

“Submerged to New Life”

Rebuilding my Relationship with God

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Welcome, thanks to those present and those who are connected.

B. Theme of the Year

THE YEAR TO REBUILD Haggai 1:7-8 7 *This is what the LORD Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways. 8 Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build my house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored,” says the Lord.*

C. Series

REBUILDING MY RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD 1 Corinthians 3:10b-11 “...10 *But each one should build with care. 11 For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

D. Introduction to today's Message

1. The message for today is “**Submerged to New Life**” **Romans 6:3-4 3 *Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 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.***
2. In the scriptures there are three unique moments in the life of Jesus. His birth, his baptism and his death on the cross. But it was at baptism that the Father made his most loving acknowledgment, when he audibly said: “*This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*” (*Matthew 3:17*)
3. **Why is that declaration so important?** We know that until that moment Jesus had not performed miracles. He had not resisted Satan in the desert, nor had he been crucified and resurrected.
4. This statement is extremely important because the Father decreed it after Jesus was baptized. The Father audibly expressed how proud he was of him.
5. Likewise, God is extremely proud of everyone who commits to obeying the command of baptism, because through baptism we identify with his son Jesus. Today I will be sharing 3 points about baptism;
 - a. **The Meaning of Baptism**
 - b. **Baptism is an Act of Obedience**
 - c. **Baptism is a Public Act**

II. APPLICATION

A. What is Baptism?

1. Firstly, baptism is a command from our Lord Jesus Christ. **Matthew 28:19** *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*
2. The word baptism comes from the Greek word "**Baptizo**" which has two meanings;
 - a. **Baptizo** means "**Submerge or Sink**" That is why Christian baptism is done by immersion, that is, introducing the person completely into the water.
 - b. **Baptizo** also means "**Tinged or Stained**", that is, the person who is baptized is "**stained**" with Christ, is identified with Christ in his death, in his burial, and in his resurrection.

Romans 6:3-5 *3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 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. 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.*

3. Baptism identifies us with Christ in his death, burial and resurrection. He died and we died in him. He was buried and we were buried with him. He was resurrected and we are resurrected with him (Romans 6:3-5)
4. Baptism does not make you a believer - it only shows that you have already believed. Baptism does not "save" you, only faith in Christ saves you. Baptism is like a wedding ring: it is the outward symbol of the commitment you have made in your heart.

B. Baptism is an Act of Obedience

Baptism is an act of obedience, but before being baptized we must ensure our salvation through the forgiveness of our sins.

1. In Matthew chapter 3 John the Baptist refused to baptize many Pharisees and Sadducees for lack of repentance. They did not recognize that they were sinners. **Matthew 3:7-8** *7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.*
2. Jesus said in **Luke 5:32** *I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.* Repentance is crucial to salvation. Before Jesus Christ ascended to heaven, he commissioned his disciples and told them in **Luke 24:47** *"that repentance and forgiveness of sins might be preached in his name to all nations."*
3. In Acts 16 The Philippian jailer asked Paul and Silas; *Gentlemen, what must I do to be saved? 31 They said: Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your house. Acts 16:30-31*

4. Repentance precedes baptism. **Acts 2:38** *“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*
5. Baptism is an act that verifies our obedience and submission to God. Is a symbol of being buried with Christ and resurrected with him; to die to our old way of life and rise to live a new life.

C. Baptism is a Public Act

1. The baptism of Jesus was in the Jordan River where there were many people, there were Pharisees, Sadducees, soldiers, the townspeople and the disciples of John.
2. In Acts 2:41 we see how about three thousand people were converted and publicly baptized.
3. Acts chapter 16 Cornelius with his entire family and his servants were baptized after Peter's preaching. **Acts 16:33** *“... and Immediately he was baptized with all his people.”* For them, baptism was a public testimony of their decision, an outward expression of their new faith and new way of life.
4. If you have not yet committed to being baptized, today is the perfect day to do so because to rebuild your life with the Lord it is of utmost importance to obey the command of baptism.
5. I also encourage you to extend an invitation to your families and friends because through baptism you are publicly announcing that you are not ashamed of the gospel, and at the same time providing an opportunity for them to hear the glorious gospel of Christ and be saved.

III. CONCLUSION

A. Submerged to New Life

1. **Baptism** means **“Submerge or Sink”** For this reason, Christian baptism is done by immersion, that is, by introducing the person completely into the water.
2. **Baptizo** also means **“Tinged or Stained”**, that is, the person who is baptized is **“stained”** with Christ, is identified with Christ in his death, in his burial, and in his resurrection.
3. Baptism is an act of obedience and submission to God. Acts 2:38, 41
4. Baptism is a public act. Acts 16:33

B. PRAYER

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ADDITIONAL

Questions, Answers

1. When should I be baptized?

As soon as I believed! Acts 2:41 *"Those who believed were baptized that day."*

There is no reason to postpone your baptism. As soon as you have decided to receive Christ into your life, you can and should be baptized. If you wait until it is "perfect," you will never feel "good enough."

2. Can I be baptized with my entire family?

Yes, if each member of the family fully understands the meaning of baptism, and each has placed his or her trust in Christ for salvation. So we urge that families be baptized together. But it is not recommended to postpone baptism in the interest of waiting for other family members.

3. What should I wear to be baptized?

Clothing must be worn that covers the entire body of the candidate for baptism, preferably not clothing that is transparent when in contact with water. You should bring a change of clothes, a towel, a comb or brush and a plastic bag for your wet clothes.

4. Will I have to say something?

You will receive prior instructions.

At the beginning of the service, the pastor will explain the meaning of baptism. The pastor will present you, and you will be baptized by immersion in water. Later you will be given your baptismal certificate. We encourage you to invite your family and friends.

5. Special needs?

If you have any special needs please let us know in advance. Our Pastors may perform a private baptism in special circumstances.