



EXALTING JESUS CHRIST

PROCLAIMING GOD'S GRACE

“Water Baptism”

Divine Reminders, Part II

August 3, 2008

I. What is water baptism?

- A. Baptizo – to immerse, to dip, or to plunge under water.

See Mark 1:10 or Acts 8:36-38

- B. Symbol/Sign
C. Seal

“Ordinances are the [*presence of*] heaven on earth. Christ delights to be there with his people.”
(Thomas Boston)

II. Why do we practice water baptism?

- A. Obey Jesus

Matthew 28:19

- B. Initiation Marker

Acts 2:38, 41; Galatians 6:14-15 (see also Colossians 2:11-13); Acts 16:31, 34

- C. Means of Grace

Romans 6:3-4

III. When should someone be water baptized?

- A. Credible Profession of Faith

Acts 8:36-38

Someone desiring to be water baptized should be able to:

- Communicate the content of the gospel as well as express faith in Jesus Christ for salvation.
- Evidence a godly sorrow over sin as well as a corresponding joy that flows from knowing all sin is atoned for by the gospel.

Application questions:

- 1) How have you thought about water baptism in the past? Have your thoughts changed as a result of hearing this message?
- 2) Does water baptism “save” or “regenerate” anyone? If not, what does it symbolize or point to?
- 3) How does God seal the Gospel to Believers through water baptism?
- 4) Why should Christians be water baptized?
- 5) Why did Jesus give this sacrament to the church?
- 6) What difference can this sacrament make in the lives of Believers? How is it a means of grace to you?
- 7) If you have not been water baptized, but would profess faith in Jesus Christ alone as the only way to be justified with God, what is preventing you from being water baptized? (Remember that we'll have a water baptism on Sunday, August 31st)