

Of What Baptism is a Picture? (Romans 5:20-6:4)

- Baptismal service – good to ask the question what the Bible teaches
- Why does Christ give to the church these symbols or pictures?
- Really the question is why did Jesus ordain the act of baptism?

I. Immersion of Sprinkling?

1. *Greek word 'baptidzo' essentially means, dip, immerse, submerge*
2. *New Testament describes immersion: Mat 3:6,16; John 3:23; Acts 8:28*
3. *Immersion symbolizes burial with Christ (Rom 6:1-4; Col 2:12)*
 - a) Can we call a man-made *method* of baptism baptism if it's not in NT?
 - b) Not a salvation issue, but an important issue for the church to stand.

II. What Baptism is a Picture of

1. *Baptism portrays our death in the death of Christ (Rom 6:3-4a)*
 - a) We have died, we are not the same people we used to be
 - b) Physical death won't have same meaning for us as before (1 Cor 15)
- Baptized '*into Christ Jesus*' & '*baptized into his death/into death* (6:3-4)

Gal 2: 20; Col 2:6-7
2. *Baptism is a picture of our newness of life (v.4)*
 - Nobody stays under water, we come up out the water "resurrection life"
 - The old "I" of unbelief died, a new "I" was given, a new spiritual person
Col 2:12; Rom 6:4; Gal 2:20 – a life now lived by faith in Jesus Christ

III. Baptism: picture of what happens to us when we become Christians