

UNTO THE END

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"BUT HE THAT SHALL ENDURE UNTO THE END, THE SAME SHALL BE
SAVED" (MTH. 24:13)

Infant Baptism: is it Scriptural?

The short answer to the question posed in the title is: NO! It is most certainly NOT scriptural to baptize infants! We could end this here and have declared sound doctrine in a very short, concise and curt manner without the necessity for a lot of blowhard exegesis, apologetics and such like found in many, and I do mean MANY sermons in the church world today. When you look around the "church" there are many scholars but the problem with this is "scholar" is not a gift of the Holy Ghost. You don't need a Master of Divinity degree nor do you need to speak Greek, Hebrew, or Aramaic to understand the Bible. You don't need to deeply exegete any passage for the "correct" understanding or get into hermeneutics. You don't need to worry about English SVO (sentence verb order) vs. Hebrew SVO (like one popular radio minister was talking about) or didactic vs. non-didactic verse styles etc. etc. etc. Praise the Lord the Word of God is simple and anybody that has a heart to want to understand God's message can and will understand it! But I digress; now back to the subject of infant baptism. In this issue of *Unto the End* we will look at what the Bible has to say on the subject and it is my hope that upon completion of the article you will understand that water baptism is not for infants. Rather, water baptism is for those that have been born again. Praise the Lord. It's amazingly simple despite the fact that major denominations such as Presbyterian, Lutheran and Methodist Churches do this regularly around the globe. These versions of "Christianity" have learned well from their mother, the Catholic Church (who also baptizes infants) but that discussion is for another time. Let us now turn to the scriptures and see what God's Word has to say on baptism in general and from

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there we will, with God's help, paint a clear picture on the subject at hand. Let's start with some general passages about baptism.

**"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."
Mk. 16:16.**

Right here at the end of Mark Jesus makes a very clear statement: namely, to make it to heaven one must believe and be baptized. There are scholars that say the last six verses or so of Mark are false and should not be in the Bible but these men are liars and deceivers and we aren't going to worry about their ramblings. It's in the Bible and as such is the Word of God. Amen.

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Ac. 2:38.

We have seen in these two scriptures both the Lord Jesus Christ and also the Apostle Peter each make a general statement showing the importance of water baptism in general terms. All we can establish so far with these two passages is that one NEEDS to be baptized. Why? Because God said so that's why. It's a commandment. Neither passage says anything for or against infant baptism, I realize, rather just that a person NEEDS to be baptized as commanded by God. Let us continue and build upon this. Amen.

"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How

shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” Ro. 6:1-4.

And again,

“And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;” Col. 2:10-13.

The two passages above were written by Paul to the believers in Rome and Colossae respectively. In other words, these passages were written by a Christian to Christians. Notice in both instances the same message is conveyed concerning water baptism: namely, that baptism is a burial that takes place with the person being baptized rising to a new life in Christ.

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” 2Cor. 5:17.

“Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Jn. 3:3.

Putting all this together, when a person repents of his or her sins and gets born again he or she becomes a new creature in Christ. A person that has been born again has crucified the flesh and desires thereof (Romans 6) and the crucified flesh or “old person” that died needs to be buried. Water baptism is the burial of the old man with the believer rising to a new life in Christ. So water baptism is for those that have been born again. Those that have heard the word preached. Have been convicted of his or her sin and have seen the need for a Saviour and made the decision to repent of sins and get washed in the blood of Jesus Christ. This is “turning to Christ” for a new life. A man or woman that has done this has become born again. When one becomes born again the old man must be buried. Water baptism is burial of the old man. Can an infant do this? An infant doesn’t have a concept of sin. An infant doesn’t know what sin is. An infant doesn’t even know his or her name let alone have a concept of sin and the need for repentance, heaven, hell, Jesus Christ, the state of mankind, etc. So clearly water baptism is for someone who has the conscious ability to reason sin, repentance, etc. and has done so in his or her life. Praise the Lord for simplicity of the Word! Amen. In addition, there is not one example of an infant being baptized in scripture. Rather, every example of water baptism found in the scriptures always features a man or woman that has repented of sin and received the Lord Jesus Christ by faith as his or her Savior. In addition, all examples of baptism in scripture also feature the person being fully immersed in water rather than having a little bit of water poured over the head (as is the custom with infant baptism). So baptism is for those that have been born again and also involves being dunked or immersed in water. A far cry from the act of pouring a little bit of water over a baby’s head as performed regularly in many “churches” today.

While on the discussion of baptism it is also important to note that you cannot baptize yourself; if anybody could have baptized himself, it would have been Jesus Christ and even He didn’t do that, he had a man of God (John the Baptist) do it. Amen.

As is usually the case in **Unto the End** we are going to list all the scriptures that people use to support the lie or falsehood we are exposing. In the case of infant baptism it won't be scriptures, plural, but rather, scripture singular because there is only one passage that is cited as justification for infant baptism. Let's now turn to a passage that is used (in a very weak manner I might add) by the churches to support infant baptism:

“And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.” Ac. 16:30-33.

In this account Paul and Silas minister unto the keeper of the prison and his household. These people receive the message, get born again, and then are baptized (which is always the pattern in the Bible and infants can do none of it). The argument put forth is that not only the keeper of the prison believed and was baptized, but also those in his household believed and were baptized. According to the argument, surely a small child or infant must have been present in his “household”. I'm not kidding you. This is the passage and reasoning that is used to support infant baptism scripturally! And for the record, they also say the same thing for Cornelius' house in Acts chapter 10 where the same thing happens, they hear the Word, believe, and then are baptized. So the “household” argument is the biblical pillar supporting infant baptism; let's now use the Bible to knock that pillar down:

“By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.” He. 11:7.

Notice here that Noah and his HOUSE were saved. Noah had a GROWN wife and three GROWN SONS and their GROWN wives. So his HOUSE did not contain an infant. So just because the bible says somebody's “house”, as in the case of the jail keeper in Corinth or with Cornelius, that doesn't by default mean an infant or small child is automatically included. Praise the Lord!

There is one more argument that is used that loosely uses the Bible to support infant baptism. It's so dumb and asinine that I almost didn't include it here but to be fair I will now list it. It's not a particular passage but a “thought”. Namely, that infant baptism is a replacement sign for the Abrahamic sign of circumcision. The thinking here is that in the Old Testament the Abrahamic sign of circumcision was applied to infants (MALE) and so in the New Testament baptizing infants replaces this. First of all the bible NOWHERE connects baptism with circumcision. Secondly, although baptism IS COMMANDED by Jesus Christ in the New Testament Church, circumcision on the other hand is CLEARLY not necessary anymore as indicated by Paul in his various letters to the church. Thirdly, circumcision was on MALES ONLY and so how can infant baptism which is performed on BOTH MALE AND FEMALE babies be the “replacement”?? Again, this is so stupid I can't believe it. In fact, I've already spent too much time talking about this so I will conclude this “counter point” here.

In summary, water baptism is something that is commanded and required by God. It is performed for those that have been born again having their sins washed in the blood of Jesus Christ. When the believer is fully immersed in water it is likened to a burial of the old man and when the person comes up out of the water it is likened to the person rising to a new life in Christ. It is not for infants. It does not include pouring a cup of water on the head. It's a simple truth and we thank God for the Truth! If you are reading this and have been baptized as an infant and call yourself a Christian, you need to be baptized (fully immersed) in water! The

infant baptism is worthless and of no effect. Also, if you have been baptized, that alone does not “save” anybody. You must be born again to become a Christian. Being merely dunked in water alone does not do the job. The water does not wash sins away. Only the blood of Christ and asking for forgiveness and to be washed in the blood does this. Thank God for the blood! Amen. I pray and trust this article has helped your understanding of water baptism. And being born again and baptized in water is only the BEGINNING of the journey. But God is faithful who will keep our souls in well doing unto the end. In Jesus name. Amen.

Who Is Jesus Christ?

To the artist He is the One Altogether Lovely...
 To the architect He is the Chief Corner Stone...
 To the astronomer He is the Sun of Righteousness...
 To the baker He is the Bread of Life...
 To the banker He is the Hidden Treasure...
 To the builder He is the Sure Foundation...
 To the carpenter He is the Door...
 To the doctor He is the Great Physician...
 To the educator He is the Great Teacher...
 To the engineer He is the New and Living Way...
 To the farmer He is the Lord of the Harvest...
 To the florist He is the Rose of Sharon...
 To the geologist He is the Rock of Ages...
 To the horticulturist He is the True Vine...
 To the juror He is the Faithful and True Witness...
 To the jeweler He is the Pearl of Great Price...
 To the lawyer He is the Counselor...
 To the newspaper man He is the Tidings of Great Joy...
 To the orphan He is the Everlasting Father...
 To the philanthropist He is the Unspeakable Gift...
 To the philosopher He is the Wisdom of God...
 To the preacher He is the Word of God...
 To the Rancher He is the Good Shepherd...
 To the sculptor He is the Living Stone...
 To the servant He is the Good Master...
 To the sick He is the Cure...
 To the sinner He is the Lamb of God Who Takes Sin away...
 To the student He is the Incarnate Truth...
 To the traveler He is the Way...
 To the writer He is the Author and Finisher of Our Faith...

But I just call Him Daddy!!!

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