

Lord's Day 26

Heidelberg Catechism

The Second Part – Of Man's Deliverance – Of Holy Baptism

Question 69

How art thou admonished and assured by holy baptism that the one sacrifice of Christ upon the cross is of real advantage to thee?

Answer

Thus: That Christ appointed this external washing with water,¹ adding thereto this promise,² that I am as certainly washed by His blood and Spirit from all the pollution of my soul, that is, from all my sins,³ as I am washed externally with water, by which the filthiness of the body is commonly washed away.

Question 70

What is it to be washed with the blood and Spirit of Christ?

Answer

It is to receive of God the remission of sins freely, for the sake of Christ's blood, which He shed for us by His sacrifice upon the cross;⁴ and also to be renewed by the Holy Ghost, and sanctified to be members of Christ, that so we may more and more die unto sin and lead holy and unblamable lives.⁵

Question 71

Where has Christ promised us that He will as certainly wash us by His blood and Spirit as we are washed with the water of baptism?

Answer

In the institution of baptism, which is thus expressed: *Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.*⁶ *He that believeth, and is baptized, shall be saved; but he that believeth not, shall be damned.*⁷ This promise is also repeated where the scripture calls baptism the washing of regeneration⁸ and the washing away of sins.⁹

1 **Matt. 28:19**

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

2 **Mark 16:16**

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Matt. 3:11

I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance. but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

Rom. 6:3

Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

3 **Mark 1:4**

John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

Luke 3:3

And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins;

4 **Heb. 12:24**

And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

1 Pet. 1:2

Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

5 **John 1:33**

And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

Rom. 6:4

Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Col. 2:11

In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:

6 **Matt. 28:19**

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

7 **Mark 16:16**

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

8 **Tit. 3:5**

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

9 **Acts 22:16**

And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.