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T H E C O N T E N D E R

Contending For The Faith Once For All Delivered To The Saints (Jude 3)
Church of Christ: 4th Ave. P.O. Box 649 South Shore, Ky. July 21, 1974
Editor & evangelist: Richard E. Swan Phone: 932-3244, Vol. III No. 29
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WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

Just suppose that I should ask you the question, "Why should I be baptized?" What would you tell me? Would you tell me that I ought to be baptized in order to "join the church"? Or in order to show the world that I had been saved? Or as "an outward sign of an inward grace"? But suppose I should tell you that I cannot find those reasons in the Bible, and would you please give me some Scripture which tells me why I ought to be baptized. If you are the kind of person I hope you are, you would go get your Bible and begin looking up all the passages which deal with baptism and see whether any of those passages give a reason why one ought to be baptized. Of course, since Paul tells us that there is now only one baptism (Eph. 4:5) you would eliminate all baptisms except the one which Jesus commissioned his apostles and other disciples to teach and practice. When you had done this, you would find that this one baptism is mentioned about 35 times in the Bible and if you wrote all these down, you would be able to give me at least 10 good, scriptural reasons why one ought to be baptized. You could say, "One needs to be baptized in order to:

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| 1. Obey the commandments of Christ. (Matt. 28:19,20, Mk. 16:16, Acts 10:48) Only those that do them have right to the tree of life (Rev. 22:14). | <u>NEWS & NOTES</u> : We are made to rejoice with the angels in heaven that bro. Jack Fedders confessed his long unfaithfulness and was restored to fellowship here at South Shore. May God bless him! |
| 2. Get into the name of Christ (Matt 28:19,20; Acts 19:5 RV)
There is salvation in no other name (Acts 4:12) | |
| 3. Get into the body of Christ (I Cor. 12:13). He is the Savior of the body (The church) Eph. 5:23. | |
| 4. Get into the death of Christ (Rom. 6:3,4) Since He died for us, His death does us no good unless and until we get into it where His blood can cleanse us from sin. | |
| 5. Get into Christ (Gal. 3:27; Rom. 6:3,4) Salvation can be had only in Christ (II Tim. 2:10) | |
| 6. Become a child of God (Gal. 3:26,27). Only children of God can be saved (Rom. 8:16,17; I Pet. 4:16-18). | |
| 7. Be made free from sin (Rom. 6:17,18). | |
| 8. Have remission of one's past sins (Acts 2:38). | |
| 9. Have your sins washed away (Acts 22:16). | |
| 10. To be saved (Mk. 16:16; I Pet. 3:21). | |

Now wait a minute! Every one of these reasons makes it necessary to be baptized in order to be saved. Sure does, friend. If you thought otherwise, you have been tragically misinformed. But then, you have the scriptures right there before you. You looked them up yourself....didn't you?

--Bernard Bolton, Words Of Truth--

"Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God." (Col. 4:12)

ARE THERE BLANKS IN YOUR BIBLE?

To further point out the necessity of one's being baptized in order to become a Christian, a member of the church of Christ, and have remission of his past sins note how the Bible would read with blanks in it. Yet God has filled these blanks in. Do you know what He says?

"He that believeth and is
shall be saved."

(Mk. 16:16)

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be 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."

(Acts 2:38)

"But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were both men and women." (Acts 8:12)

"Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And as they went on their way, they came to a certain water: and the Eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be _____? (Acts 8:35,36)

"And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord." (Whoops, I helped you here. RES) (Acts 10:48)

"And when she was _____, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and abide there. And she constrained us." (Acts 16:15)

"And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was _____, he and all his straightway. And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced believing in God with all his house." (Acts 16:33,34)

"And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be _____, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." (Acts 22:16)

"For by one Spirit are we all _____ into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." (I Cor. 12:13)

"Know ye not, that so many of us as were _____ into Jesus Christ were _____ into His death? Therefore we are buried with him by _____ 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." (Rom. 6:3,4)

"For as many of you as have been _____ into Christ have put on Christ." (Gal. 3:27)

"Buried with him in _____ wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead." (Col. 2:12)

"The like figure whereunto even _____ doth also now save us (not the utting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God).. I Pet. 3:21

INDIA SUPPORT NEEDED

Brethren at this writing bro. Ray Dively and myself stand in need of your fellowship that we might return to India to preach the Gospel. Won't you please pray for us and help us that God might give the increase of souls and ad fruit to your account?

Please remember to send your fellowship directly to bro. Ray Dively 425 Dippold Ave, Baden Pa. or to myself as the Bible does not authorize a sponsoring church method of sending preachers.

* ORDER OF SERVICES *
* Lord's Day: 10:00 a.m. Worship *
* 7:30 p.m. Worship *
* Thursday: 7:30 p.m. Bible Study *
