

Lesson C3 - What Baptism Indicates

What does such baptizing with water indicate?

It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

Where is this written?

St. Paul writes in Romans chapter six: "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."

1. **What is the Old Adam?** The Old Adam is the sinful _____ we inherit from our parents.
2. **According to Ephesians 4:22, how are we to live as Christians?**

3. How is this Old Adam to be drowned in us?

The Old Adam is to be drowned by daily _____ (sorrow for sins) and _____ (faith), by which we resist and overcome evil desires.

4. What does **contrition** mean? _____
5. What is **repentance**? _____

Peter and Judas were both sorry for their sins – what was the difference?

6. What is the “new man?”

The new man is the new _____ and _____ created in us by the washing of rebirth.

- a. II Cor. 5:17 If anyone is in Christ he is a new _____.
- b. Do you think this means we will no longer sin? _____
- c. What is the difference between a Christian and a non-Christian? _____

7. How is the new man to emerge and arise?

a Read Eph. 4:24. What do you think it means to “put on the new man?”

b Read Eph. 2:8-10 What do faith and good works have to do with the new man?

8. **How does Baptism indicate the daily drowning of the old Adam and the emergence of the new man?** See Romans 6:3-4 and think how baptism reminds us of:
- Good Friday? _____
 - Easter Sunday? _____
9. Why should we remember our baptism?
10. How can we remember our baptism on a daily basis?

The Power of Baptism

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water.

For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism.

But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth of the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus chapter three.

"He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying."

1. **According to Ephesians 5:26, how are we cleansed?**

By the _____ with _____ through the _____.

2. **Read Galatians 3:26-27, how do we receive the gifts of Holy Baptism?**

Through _____

3. **Read Titus 3:5-8, why do the Scriptures call Baptism the washing of rebirth and renewal of the Holy Spirit?**

In Baptism, the Holy Spirit creates _____ and so creates in us new _____ life with the power to overcome _____.

In Baptism, God uses three of our senses to get through to us—sight, touch, and hearing.

- According to this part of the Catechism, which senses seem to be most important? Explain why.
- Now read Isaiah 55:10-11. What is the most important thing these verses tell us about God's Word?

Extra Baptism Discussion Questions

1. Some of the early Jesuit missionaries to the United States reportedly baptized infants and the children of Indian tribes without the knowledge or approval of their parents. Do you think this is proper? Is such baptism valid?
2. Suppose that the minister who baptized you, later abandoned the Christian faith, and even became an atheist. Would this affect your baptism?
3. Someone agrees to become baptized, but wants nothing to do with the church, and also refuses to be instructed in the Christian Faith. What would you say to this person? Should you (or a pastor) baptize this person?
4. You are a nurse in a hospital. A child is born that is not expected to live. There is no pastor at hand; the parents request the child be baptized. Would you baptize the child? What if the parents were of a different denomination?
5. An adult receives instruction in the Christian faith and wishes to join a Christian congregation. He cannot remember whether or not he was baptized as a child, and there is no way of determining if he was baptized. Should such a person be baptized?