rejoiced
 1. Acts 16:3-34
 - iii. Cornelius: who household believed and was filled with Holy Spirit
 1. Acts 10:44, 47-48
 - iv. Lydia: Lydia believed and the household was baptized
 1. Acts 16:14-15
 2. We look to the entirety of the scriptures to inform us
 3. It is very likely her household was present to hear the gospel