

23. Baptism

BC 34

Questions

What is signified by baptism?

Receiving the forgiveness of sins; being renewed by the Holy Spirit [LD 26]

Prove that it is proper to baptize by sprinkling.

Scripture speaks of souls being cleansed by sprinkling [Ezek. 36:25; Heb. 10:22].

Why are infants of believers to be baptized?

They are included in the covenant and church of God [LD 27].

Redemption from sin and the Holy Spirit is promised to them.

Prove that children of believers are included in the covenant [2].

God makes His covenant with believers and their seed [Gen. 17:7, Acts 2:39].

Mark 10 says that Jesus blessed the little children of believers.

Scripture speaks of household baptisms [Acts 16:31-33; I Cor. 1:16].

Are all the children of believers in the covenant?

No. Only the elect children [Gal. 3:16,29; Rom. 9:6-8].

Who should be baptized?

Children of confessing members of the church.

Adults who confess their faith in Christ and have not yet been baptized.

[Baptism Form: Section II. Adult Persons]

What error re. baptism was taught before the split of 1953?

There's a conditional promise of God to every child that is baptized.

Points

2 OT historical events that teach us about baptism.

Flood [I Peter 3:21]; Crossing of the Red Sea [I Cor. 10:1-2].

God separates us [BC 34].

Baptizing all the children of believers

All those baptized with water are in the instituted church [BC 34; HC 74].

All who are baptized with the Spirit are in the body of Christ.

What does the Romish church teach about baptism?

All those baptized have their sins washed away when they are baptized.

They also say its possible a non-baptized person could be saved.

e.g. Infants who die before baptism

[Refutation] Must distinguish the sign & what it signifies.

Our calling [Baptism Form]