



Lighthouse Ministries International, Adelphi, Maryland
WATER BAPTISM & MEMBERSHIP CLASS

STUDENT WORKSHEETS

The First Step Towards Baptism: Excerpts from Romans

God's Character

1. Romans 1:20 As _____, God's eternal _____ and _____ nature are clearly seen.
2. Romans 5:7-8 God has demonstrated His _____ for us.
3. Romans 2:5-6 Because God is also _____, He will give to each person according to what he/she deserves.

Our Condition

4. Romans 3:23 Each one of us - all - have _____, and _____ of God's standards.
5. Romans 2:14-15 Our attempts at doing good show that God's laws are written on our _____ and our own _____ confirm our guilt.
6. Romans 6:23 The Bible says that what we deserve (wages) because of our sin is _____, or eternal separation from God.



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God's Gift

7. Romans 8:3-4 **But God** sent His own _____, Christ Jesus, to be a _____ to pay the price for our sin so that God's righteous requirements would be _____ met on our behalf.

8. Romans 5:6-9 God's loving plan - sending Christ at just the _____ is all the more remarkable because while we were still _____, Christ gave His life for _____.

Personal Application

9. Romans 5:1-2 We become justified - i.e., made just as if we never sinned – through _____, and our relationship with God through our Lord Jesus Christ is by _____ (see also Ephesians 2:8-9).

10. Romans 12:1-2 Biblical faith is a heartfelt, thankful response (an offering of ourselves as a _____)...to Jesus' sacrificial death in our place (in view of God's _____ - not getting what we deserve)...that is life changing (be _____ by the renewing of your mind). [See also Luke 14:25-33]

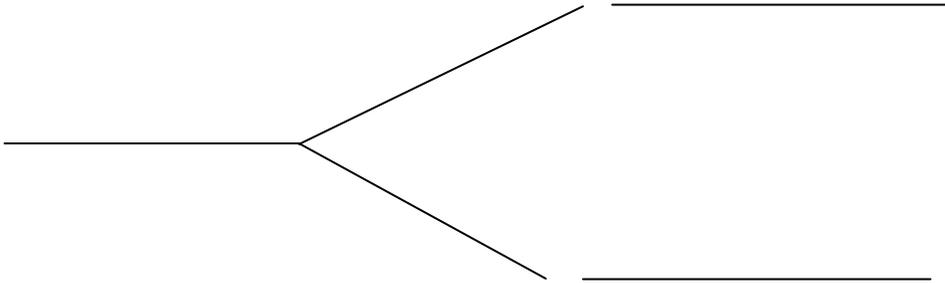


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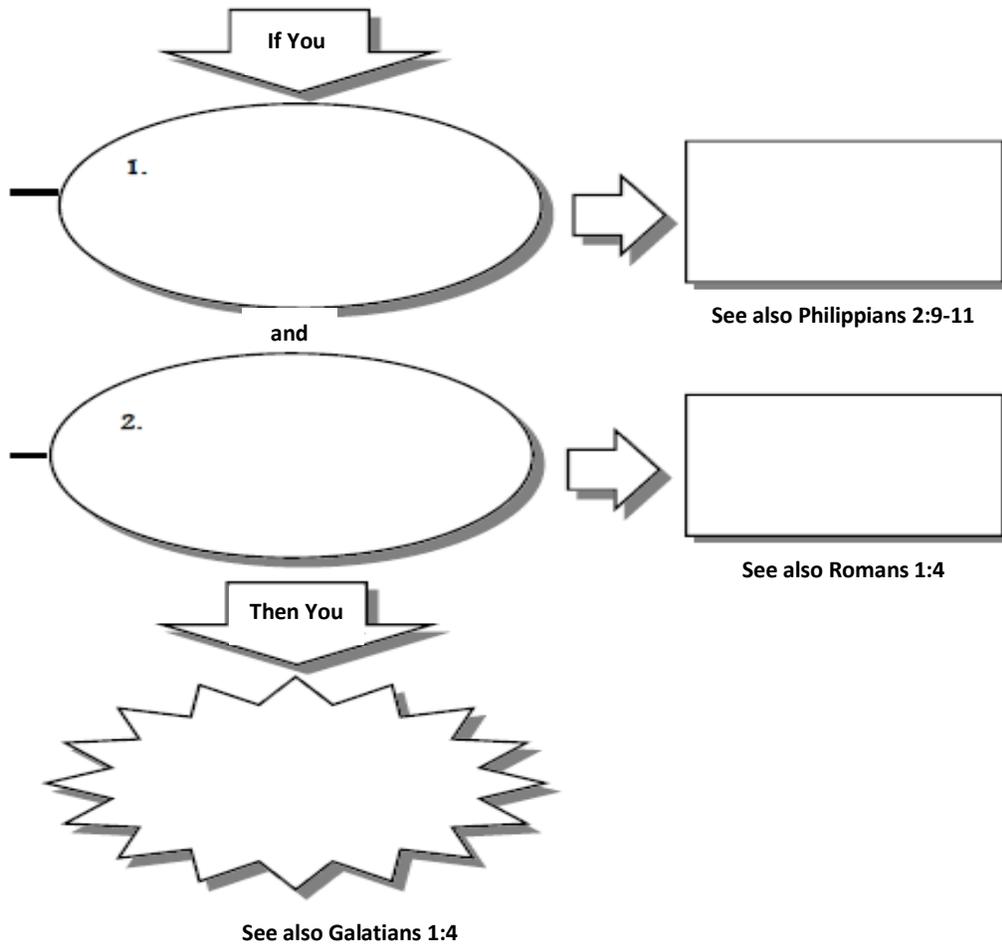
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Visual 1

1. Romans 10:9



Visual 2





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New Life in Christ

12. Romans 6:11-13 As Christians, we are _____ to sin and _____ to God. As God (not sin) reigns in our hearts, He calls us to become instruments of _____.

13. Romans 12:4-6 In Christ we who are _____ form _____ body, and are expected to use our individual gifts in serving others.

14. Romans 8:16-17 Since as Christians we are God's _____, we have the promise of eternal life with Him as heirs of God and _____ with Christ.

The Change Summarized

15. 2 Corinthians 5:17 The _____ has gone, the _____ has come.

16. Ephesians 5:8 You were once _____, but now you are _____.

17. Colossians 2:13 You were _____, God made you _____.

18. John 9:25 I was _____, now I _____.



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The Biblical Basis for Baptism

I. Background

The New Testament records for us two ordinances instituted by Jesus Christ Himself – The Lord’s Supper and Baptism. The significance of these ordinances is emphasized by the fact that they are each clear command to the church, and therefore, apply to all who believe. Each ordinance has a material element: in Communion, bread and wine; in Baptism, water. In each ordinance, the material element distinguishes it from its spiritual reality - the material element of each points to a spiritual reality, distinct from and more significant than itself.

As material signs they are _____ , _____ , and _____.

As spiritual realities they are _____ , _____ , and _____.

II. Baptism in the New Testament

A. John the Baptist - a tangible link between the Old and New Testaments (Isaiah 40:3-5; Malachi 3:1; Matthew 11:7-14). John proclaimed a baptism of repentance, and baptized upon one’s profession of _____ (Matthew 3:1-12; Mark 1:2-5; Luke 3:3-8; John 1:29-31).

B. The Lord Jesus Christ submitted Himself to baptism (Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:32-34). Why did Jesus come to be baptized? To fulfill the righteous requirements of God (Matthew 3:15).



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It was an act of:

1. _____ - As Messiah with the people He came to deliver.

2. _____ - A public statement of His dedication to fully do the will of His Father. Also, as a foreshadowing of His death and resurrection which would make salvation possible.

C. Jesus authorized His disciples to start baptizing (John 3:22-26). This baptism was a baptism of repentance and faith in Christ Himself (John 3:28-36).

D. Jesus Himself did not baptize (John 4:1-2). Why? If Jesus had baptized, it may have directed the focus from the _____ of baptism to _____ was doing the baptizing.

E. Christ commanded the church to baptize (Matthew 28:18-20). This was an _____ not an _____. Those who are made members of the Church by faith in Christ are themselves to be the recipients of baptism.

F. The pattern of the New Testament Church. Acts 2:37-41; 8:12; 8:30-38; 16:13-15; 16:29-34; 18:8; 9:18-19.

The consistent practice of the early Church was that as people heard the Word preached, they responded in faith, they confessed that belief publicly by being baptized, and became part of the life of the local body of believers. If we would obey our Lord and conform our practice to the New Testament pattern, we must do the same.



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III. What does baptism mean?

We might first say what it does NOT mean. IT IS NOT WASHING AWAY OF SINS. Sin cannot be washed away by water; rather, “the blood of Jesus purifies us from all sin” (1 John 1:7).

NOR IS BAPTISM THE MEANS OF BECOMING A Christian. The only way we do so is by grace through faith in the work of Christ alone (Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:4-7), not by having a ritual performed upon us. So, what does baptism mean? Four things:

A. A _____ in Christ (Act 2:38, 41).

Baptism is an _____ and _____ sign

of an _____ and _____ change that God has

already worked in a believers heart. Significantly, baptism always follows upon the personal confession of one’s faith. This explains why we do not practice infant baptism, as a tiny baby cannot have placed his/her faith in Christ.

B. An expression of our _____ with Christ (Romans 6:3-4).

Baptism illustrates our spiritual union and identification with the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ; that we are to consider ourselves dead to sin and alive to God. Being immersed in water symbolizes having died to our sin; and being raised out of the water that we have been raised to a brand new life in Christ. Again: salvation is NOT CONVEYED in baptism; it simply illustrates that spiritual transaction which has already taken place.



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C. An indication of our _____ to Christ.

Being baptized is an act of obedience to His commands and submission to His Lordship. Jesus always qualified a true love for Him by a willingness to obey what He said (Luke 6:46-49; John 14:15, 23-24; 1 John 5:2-3).

D. A look forward to our _____ with Christ.

In baptism, a person says, "I'm going somewhere." The believer has an ultimate hope of being with Christ (Philippians 3:13-14; Hebrews 12:1-2; 1 John 3:2-3).

***Questions for personal further study and/or discussion.
Questions can be answered on a separate sheet of paper.***

1. What is the relationship between the concept of circumcision and baptism?

2. What two elements make up church-age baptism?

3. What passage(s) help explain that water baptism is essential?



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4. What is the baptism of fire and what scripture explains it?

5. What was Paul instructed to do in relationship to his sins?

6. In relationship to baptisms, what took place in Acts 19:1-5?

7. How and when were the Israelites baptized?

8. Explain Romans 6:4



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9. Explain 1 Peter 3:20-21

10. Bonus Question: Explain the atoning and remission of sin process between the Old and New Testament. In other words what methods were used to atone remit sins and how do they correlate.



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Sample Testimony

Each candidate is expected to be able to share his/her testimony with anyone. Below is an example of what your testimony should be once you have had a genuine Salvation experience.

Hi, my name is Carl Anderson and I have accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior.

As long as I can remember I have always had a fear of God and the desire to pray to Him. I thought about heaven and hell, wanting to go to heaven. As a young teen I went to church. After a few years I felt it was not relevant to my life and stopped going. When I was 22 years old, I was invited to a Christmas concert by the person who is now my wife. This church was different. For the first time in my life I heard that my sin had separated me from God and from going to heaven. They also said that Jesus Christ died for my sins. I knew I was a sinner and this gift sounded too good to be true. I immediately prayed and asked Christ to be my Savior and Lord. I spent the following year beginning to understand the commitment I made. The Lord has been helping me to grow in my faith since then. He has taught me through the preaching and study of His Word and fellowship with other believers. I count it a privilege to serve Jesus Christ.