

“Union with the Risen Christ”

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Sermon Text: Romans 6:1-11

1 Corinthians 10:1-4 For I want you to know, brothers and sisters that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

UNION is always at the heart of the doctrine of salvation and it is always the core idea of baptism --- which is a sign and seal of salvation.

The little words “in” and “into” are key to understanding this!

Romans 6:1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in (in union with) sin that grace may abound? 2 By no means! How can we who died to sin (in union with Christ) still live in it? 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus (brought into union) were baptized into (brought into union with) his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him (brought into union) by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. 6 We know that our old self was crucified with him (brought into union) in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For one who has died has been set free from sin (no longer in union with sin). 8 Now if we have died with (in union with) Christ, we believe that we will also live (in union) with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin (no longer in union with sin) and alive to God in (in union with) Christ Jesus.

Do we believe in “Baptismal regeneration”?

1. We know that the N.T. words for baptism and regeneration are interchangeable.

2. We know that O.T. circumcision (performed for infant boys) is fulfilled in New Testament baptism – Colossians 2

3. We also know that not all who were circumcised were truly regenerated- even though they were truly members of the people of God called Israel, and were outwardly called and obligated to keep their covenant.

Ephesians 2

Baptism unites you to the visible people of God!

Through it God preaches the gospel to you-saying: “God has placed you (united you with) into the visible church with all its privileges and promises—and calls you to believe his gospel and live for him”

Apostle’s Creed @ 100

“I believe in the resurrection of the (sarx) flesh!”

From this day forward in the Christian year we rejoice - because through the resurrection of Christ and our union with him set forth in Holy Baptism, we are singing of our own resurrection in his!