

# Does Baptism Save?

1 Peter 3:21

East Berlin Community Church

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## Introduction

- Most important question: *"What must I do to be saved?"*
- Simple answer: *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved!"*

## Does Baptism Save?

### A. Baptism and Salvation from Sin?

1. Infant baptism and salvation?
  - a. Various Views
    - 1) Sacramental View—saves the child from sin
    - 2) Covenantal View—introduces the child into believing community.
      - a) Based on replacement theology
      - b) Equates circumcision with baptism
  - b. Infant Baptism explored
    - 1) Circumcision in OT clearly taught; but no Scriptural support for infant baptism in the NT.
    - 2) Colossians 2:11-12
  - c. New Testament teaching regarding adult baptism
    - 1) Commanded in NT—Matthew 28:19-20a
    - 2) Pattern of the NT—Acts 2:41; 16:32-34
  - d. Infant baptism is not biblically based, but a theological construct based on the belief that the church replaces Israel.
2. Adult Baptism and Salvation?
  - a. Close connection between salvation and baptism in NT
  - b. Mark 16:15-16—*"Believe and baptized are saved"*
  - c. Baptism not part of the gospel.—Romans 1:16; 1 Cor. 1:17-18

### B. Baptism and Salvation from a Soiled Conscience!

1. The Larger Context—1 Peter 3:18-22
  - a. Suffering for right and maintain a clear conscience
  - b. Jesus as primary example
2. Noah as example of a "clean conscience"
  - a. Noah as prominent biblical figure in Asia Minor
  - b. Noah's Experience
  - c. Noah and family saved by being in the Ark
3. Noah saved "through water"
  - a. An "answer of a good conscience toward God"
  - b. Baptism represents a complete break with one's past- Rom. 6
  - c. Baptism declares our allegiance and our alliance.
  - d. Baptism is like a wedding ceremony—a "pledge"