

A photograph of a person's hand holding a circular compass. The compass has a white face with black markings for cardinal and intercardinal directions (N, NE, E, SE, S, SW, W, NW) and numerical markings every 30 degrees from 0 to 360. The needle is pointing towards the North. The hand is wearing a teal long-sleeved shirt. In the background, a paved road curves through a dry, hilly landscape under a clear blue sky.

The Promise of Baptism

Colossians 2:12-17



Baptism Is Symbolic of Burial

- Before we accepted the grace and forgiveness of Jesus, we were spiritually dead.
- The Scriptures link our relationship with Christ to a new birth.
- Another part of baptism is the symbolism of Christians putting their old life to death.
- If we are to mature and grow in our Christian faith, we need to die to our old self.



A Burial

- Baptism is not a bath but a burial.
- Baptism by immersion is the most powerful illustration of being buried.
- Baptism is not an end; it is a beginning.
- Baptism is not just about remembering the death of Christ, it is remembering His resurrection.
- Baptism is not the final step; it is the first step.



Baptism Is About Jesus

- Baptism is not about you; it is about Jesus.
- Baptism is about the relationship that we have with Jesus.
- Salvation is not a reward for the good things we've done; it is acknowledging that we have disappointed God by our sinful behavior.



Baptism Is Not Private; It Is Public

- The entire premise and purpose of baptism is that it is a public declaration.
- There is no saving power in baptism, but it is a declaration, and because of that it is to be done in front of people.
- Baptism is the outward sign of an inward decision.
- Being baptized does not make you a Christian; it tells the world that you are a Christian.



Conclusion

- In the early church, getting baptized meant putting a target on your back.
- Your baptism might be the encouragement someone else needs to take their own step of faith.
- If you've already been baptized do not go back to living like you are still in the grave.
- Baptism is not about being perfect; it's about being His.
