



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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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