

Christians on Campus

Acts Bible Study

Summer 2020

Baptism

- I. By both faith and baptism we have entered into Christ, having thus put on Christ and become identified with Christ—John 3:16; Gal. 3:27.
- II. Baptism practiced in a proper, genuine, and living way puts the believers into the name of the Triune God, the divine name (Matt. 28:19); into Christ, a living person (Gal. 3:27); into the death of Christ, an effective death (Rom. 6:3); and into the Body of Christ, a living organism (1 Cor. 12:13), that the believers may enter into an organic union not only with Christ but also with His Body.
- III. Baptism brings the believers out of their old state into a new one, terminating their old life and germinating them with the new life of Christ that they may live in the Body of Christ, an organism, by the elements of the Triune God.

Scripture Reading:

Acts 8:12-13, 26-39

¹²But when they believed Philip, who announced the gospel of the kingdom of God and of the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. ¹³And even Simon himself believed, and once he had been baptized, he continued steadfastly with Philip. And as he beheld the signs and great works of power taking place, he was amazed.

²⁶But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, Rise up and go south on the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza. This is the desert route. ²⁷And he rose up and went. And behold, an Ethiopian man, a eunuch, a man in power under Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was over all her treasure, had come to Jerusalem to worship. ²⁸And he was returning and was sitting in his chariot and reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, Approach and join this chariot. ³⁰And when Philip ran up, he heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and said, Do you really know the things that you are reading? ³¹And he said, How could I unless someone guides me? And he entreated Philip to come up and sit with him. ³²Now the passage of Scripture which he was reading was this: “As a sheep He was led to slaughter; and as a lamb before its shearer is dumb, so He does not open His mouth. ³³In His humiliation His judgment was taken away. Who shall declare His generation? For His life is taken away from the earth.” ³⁴And the eunuch answered Philip and said, I beseech you, Concerning whom does the prophet say this? Concerning himself or concerning someone else? ³⁵And Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he announced Jesus as the gospel to him. ³⁶And as they were going along the road, they came upon some water, and the eunuch said, Look, water. What prevents me from being baptized? ³⁷And Philip said, If you believe from all your heart, you will be saved. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. ³⁸And he ordered the chariot to stand still, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. ³⁹And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away; and the eunuch did not see him anymore, for he went on his way rejoicing.

Acts 2:37-41

³⁷And when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and they said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, What should we do, brothers? ³⁸And Peter said to them, Repent and each one of you be baptized upon the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For to you is the promise and to your children, and to all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God calls to Himself. ⁴⁰And

with many other words he solemnly testified and exhorted them, saying, Be saved from this crooked generation. ⁴⁷Those then who received his word were baptized, and there were added on that day about three thousand souls.

Matthew 28:19

Go therefore and disciple all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Mark 16:16

He who believes and is baptized shall be saved, but he who does not believe shall be condemned.

Romans 6:3-5

³Or are you ignorant that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? ⁴We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life. For if we have grown together with Him in the likeness of His death, indeed we will also be in the likeness of His resurrection.

Galatians 3:27

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:13

For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.

Questions for Fellowship:

1. If we are saved by faith in the Lord Jesus, why should we also be baptized? What is the significance of baptism?
2. What does it mean to “put on Christ” through baptism (Gal 3:27)?
3. Look at Acts 8:12, 35-39; Acts 2:37-41. Can you find a common pattern in these passages? Make a list of the elements that show up repeatedly.
4. Consider Romans 6:3-5. How should baptism affect our lives? Share how we can experience union with Christ in his death and being raised with him in life.