

Baptism: When Salvation is Attained!

An important question to ask is when is salvation attained? When do I become saved?

The Bible says I can Know I am saved!

1 John 5:13

“These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.”

If I can know, then there must be a point at which I know I have switched from lost to saved!

The Bible Draws a Clear division in the World

1 Pet. 2:9-10

Darkness	Light
Not a people	People of God
Not obtained Mercy	Now have obtained Mercy

Eph. 2:11-18

Without Christ	In Christ, through the Blood (v. 13)
Without God	Reconciled to God (v. 15)
No Hope	Peace
World	Christians
Lost	Saved
Live of Sin	New, abundant Life
Eternal Punishment	Eternal life

When do I cross the line between the two categories?

If the Bible draws such a clear distinction, and God is not the author of confusion (I Cor. 14:33), but wants all men to come to salvation (II Pet. 3:9), then I can look to His word and determine when is the point that I obtain salvation.

Let us examine his word. Don't take my word, but look to the word of God.

I. John 3:1-5

Jesus teaches you are born again by the water and of the Spirit referring to NT baptism. A water baptism that conveys the gift of the Spirit (Acts 2:38).

-Baptism is the Point when one gains a New Life!

II. Acts 2:38, 22:16

Peter on the day of Pentecost preached and the people believed. They needed to repent and be baptized to have their sins forgiven and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 22:16 – Annanais tells Paul to arise and be baptized to “wash away sins.” This was an act of obedience. This is how one calls on the name of the Lord through submitting to his will (Acts 2:21)

Baptism is the Point when one Has his sins washed away or forgiven.

III. Col. 2:11-14

Paul connects their baptism with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. It was possible because of their faith in God working at the time of their baptism. Baptism is not miracle water. It is not about a work of merit to earn salvation. Rather it is an act of submission, an act of faith, an act of trust in God, who works in our obedience to unite us with the Death of Christ. Notice the change this caused –

Dead in trespasses
Uncircumcised in their flesh
(still had their sins, not pure)

Made Alive with Christ
Forgiven of Sins

Baptism is the point when one is Made Alive with Christ and forgiven their trespasses.

IV. I Pet. 3:21

Baptism is the point at which we are saved!

V 1 Cor. 12:12-14

The body referred to here is the body of Christ (v. 27) The church
(Eph. 1:22-23),
The church or body of Christ that the Lord adds the saved to
(Acts 2:47)

Baptism is the Point at which we are added to the Body of Christ

VI. Gal. 3:26-27

Baptism is the Point when one is placed into Christ!

VII. Rom. 6:1-12

Rom. 5 is about the fact that Salvation has by provided by the grace of God in Christ. Chapt. 6 is about Man attaining this salvation provided.

Baptism is the point when we are united with the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus. It is when we die to sin and are raised to walk a new life!

Conclusion:

When is the point when salvation is attained?

The Bible clearly teaches it is when one submits with a heart of faith and understanding to baptism for the remission of sins.

It is not:

On a kneeling bench when one begs the Holy Spirit for salvation.

When one says what is called the “Sinners Prayer” to God confessing belief in Jesus and claiming salvation.

When one simply believes in Christ often called “accepting Jesus into his heart.

When one is baptized by a denomination to join that church. As an outward sign of an inward grace.

You do not believe wrong and are baptized right. You need to understand why you are being baptized.

Col. 2:11-14, Acts 19:1-10

The Bible teaches, not just the Seven Oaks church of Christ, but Jesus in His Word teaches that salvation is attained and conferred on an individual when they humbly, obediently, submit to baptism in order to have their sins washed away.

Are you saved?