

Baptized for the Remission of Sins?

Q: “When the Nicene Creed says that we believe in baptism for the remission of sins, does that mean that baptism = salvation?”

Answer:

- It is a quotation from Acts 2:38. We do not believe that it means that we are saved by being baptized, but that this means that we are baptized “with respect to” forgiveness of our sins (i.e. as a symbol thereof).
- Since this is not the way that we would put it today, why do we say it the way the Nicene Creed does? Because we are a church that is historically rooted in the one catholic faith (there I go again – not that *catholic!*). The Nicene Creed is the first ecumenical council of the ancient church – we think it is important for us to manifest our connection to it. So instead of ignoring ancient wording, we explain it.