

The work and worship of the church.

Mat 28:19-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Heb 6:1 Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, (2) of instruction about washings, and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

The plan of salvation is an “elementary teaching.”

Heb 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

And His Son, who is God

Act 8:35 And Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him. Act 8:36 As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" (37) [And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."] (NAS)

Have you ever thought about why v. 37 is omitted
in some texts?

Act 8:36-38 And as they were going along the
road they came to some water, and the eunuch
said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from
being baptized?” (38) And he commanded the
chariot to stop, and they both went down into the
water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized
him.

Without v. 37, the question remains unanswered!

The early writers almost unanimously include the passage: IRENAEUS, TERTULLIAN, CYPRIAN, AMBROSIASTER, PACIAN, AMBROSE, AUGUSTINE, BEDE (says it is in the Greek manuscripts), AND THEOPHILACT.

On the matter of manuscripts, 2nd and 3rd century manuscripts mostly include, but in the 4th century they are evenly split. In the 5th century more exclude than include.

Have you considered that the passage directly contradicts Catholic doctrine?

Moving on to the elementary
doctrine of repentance

Act 3:19 "Repent therefore and
return, that your sins may be wiped
away, in order that times of
refreshing may come from the
presence of the Lord;

of instruction about washings

Tit 3:5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,

Act 2:38 And Peter said to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The denominational world doesn't have a problem with me preaching about the subjects on the first 3 slides of this lesson, but they won't let me preach on the fourth, because the "washing" of which the author speaks is baptism.

You see, “baptism” is a hot topic in the denominational world. The Catholics, both Roman and Orthodox, along with the Mormons, believe it to be essential for your soul’s salvation, while the rest of the denominational (and non-denominational) churches believe that baptism is something you do if you want to – but it isn’t necessary for your salvation.

On the other hand, Baptists teach you have to be baptized to be a member of the Baptist church (Southern, Northern, Primitive, Free-Will, Granite and so on – more than 37 varieties), but not to be saved.

About 20 years ago, WRBS, a local religious radio station, owned by some Baptists, refused to allow us (the Glen Burnie church of Christ) to even advertise on their station and certainly wouldn't let us go on to teach the Bible.

Why? The manager said, "Your doctrine differed so fundamentally from ours!"

You see we read the Bible and the Bible says that baptism saves you from your sins! And they don't believe that.

1Pe 3:20-21 that aforetime were
disobedient, when the longsuffering of God
waited in the days of Noah, while the ark
was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight
souls, were saved through water: (21)
which also after a true likeness doth now
save you, even baptism, not the putting
away of the filth of the flesh, but the
interrogation of a good conscience toward
God, through the resurrection of Jesus
Christ; (ASV)

1Pet 3.20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. 21 There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, (NKJV)

That ark saved Noah and his family
from drowning, but the water saved
them from the sin that was in the
world.

And baptism either saves us or it
doesn't.

God's word says baptism saves us,
1Pe 3:21 *And corresponding to
that, baptism now saves you--not
the removal of dirt from the flesh,
but an appeal to God for a good
conscience--through the
resurrection of Jesus Christ, (NAS)*

Roman Catholics are taught believe that infants can be baptized – not only can, but should be baptized.

Why? To remove the sin of Adam.

But not one infant was baptized in the New Testament!

A Catholic priest in debate about the subject responded that Lydia must have had children in her household, but was incorrect!

Act 16:14 And a certain woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul. (15) And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.

This scripture does not say that :

1. Lydia was married
2. that Lydia had children
3. that if she had children they were infants
4. that she had brought her children, if she had infant children, over 250 miles from home on a business trip

The Catholic priest made the whole thing up!

Those folks at WRBS are Baptists and they would never baptize an infant, but let me assure you that the Methodists, Catholics, Lutherans, Episcopalians and others do. And they will sprinkle the baby – unless they're Greek or Ukranian Orthodox and then they'll stick that kid under the water – not a believer, but it is an immersion!

Now the folks at WRBS would agree with the Bible teaching that baptism is an immersion in water and disagree with the Catholics teaching sprinkling is OK.

Act 8:38 And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch; and he baptized him.

Rom 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? (4) Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

They would agree with the Bible teaching that one must be a believer to be a candidate for baptism.

Act 8:36 And as they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" (37) And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

On the other hand, the Catholics baptize every baby they can – to save them from the sin of Adam.

But then God says that I am not responsible for Adam's sin.

Eze 18:20 "The person who sins will die. The son will not bear the punishment for the father's iniquity, nor will the father bear the punishment for the son's iniquity; the righteousness of the righteous will be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked will be upon himself.

The station manager at WRBS would agree with the Bible teaching that infants are not candidates for baptism – as they cannot believe and they teach that baptism is not necessary to be saved.

Although the Baptists believe that babies inherit Adam's sinful nature, they don't believe that God would allow a baby to go to hell, even if he/she did have a sinful nature.

Catholics gave up on that too – “The Vatican has abolished limbo, which, according to the Roman Catholic belief, is a permanent status of the unbaptized who die in infancy, without having committed any personal sins, but without having been freed from original sin, or in some cases abortion. “Apr 20, 2007

https://en.m.wikinews.org/wiki/Vatican_abolishes_Limbo

Jesus, in talking about the subject of whether children were sinful declared they weren't because we have to become like them to enter the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 18:3 and said, "Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Sometimes we watch our children grow up and we think they don't have minds of their own – we don't realize that they recognize what sin is – and that they know they are guilty of sin. When a child is old enough to not sleep well because of worrying about sin, it needs to be taken care of. If they are too young, they'll figure that out later and correct the matter.

A very wise preacher who was criticized for baptizing some children some others thought were too young said, “Why does it amaze you that your young people want to be baptized? If you don't want them to be baptized, don't take them to church or teach them about Jesus.

Looking at the denominational world,
you realize that what should be an
elementary teaching has been made
very complicated by men's doctrines.

The Bible does not teach that children
are guilty of Adam's sin and must be
baptized to remove it. That's what the
Catholic church says.

The Bible does teach that baptism is an immersion
in water.

Act 10:47 "Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?"

Act 8:38 And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch; and he baptized him. (39) And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch saw him no more, but went on his way rejoicing.

The Bible teaches that in order to be saved you must believe.

Joh 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name,

The Bible teaches that in order to be saved you must repent of your sins.

Act 26:20 but kept declaring both to those of Damascus first, and also at Jerusalem and then throughout all the region of Judea, and even to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds appropriate to repentance.

The Bible teaches that in order to be saved you must confess Jesus as Lord.

Rom 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; (10) for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

The Bible teaches that in order to be saved you must be baptized by the authority of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins.

Act 22:16 'And now why do you delay? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.'

The author of Hebrews said the doctrine of washings is elementary, but the teachings of men have really misled millions of people.

Mat 15:9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Have you been baptized as the Bible
teaches?

Why not?

As Ananias said to Saul, later called
Paul the apostle,
“What are you waiting for, get up
and be baptized.” Acts 22.16 (NIV)