

Come let us Grow Together: The Circumcision of Christ

Come let us Grow Together is a weekly series that deals with the many topical categories that exist within the Word of God. The purpose of this series is to grow in wisdom, knowledge, and understanding in things pertaining to God.

So what takes place in water baptism anyway??

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 2:11-13)

This is crucial to understand. Once you have repented and then you are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, you must have faith in the operation of God. The operation of the circumcision of Christ, or the cutting away of your sins!!!!

This takes place in the baptism as you are buried with Him and then believing that just as God raised Jesus from the dead in like manner you now are to walk in newness of life.

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. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. (Rom 6:3-7)

Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster. For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. (Gal 3:24-27)

Not only is it in the water that we are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, or the cutting away of our sins that takes place, it is also when we put on the name of Christ. That is why it is so important that when you are baptized, that you are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. For that is when you take on His name.

And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there, Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him. And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. And now why tarriest

thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord. (Acts 22:12-16)

Here again, we see that it is in the water baptism, that your sins are cut away with the circumcision made without hands, and thus why we invoke the name of the Lord, for our sins are being washed away. Not by magic of the water. But because of the faith of the operation of God.

Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: (1 Peter 3:20-21)

This particular passage many times is used to try to justify that baptism is not necessary and nothing more than the answer of a good conscience toward God. But this is to ignore all the other scriptures as well as what was spoken, "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us." Just as the water saved Noah and his family, even so does water baptism in Jesus name now save us from our inherited sins from birth.

The Apostle Peter is the very one that told us, 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. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. (Acts 2:38-39)

Here, the Apostle Peter has again stressed, that just as Noah was saved by water, we also by like figure are saved by water through baptism. Then stating, not the putting away of the filth of the flesh. Meaning, we aren't getting into the water to be baptized for the flesh but for our souls. It is the answer of a good conscience toward God, because of our faith of the operation of God, which was the circumcision of Christ, the circumcision made without hands. The cutting away or washing away of our sins!!!!