

Genesis 17:1-7 and Acts 2:27-39 – Baptism: The Shield to Repel Doubt
Sunday Morning – 30 December 2018
Sermon Outline

Introduction:

The Purposes of Baptism ~

The first purpose of baptism is _____ in to the visible church (covenant community)

- External and Internal Administration of the Covenant of Grace
 - o External is administered by the _____ - at the command and on the authority of Christ – her king
 - o Internal is administered by the _____
- Received into Christ’s church . . . where God has promises to meet his people in saving grace – the promise is for you and your _____
- Visible community has always been a _____ bag – and will continue to be so until the Lord returns
- Dr. David VanDrunen – *the ultimate reason why we baptize is not to regenerate a person – nor is it a presumption of regeneration – we do it because this person is a member of the church of Jesus Christ – the visible church – and therefore they receive the sign – we do it because Christ _____ it; we do it because God uses means; and we do it because we _____ the Lord.*

The second purpose of baptism is to serve as a sign and seal of the covenant of _____.

- Promise is for you and your _____ = covenant families
- Promise is for those who are far off = converts
- Sign and Seal of Christ + _____ of his benefits

The Recipients of Baptism ~

Converts to Christianity (those who are far off) and Covenant Kids (your children)

Principle One: Household Principle – Warp and Woof of Scripture

- God deals with _____ throughout redemptive history
- Adam and Eve . . . Abraham and Sarah . . . Pentecost
- Lydia (Acts 16:13-15)
- Philippian Jailer (Acts 16:3-34) – a gentile convert and his family
- Crispus (Acts 18:8) – a Jewish ruler in the synagogue and his family
- Paul baptized Stephanas and his _____ (I Cor 1:16)
- Zacchaeus (Luke 19:9) – Today salvation has come to his _____, since he also is a son of _____.

Principle Two: Promise Principle – the continuity of the covenant of _____ throughout Redemptive History

- *I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you (Genesis 17:7)*
- Pentecost – era of fulfillment
- Acts – ‘you and your household’ – at least 5 times
- Continuity of the Covenant of Grace
 - o Same Means = _____
 - o Same Seal = the righteousness that is by faith – Christ + _____ his benefits
 - o Different Sign – Circumcision replaced by baptism (commanded by Christ)
- Circumcision is a sign of the covenant of grace that was looking _____
- Baptism is a sign of the covenant of grace which looks _____
- Baptism is a ‘better sign’ – there is an expansion when the king / kingdom comes
 - o Male and _____
 - o Jew and _____
 - o Bloodless / Painless

Principle Three: Covenant Kids have always participated in the life of the covenant community

- Children in the Old Covenant

- Children in the New Covenant

The Assurances of Baptism (see *Heidelberg Catechism* Q&A 69) ~

As surely as . . . so surely does the father, in the son, through the Holy Spirit

- Wash (Cleanse) / Forgive / Renew

_____ is the active party in baptism

John Calvin – Baptism is a _____ to repel doubt!

We do not repeat our baptism – we remember, recall, reflect, and rejoice in our baptism

Questions for Family Worship / Follow-Up ~

Is baptism important? Why or why not?

What is the meaning of baptism . . . what does it signify?

Have you embraced the promises of your baptism by faith?

What are some ways in which remembering or reflecting upon your baptism is beneficial?