

When is a Baptism Scriptural?

by **BOB CASEY**, preacher
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I personally do not know of a single gospel preacher in the church of Christ who has never had this situation come before him. Since there are very few of the religious institutions that do not practice some form of baptism, this is a very important question, "When is baptism acceptable unto Almighty God?"

I have had some respond to the invitation to come to the Lord for salvation, to say, "I have already been baptized." But when questioned about it, know not the reason or purpose for doing so.

How does one approach this situation? First of all, is the baptism just a dunking under water; or some practice sprinkling. Is baptism important? The Bible makes it very clear that baptism is commanded by the Saviour. Matthew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:15-16, our Lord himself began his public ministry by being baptized in Jordan by John, saying, "Suffer it to be so now" (Matthew 3:15). John was confused for he knew who Jesus was and it caused him to say, "I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?" (Matthew 3:14). But our Lord said, "for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness" (verse 15). Then John baptized the Lord! Read all about it in Matthew 3:13-17. See what the Bible actually says.

Then after the Lord completed his earthly physical ministry, he gave a commandment to his twelve apostles, to go into all the world preaching the gospel and baptizing the believers. But when the day of Pentecost was fully come, and the Lord filled them with the Holy Spirit, they began by preaching the first gospel sermons in Acts 2:14-47, saying to the three thousand that questioned, "What must we do then?" Peter, filled

with the Holy Spirit of Truth (John 16:13), said unto them "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:38) Then, Paul wrote in Ephesians 1:12-14, revealing that this gift was the Gospel of your salvation.

Then, the New Testament adds to the very fact, because in Romans 6:3-6, it says that we are baptized into Jesus Christ, into his death. This is where Jesus shed his blood, that when baptism is administered, we contact his blood that cleanseth us. Then in **1 Corinthians 12:13**, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body." Then in Colossians 1:13-18, we are plainly told that the Kingdom, the body, and the church are all the one and same. Then Paul wrote in **Galatians 3:26-27**, "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." or being identified as saved persons.

So, today, with all this information concerning the baptisms in the Bible, one can only ask themselves, why was I baptized? What did it do for me? Was I baptized to be a member of Christ's body? Was I baptized in order to have my sins forgiven? Did I touch the blood of Christ in my baptism? Can I truly say I am identified as a Biblical Christian by my baptism?

Only you, Dear Friend, can answer that question, because you are the only one who truly knows, except the Lord! He knows for sure.

Do you have any doubts as to why you were baptized? If so, then you most likely have not been baptized for the right purpose. Why take a chance on your baptism. Call, visit, we will take the Bible and research your question. Remember, the Lord loves you and wants you to come into his Heaven some day. But, never forget, it has to be on his terms. Call 1-859-369-4165.

Sincerely, Bob Casey

Kitchen Diva Fast Food from The Freezer

by **ANGELA SHELF MEDEARIS**

Let's just face it, after a long day at work (or play), most of us don't want to prepare a meal. But with just a little planning, your freezer can become your favorite "fast food" place. Filling your freezer with pre-prepared meals saves time and money.

It also ensures you'll be eating something that is healthier than the typical fast-food meal. When you freeze meals in advance, you control the quality of the ingredients and the amount of salt. Almost everything from appetizers for dinner parties and breakfast dishes to complete meals and desserts can be frozen in advance with the proper planning and preparation.

I usually prepare all of my family's meals for the week on either Saturdays or Mondays. Sometimes I just cook all the meat or main dishes. Then all I have to do is steam some vegetables or prepare a salad, and dinner is served. I also prepare a few extra meals -- using some of the same meats, spices or ingredients I already have on hand -- and freeze them. By using a few freezer fast-food tips, you can serve a well-balanced meal in minutes, and save money by preparing meals in advance and freezing them.

Preparing meals in advance means you'll have large amounts of food to shop for and to put away. Plan your meals, make a list and shop in advance. It's never a good idea to cook on the same day that you grocery shop. It's better to plan the shopping trip for one day and cooking for another day. This also allows you to take advantage of any sales you might find on meats or vegetables. You also can cook several different kinds of meats or main dishes and stock your freezer so that you have enough "fast food" meals for two to six weeks.

I try to use recipes with similar ingredients or cooking times so that I can chop up all the vegetables I need at one time, or bake more than one dish in the oven. You also can stock your freezer by doubling the meals you make during the week. You can serve one of the dishes and then stock your freezer with the other. Make sure you securely wrap and seal your make-ahead meals to prevent freezer burn. Write the name of the dish and the date on a label or on the plastic wrap or plastic freezer bag to make the dishes easier to identify.

Using freezer- and microwave-safe divided plates is one of the best ways to store individual, homemade frozen dinners. Leftovers are the perfect choice for these frozen dinners. The divided plates make the meals easy to defrost and re-heat in the microwave.



Photo credit: Deposit Photos

FAST FREEZER TURKEY PATTIES

These turkey patties are great as a main dish topped with some sauteed mushrooms and served with a side of rice and a salad. They're also great for a quick sandwich using pita bread or on a hamburger bun. You can season and shape the patties and then wrap and freeze them all, or cook and serve some of them and freeze the rest.

- 5 pounds ground turkey
- 3/4 cup heavy cream
- 4 Eggland's Best eggs
- 2 tablespoons Italian seasoning
- 2 1/2 tablespoons vegetable oil, divided
- 2 tablespoons chopped garlic
- 1 small onion, diced
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 2 teaspoons pepper
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 1/4 cups fine breadcrumbs

1. Mix the cream, eggs and Italian seasoning together in a large bowl. Cover and refrigerate. Using a large skillet, add 1/2 tablespoon of the oil to the pan and saute the garlic and onion in the oil until tender. Leave the vegetables in the pan and set aside to cool.

2. Add the turkey, salt, pepper, Worcestershire sauce and the vegetables to the cream mixture and combine well. Slowly add the breadcrumbs; don't overmix. Divide into 7-ounce, 1/2-inch-thick patties.


3. Add the remaining 1 1/2 tablespoons oil to the skillet. Heat on medium. Add the patties, a batch at a time. Cook 5 minutes on each side, or until no longer pink in the center and meat thermometer reaches 165 F.

4. Serve immediately, or cool and wrap patties individually in plastic wrap and place them into a large freezer bag. Label and date the bag. Makes 15 servings.

(Adapted recipe courtesy of the National Wild Turkey Federation, www.nwtf.org)

Angela Shelf Medearis is an award-winning children's author, culinary historian and the author of seven cookbooks. Her new cookbook is "The Kitchen Diva's Diabetic Cookbook." Her website is www.divapro.com. To see how-to videos, recipes and much, much more, Like Angela Shelf Medearis, The Kitchen Diva! on Facebook. Recipes may not be reprinted without permission from Angela Shelf Medearis.

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And those who grow in His grace and are filled with His mercy have much to live for and share with others. Imagine the satisfaction of having lived a life that honors God's Word, lives God's gospel and expresses His love. Can there be anything more important for the Christian than becoming stronger in our faith, clearer in our convictions, warmer in our love, purer in our thoughts and kinder in our words and deeds as we grow older and more mature in Christ?

We live in a broken world. Everywhere we look, we see people who have been betrayed by those whom they dearly loved and trusted. We see people writhing in pain and anguish as they search for someone to offer them hope and encouragement. We dare not let them down.

What a wonderful opportunity God has given us.

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Watching children grow into adulthood can be a marvelous experience. From crawling to walking, from uttering sounds that make no sense to carrying on an intelligent conversation is almost breathtaking. Growth is a gift of God and can bring blessings and happiness - especially when we grow into the likeness of Christ and share His grace with those around us. The Amplified Bible provides a rich translation of Psalm 92:14. "Growing in grace," writes the Psalmist, "they shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be full of spiritual vitality and rich in expressing trust, love and contentment." Growth, for the Christian, is a lifelong journey.

Church News

Mail announcements to The Estill Tribune,
 6135 Winchester Road, Irvine, KY 40336
 Call (606) 723-5012; Fax to (606) 723-2743;
 or E-mail it to <News@EstillTribune.Com>

Wednesday, March 7th @ 6pm

The Biblical Church Series

Bro. Stanley Hutchinson, pastor of Irvine First Church of God, will be starting a series of teachings on the Biblical church. The series begins on Wednesday, March 7th at the church, located at 199 Broadway, Irvine. Everyone is welcome.

Saturday, March 10th @ 6pm

House of Prayer Gospel Singing

House of Prayer, 535 Dark Hollow Road, Irvine, will be having a Gospel Singing on Saturday, March 10, 2018, starting at 6:00 p.m. Featured group will be Hubie Fox and singers from Drip Rock along with the local group, The Praise Singers. Everyone is welcome to attend. There will be refreshments afterwards.

Saturday, March 17th @ 6pm

Letterbox Boys at New Bethel #1

New Bethel Baptist Church #1 on Barnes Mountain Road, will be having a gospel singing on Saturday, March 17, 2018, starting at 6:00 p.m. Guest singers will be The Letterbox Boys. Refreshments will follow the service. Everyone is welcome to attend!

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

EPHESIANS 2: 8-9

For it is by **grace** you **have** been **saved**, through **faith**—and **this** is **not** from **yourselves**, it is the **gift** of **God**—not by **works**, so **that** no **one** can **boast**.

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Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

know it.?"

Proverbs, Ephesians, 2 Peter, Revelation

4. How did Jesus enter Jerusalem during the "Triumphal Entry"? On foot, Carried by slaves, On donkey, In golden chariot

5. Which prophet foretold the ministry of John the Baptist? Levi, Isaiah, Aaron, Mordecai

6. From 1 Chronicles 20, Elhanan slew Goliath's ...? Father, Brother, Mule, Oxen

Answers on bottom of Page 9

Now available by Wilson Casey!
 2017 Bible Trivia box calendar loaded with daily teasers from TouchPointPress.com

Gamaliel's Counsel

(Acts 5:40-42)

40 And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. 41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name. 42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

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SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Please; 2. Tirade;
 3. Radiant; 4. Fringe

Today's Word
ASPIRIN