

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Romans 6:22**.  
But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.
- B. One of the great fundamental teachings of the NT is that of baptism
- C. In another lesson, I discussed the seven different kinds of baptism mentioned in the NT. This lesson is about water baptism, the one baptism of Eph. 4:4-6.  
There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.
- D. Although there are many good and valid reasons to be baptized I only going to discuss three. These three or any one by itself is proof enough to be baptized if one has not done so.

## I. REASON ONE: BAPTISM NOW SAVES US.

- A. Scripture text: **1Peter 3:21**.  
And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you-- not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience-- through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,...
- B. The emphasis here is on the word "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 JC.
- D. That which will NOT save is:
  - 1. The Law of Moses (Gal. 2:16; 5:4).  
(Gal 2:16) ...nevertheless knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law but through faith in Christ Jesus, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we may be justified by faith in Christ, and not by the works of the Law; since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified.  
(Gal 5:4) You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.
  - 2. Good works under the NT (Eph. 2:8-9; Lk. 17:10).  
(Eph 2:8-9) For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast.  
(Lk 17:10) "So you too, when you do all the things which are commanded you, say, 'We are unworthy slaves; we have done only that which we ought to have done.'"
  - 3. Prayer by itself (1Pet. 3:12; Ac. 10:2,4,48).  
(1Pet 3:12) "FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD ARE UPON THE RIGHTEOUS, AND HIS EARS ATTEND TO THEIR PRAYER, BUT THE FACE OF THE LORD IS AGAINST THOSE WHO DO EVIL."  
(Ac 10:2,4,48) a devout man, and one who feared God with all his household, and gave many alms to the Jewish people, and prayed to God continually. 4 And fixing his gaze upon him and being much alarmed, he said, "What is it, Lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and alms have ascended as a memorial before God." 48 And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay on for a few days.
  - 4. Visions and other miracles (2Th. 2:14; 1Cor. 1:21).  
(2Th 2:14) And it was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
(1Cor 1:21) For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.
  - 5. Self-abasement of the body (Col. 2:23).  
These are matters which have, to be sure, the appearance of wisdom in self-made religion and self-abasement and severe treatment of the body, but are of no value against fleshly indulgence.
- E. Baptism saves because it is connected with the death, burial, and resurrection of X (Rom. 6:3-4).  
Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from

the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

## 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 (grows) by the apostles and other Xians carrying out the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19-20; Mk. 16:15-16).  
(Mt 28:19-20) “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”  
(Mk 16:15-16) And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. “He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.”
- C. Of the conversions in Acts, all have belief and baptism (Ac. 2:38; 22:16).  
(Ac 2:38) And Peter said to them, “Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”  
(Ac 22:16) ‘And now why do you delay? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.’
- D. There is no way that one can call Jesus of Nazareth Lord and Master and not submit to being baptized (Mt. 7:21).  
“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven.

## III. REASON THREE: THE BLESSINGS OF ROMANS 6:22.

- A. Scripture text: **Romans 6:22**.  
But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life.
- B. There are four components here that directly relate to what happens when one is baptized and becomes a Xian.
  1. One is freed from sin (Ac. 2:38; 22:16).  
The age of accountability is when one knows for certain they have sin in their life and need to do something about it.
  2. One becomes enslaved to God (Rom. 6:17-19).  
But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you became obedient from the heart to that form of teaching to which you were committed, and having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in further lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification.  
Example: once baptized the person is “hooked” for life in serving God. Things must change, as slave must obey his/her master.
  3. One is sanctified (1Cor. 6:11).  
And such were some of you; but you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God.  
To be sanctified is to be set apart for a purpose--slavery!
  4. The prospect of eternal life (Titus 1:2).  
in the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago,  
A promise of God given long ago.

## CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Look at these two scriptures together:
  1. Galatians 3:27 (one is clothed with X in baptism).  
For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.
  2. Ephesians 1:3 (all spiritual blessings are to those in X).  
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

- B. With these three reasons:
  - 1. Baptism now saves us.
  - 2. Baptism is commanded by X and the apostles.
  - 3. Baptism gives freedom from sin, enslavement to God, sanctification, and eternal life.
- C. We can ask the same question as did Ananias to Saul, "And why tarriest thou?"
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.