

WCF 28 - Of Baptism

Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

~Acts 2:38-39~

I. Nature of Baptism

A. Sacrament of the New Testament

B. Sacrament of Admission

C. Sacrament of the Covenant of Grace

1. Union w/ Christ
2. Regeneration
3. Remission of Sins
4. Consecration

D. Its Permanence

II. Validity of Baptism

A. The Element of Water

B. The Triune Formula

1. **Father:** declares eternal, undeserved, unsought-after love for sinners
2. **Son:** stands as the central figure as mediator. Declares all decree by Father
3. **Holy Spirit:** declares all fulfilled by Jesus applied by Spirit to us by faith

C. Ordained Minister

III. Mode of Baptism

A. History

B. The meaning of the word baptize

C. Pouring/Sprinkling

IV. Subjects of Baptism

A. Those who profess true faith

B. The infants of one or both

“In constituting human nature and ordaining the propagation of infant children from parents, God has in all respects made the standing of the child while an infant to depend upon that of the parent. *The sin of the parent carries away the infant from God; so the faith of the parent brings the infant nearer to God.*”

A.A. Hodge

1. Consistency of God's Covenantal Operations
2. Continuity of Covenant People

3. Inclusion of Children

V. Necessity of Baptism

A. All who come to Christ must be baptized

B. Not all who are saved are baptized

C. Not all who are baptized are saved

VI. Efficacy of Baptism

A. Not tied to moment of application

B. It is a means

VII. Number of Baptisms