

Why Do We Baptize Believers?

- I. **Introduction:** credo-baptism vs. paedo-baptism – an “in house debate”

- II. Christian baptism is an outward sign of at least four things:
 1. the inward cleansing and forgiveness of sins we receive in Christ
Acts 2:38, 22:16, Heb 10:22
 2. our Spirit-wrought regeneration and new life in Christ
it is a sacrament of grace and a means of grace
 3. the gift and abiding presence of the Holy Spirit
Mt 3:11, Acts 2:38
 4. our union with Christ in His death and resurrection
Romans 6:3-8
we are baptized INTO Christ

- III. Incorporation into Christ necessitates incorporation into the body of Christ
The public nature of baptism

- IV. Why do we baptize believers?
Why do we baptize in water at all?
Why believers as opposed to infants?
Mark 16: 16, Acts 2:38, Matt 28:18-20, 1 Peter 3:21, Col 2:12-13