

## Matt. 28:18-20 – The Basics of Baptism

Intro – Special day...Lord's Day & Baptism Day. We get to follow Jesus' example in observing His ordinance. It is also special...different order of worship to accommodate extra messages.

Sermon...sermons in song...*sermon in symbol/sacrament*. Baptism is a dramatic presentation & visual declaration of the gospel. The gospel is *seen* as a sinner is identified with a death, burial, & resurrection...a sinner is washed and enters into the church. Baptism is a sermon you can see like the Supper is one you can taste. Special day...more sermons...this one shorter than usual ;). *Why do we baptize? How do we baptize? Who do we baptize? Symbolism of Baptism*

### WHY DO WE BAPTIZE?

1. Because our Lord, Leader & Redeemer told us to. Matt. 28:18-19 He ordered us to
  - a. Ordinance - Jesus ordained it. He ordered it and we should do it
  - b. Sacrament. We usually shy away from this term because some pour into baptism more than it is. Baptism is not a magical talisman. It doesn't convey grace. Baptism doesn't save...but the saved should be baptized. It is a sacred ~~mystery~~ duty
2. Because our Lord was baptized as we should follow His example
  - a. Jesus was baptized to *fulfill all righteousness*. Matt. 3:13-15 He fulfills, we follow
  - b. Jesus got down in the water with us & for us. Jesus fixes up what we mess up.
    - i. Jesus fixes our faulty following. He makes right what we get wrong

### HOW DO WE BAPTIZE? *(The mode is in our moniker)*

- As Baptist we immerse. (full dunkin' donuts – sprinkles aren't enough...fightin over dunkin)
  - Call us simple but we are just following the example
    - John the Baptist, Jesus, Apostles, early church...only biblical example
  - *Baptism* definition = to dip, submerge, saturate, plunge under, immerse, to overwhelm...
    - can be wrong if want to ;-)) Jesus makes it right (we screw it up too)
    - CHS – “mom prayed I'd be a Christian...not a Baptist...”
- We baptize in the Thrice Holy Name Matt. 28:19
  - Baptism is trinitarian and should show a belief in the Trinity - (Acts 19:2-3)

### WHO DO WE BAPTIZE? *(Who is more important than How)*

1. We baptize disciples – Matt. 28:19 We are to make disciples & baptize those disciples
2. We baptize those who repent & receive the word. Acts 2:38, 41
  - a. *Confession, repentance, faith & following* all precede baptism- Matt. 3:6; Acts 8:36-37; 10:47
  - b. We are do things orderly in church & in their proper order (Heb. 6:1-2)
3. We baptize believers Acts 18:8 We practice *believers' baptism*
  - a. **Without faith it is impossible for baptism to please God**
    - i. If you don't believe the creed, you shouldn't do the deed
4. We try to not to baptize unbelievers. (It happens...too often) ~~Unbelievers' baptism~~
  - a. Baptism is a present symbol of past events. Outward symbol of an inward reality

## THE SYMBOLISM IN THE SERMON OF BAPTISM

It shows a *Death*, a *Burial*, a *Resurrection*, an *Identification*. It includes an *Invitation* and a *Warning*. (There is a lot of symbolism going on in the baptism of a believer by the mode of immersion)

- Baptism is a visual declaration of Christ's Death...Burial...Resurrection
  - Only in immersion (dunkin) do you get a picture of dying, burying and raising
- The person being baptized is identifying with that Death...Burial...Resurrection
  - Romans 6:3
  - "I want Jesus' death to be my death....burial to be my...resurrection to be my...."
  - Baptism is public embracing Jesus' substitutionary & redemptive work.
    - "I believe He did this for me"
- Baptism embraces Jesus' death & also declares your own death (looks like a drowning)
  - A baptism is like a funeral/tombstone "Here lies Haddon Morlan"
  - Die to self, die to sin, take up the cross and follow a path a dying to self
    - Death, burial and resurrection is the lifestyle pattern of the Christian
    - The gospel invitation is "**Come and die so you can live**" (Mark 8:34-38)
- Baptism is also like a wedding
  - *New life.* The old has gone the new has come (2 Cor. 5:17)
  - *New relationship.* Died to the old one and embraced the new one - new marriage
  - *New name* not hyphenated...just CHRSTIAN
- Water baptism symbolizes *True Baptism*
  - We baptize with water, but Jesus baptizes with the Spirit. Mark 1:8
    - Water baptism points to real baptism
  - *One Lord, one faith, one baptism* Eph. 4:4-5

### The Baptism of Haddon Asher Morlan

Haddon is named after C.H. Spurgeon. It was after debating Presbyterian friends that I became a firm Baptist and so I named this son after the prince of preachers .... who was a Baptist

A year ago, Haddon let the church know about his desire to be baptized - profession of faith

Errol Hulse " ...there is a danger of proceeding to the pool too quickly. It is no honor when a church is known for many false professions" (I take the slow train to baptism...especially with young people)

- What do you believe about God the Father?
- What do you believe about God the Son?
- What do you believe about God the Holy Spirit?
- What do you say about yourself?

Romans 6:4

A baptism is an invitation. If you know yourself to be dirty...you can be made clean - Naaman

1 Peter 3:21 "...baptism now saves you - not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience - through the resurrection of Jesus Christ."