

INTRODUCTION

- A. ESSENTIALS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH & LIFE** (*Westminster Confession & RPTestimony* chp.27; *Larger Catechism* Q.165-167; *Shorter Catechism*, Q.92-95; *reformedvoice.com* outlines & audio of sermons in this series)
- B. REQUESTS FOR ISSUES, TOPICS, PASSAGES, ETC.** (send to *oswegorpc@hotmail.com*; 315-343-7112)
- C. FOOLISHNESS OF SACRAMENTS** (1Cor.1:21f; 11:24f /Rom.10:17; 2Tm.3:14f /2Kngs.5:10f; Acts 22:16 /1Cor.1:24; see 12/11/11 sermon, *The Foolishness of Sacraments*, audio and pdf at *reformedvoice.com*)

I. BAPTISM IS A SACRAMENT

- A. VISIBLE ELEMENT: WATER** (Acts 8:36; 10:47)
- B. COMMANDMENT AS A SIGN** (Mt.28:19,20)
- C. GOSPEL PROMISES DECLARED** (Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1Pt.3:21; see Ezk.36:35)

II. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BAPTISM

- A. SIGN: CLEANSING & RENEWING** (Tt.3:5; see 2Cor.5:21; Lev.8:6f,10f)
- B. WORD: ENTRANCE, UNION** (Mt.28:19; see Rom.6:3f; 11:17f (Jn.15:1f); 1Cor.10:2f)
- C. UNION**
 - 1. *part of His body* (1Cor.12:13; see Eph.4:4,3; see Gal.6:10; see Col.1:24; note: membership)
 - 2. *death/resurrection; humiliation/glorification* (Rom.6:3,4; 8:17; see Col.2:11f)
- D. WORD & SIGN: FOR ALL WHO HEAR & SEE** (see Mt.3:13; Acts 2:38f)

III. BIBLICAL ANTECEDENTS

- A. CEREMONIAL SIGN** (Heb.9:10f; see Ex.30:17f; Lev.8:6f; see Ps.26:6; 51:2f; 73:13)
- B. PROPHETIC SIGN** (Lk.3:3; see Acts 2:38; 13:24; 19:4; see Jn.10:41 w/1:31; see 2Kngs.5:10; Jn.9:7f)

IV. COVENANTAL SIGN

- A. OLD TESTAMENT: CIRCUMCISION** (Gen.17:10f,14; Acts 7:8; 11:3; Rom.3:1; see Jn.7:22)
- B. NEW TESTAMENT: BAPTISM** (Lk.3:16; Acts 2:3f,33,38; see Col.2:11,12; Jer.4:4&14)
- C. ENGAGEMENT TO BE THE LORD'S** (Gen.17:1f; Mt.28:19; Rev.19:7; 21:2f; see *LC*, 165,167; *SC*,94)

V. QUESTIONS ON BAPTISM

- A. INTO WHICH NAME?** (Mt.28:19; Acts 19:5)
- B. AFTER OR BEFORE FAITH?** (see Rom.4:11,12; see Gen.17:23; 21:4; see Col.2:11,12)
- C. MUCH OR LITTLE WATER?** (Mt.3:13; see Acts 16:15,33; see 1Cor.10:3)
- D. WHAT MAKES IT VALID?** (Mt.28:19,20)
- E. WHAT MAKES IT EFFECTIVE?** (Acts 8:13,23; see Eph.5:25; Tt.3:5; Acts 22:16; 1Pt.3:21)
- F. IS IT NECESSARY FOR SALVATION?** (Mk.16:16; 1Pt.3:21; see Rom.4:11; 2:25f; 3:1f)
- G. IS IT IMPORTANT IN SALVATION?** (Rom.3:1f; see Mt.28:19; Acts 2:38f; Mk.16:16; 1Pt.3:21; see Rom.10:17)
- H. WHO SHOULD BAPTIZE?** (word & sign; see 1Tm.5:17; see Mt.28:19)

VI. APPLICATIONS OF BAPTISM

- A. GO WASH!** (Acts 22:16; see 2Kngs.5:10; Jn.9:7f; see Gen.17:10f; 21:4; Col.2:11,12; Acts 16:14f)
- B. BRING TO WASH!** (Mt.28:19; Acts :26f)
- C. ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN BAPTISMS!** (Mt.3:13; Acts 2:38f; see 1Cor.11:24f; see Ps.51:2f; 1Pt.3:21)
- D. BE A PART OF CHRIST'S BODY!** (1Cor.12:13f; Eph.4:5,3f,16; baptism = membership)
- E. HANG ON!** (Rom.6:3f; 8:17; 1Pt.4:17)
- F. "IMPROVE" YOUR BAPTISM!** (Rom.6:3,4; see Phil.2:12,13; see *LC* 167)