

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Romans 6:22**.
- B. One of the great fundamental teachings of the NT is that of baptism.
- C. In a lesson past I discussed the seven different kinds of baptisms mentioned in the NT.
- D. This morning, water baptism, the one baptism of Eph. 4:4-6.
- E. Although there are many good and valid reasons to be baptized, I will only discuss three in this lesson. These three or an one by itself is proof enough to be baptized if one has not.

I. REASON ONE: BAPTISM NOW SAVES US.

- A. Scripture text: 1Peter 3:21.
- B. The emphasis here is on the "now" meaning in this day and age, baptism is the passive act that man does to be saved.
- C. People are turning to other means in hopes of being saved, yet only baptism saves us by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- D. That which will not save is:
 - 1. The Law of Moses (Gal. 2:16; 5:4).
 - 2. Good works under the NT (Eph. 2:8,9; Lk. 17:10).
 - 3. Prayer by itself (1Pet. 3:12; Ac. 10:2,4,48).
 - 4. Visions and other miracles (2Th. 2:14; 1Cor. 1:21).
 - 5. Self-abasement of the body (Col. 2:23).
- E. Baptism saves because it is connected with the death, burial, and resurrection of X (Rom. 6:3-4).

II. REASON TWO: BAPTISM IS COMMANDED BY CHRIST AND THE APOSTLES.

- A. This reason is very simple, yet powerful enough by itself to cause one who is not a Xian to become one by being baptized.
- B. The NT church is added to by the apostles and other Xians carrying out the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19-20; Mk. 16:15,16).
- C. All of the conversions listed in Acts all have belief and baptism (Ac. 2:38; 22:16).
- D. There is no way that one can call Jesus of Nazareth Lord and Master and not submit to being baptized (Mt. 7:21).

II. REASON THREE: THE BLESSINGS OF ROMANS 6:22.

- A. Scripture text: Romans 6:22.
- B. There are four components here that directly relate to what happens when one is baptized and becomes a Xian.
- C. These are:
 - 1. One is freed from sin (Ac. 2:38; 22:16).
The age of accountability is when one knows for certain that they have sin in their life and need to become a Xian.
 - 2. One becomes enslaved to God (Rom. 6:17-19).
Once baptized the person is "hooked" for life in serving God. Things must change, as a slave must obey his master.
 - 3. One is now sanctified (1Cor. 6:11).
To be sanctified is to be set apart for a purpose; in this case, slavery.
 - 4. The prospect of eternal life (Titus 1:2).
A promise of God given long ago.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Look at these two scriptures together:
 - 1. Galatians 3:27 (we are clothed with X in baptism).
 - 2. Ephesians 1:3 (all spiritual blessings are in Christ).
- B. With the three reasons given above we ask the same question as did Ananias to Saul of Tarsus, "And why do you tarry?"
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.