

Question 72

Q. Does this outward washing with water itself wash away sins?

A. No, only the blood of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit cleanse us from all sins.[1]

[1] [Mat 3:11](#); [1Pe 3:21](#); [1Jo 1:7](#).

Question 73

Q. Why then does the Holy Spirit call baptism the washing of regeneration and the washing away of sins?

A. God speaks in this way for a good reason. He wants to teach us that the blood and Spirit of Christ remove our sins just as water takes away dirt from the body.[1] But, even more important, He wants to assure us by this divine pledge and sign that we are as truly cleansed from our sins spiritually as we are bodily washed with water.[2]

[1] [1Co 6:11](#); [Rev 1:5](#); [Rev 7:14](#). [2] [Mar 16:16](#); [Act 2:38](#); [Rom 6:3-4](#); [Gal 3:27](#).

Question 74

Q. Should infants, too, be baptized?

A. Yes. Infants as well as adults belong to God's covenant and congregation.[1] Through Christ's blood the redemption from sin and the Holy Spirit, who works faith, are promised to them no less than to adults.[2] Therefore, by baptism, as sign of the covenant, they must be grafted into the Christian church and distinguished from the children of unbelievers.[3] This was done in the old covenant by circumcision,[4] in place of which baptism was instituted in the new covenant.[5]

[1] [Gen 17:7](#); [Mat 19:14](#). [2] [Psa 22:11](#); [Isa 44:1-3](#); [Act 2:38-39](#); [Act 16:31](#). [3] [Act 10:47](#); [1Co 7:14](#). [4] [Gen 17:9-14](#). [5] [Col 2:11-13](#).

Cottonwood Community Church

October 16, 2011

Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity

Sunday Devotion, 9:15 a.m.

Sunday Worship, 10:00 a.m.

cottonwoodcommunitychurch.org

Welcome

The Collect

Hymn #16 Praise Ye The Lord

Psalms 40:9-17

- 9. I have proclaimed the good news of righteousness In the great assembly; Indeed, I do not restrain my lips, O LORD, You Yourself know.**
10. I have not hidden Your righteousness within my heart; I have declared Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I have not concealed Your lovingkindness and Your truth From the great assembly.
- 11. Do not withhold Your tender mercies from me, O LORD; Let Your lovingkindness and Your truth continually preserve me.**
12. For innumerable evils have surrounded me; My iniquities have overtaken me, so that I am not able to look up; They are more than the hairs of my head; Therefore my heart fails me.
- 13. Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me!**
14. Let them be ashamed and brought to mutual confusion Who seek to destroy my life; Let them be driven backward and brought to dishonor Who wish me evil.
- 15. Let them be confounded because of their shame, Who say to me, "Aha, aha!"**
16. Let all those who seek You rejoice and be glad in You; Let such as love Your salvation say continually, "The LORD be magnified!"
- 17. But I *am* poor and needy; Yet the LORD thinks upon me. You *are* my help and my deliverer; Do not delay, O my God.**
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Hymn # 8 All Hail The Power Of Jesus Name

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 56:1-8

Hymn # 6 Come Thou Fount

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

New Testament Reading: Galatians 4:21-26

Chorus # 84 I Love You Lord

The Exile About To End

Matthew 21:12-22

Congregational Prayer

Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn 42: God Be With You

Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom *be* glory forever and ever. Amen.