

Sermon Questions

Feb 17, 2013

PASSAGE: Mt 3:13-17

Title: Baptism

1. What is the conventional teaching on baptism?
 - a. “It is an outward demonstration of an inward change?”
 - i. Is this an adequate description of what this ordinance is all about?
 1. Things to consider as you discuss
 - a. The Mikveh for new converts
 - i. Acceptance into a new community
 - ii. Leaving behind the old
 - iii. Forsaking the old ways
 - iv. Adopting a new way of living
 - b. The Mikveh for women on a monthly basis
 - i. The continuous cleansing needed as the process of drawing near to God works itself out in our lives
 - ii. The refocus on purity we all need on an ongoing basis
 - c. The Mikveh for unclean utensils
 - i. The need we have to avoid taking the filth of the world into our lives and bodies
 - ii. The submission of all things to our Father before using them
 - iii. The importance of obedience to God in even the small detail and rituals
2. Read Mt 28:19, Acts 2:38, 10:48, 1 Cor 1:13.

- a. Discuss what it means to be baptized “in the name” of Jesus Christ.
 - i. In the verses above, sometimes the word is “in” and at others, the Greek word means “into”
 - ii. Is it merely being baptized under the “authority of Christ”
 - iii. What did the Jews think about names?
 - 1. They embodied all the attributes and character of the name-holder
 - a. This can change the way we think about being baptized “in the name” of...
 - i. We are baptized into Christ and all He is
 - ii. We are baptized into His body
 - iii. We are baptized into His resurrection...
 - 1. His power
 - 2. His relationship with the Father
 - 3. His suffering
 - 4. His eternal nature
 - iv. We are thoroughly immersed in Him
 - 1. He touches every part of our lives
 - 2. His presence cleanses us