

PLEASANT VIEW PROCLAIMER

April 28, 2024

Welcome!

== CAST ==
ALL YOUR
ANXIETY
— ON HIM —
BECAUSE
HE CARES
FOR YOU

1 PETER 5:7

“Yours, O Lord, it the greatness, the power and the flory, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and You are exalted as head over all.”

Join us again at 6:00pm today for a lesson from Ken Palmer

Minister: Timothy Agee
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Prayer List

Levi Bearden will be having surgery for severe intestinal issues

Mamie Hamilton is in rehab at NHC in Springfield. She is doing better but still in pain.

Ronnie Mayo has had his feeding tube removed and is continuing to recover from hip replacement.

Continue to pray for: **Darinda Paul, Rebecca Brown, Hunter Crouch, Burt Wilkerson, Donnie Garrett, Keith Walker** and family, **Forshia Pennington, Carol Saling, Camille Brosky**, those in **Ukraine; John Hayes**, and **Bill Gillock**

Our new periodic series on Christian Apologetics called: **“Why Should I Believe?”** begins in May 5th at 6:00pm

We invite everyone to join us Wednesday night at 7pm as we study the Life of Abraham

Serving Today

Song Leader:
Jeff Baker

SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:30 am)

Scripture Reading:
Mike Reed

Prayer:
Eddie Walker

WORSHIP (10:30 am)

Scripture Reading:
Charlie Baker
Rom 6:1-4; Acts 8:34-39

Wait On Table:
Jared Roaden

Serve:
Josh Demonbreun
Jearmie Gupton

Prayer:
David Billingsley

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 am
Sunday PM Worship	6:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 pm

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This morning, we continue our series on Baptism by asking the question “Does the Form Matter?” The heart of this question is on whether it matters if one’s Baptism is completed by sprinkling, pouring, or immersion. What does the pattern of the New Testament tell us about this question?

B _____ - In **Romans 6:1-4**, Paul beautifully describes Baptism as a burial and resurrection. He is explaining how in our Baptism, we are partaking in the death and resurrection of Christ. It is hard to see how either sprinkling or pouring allows for the full effect of the intended symbolism.

The examples from scripture also bear out that the practice of Baptism was completed by full immersion in water. When Phillip baptized the Ethiopian Eunuch in **Acts 8:34-39**, Luke tells us that they “both went down into the water...” Both going down into the water would not have been necessary unless there was to be an immersion. After the Baptism of Jesus in **Matthew 3:13-17**, it is recorded that “he went up from the water,” which heavily implies that He had previously been down in the water. Why would He have been down in the water unless it was to be immersed?

Some might ask about the mention of “sprinkling” in **Hebrews 10:19-22**, which comes in the midst of a larger comparison between the blood of “bulls and goats” (**10:4**) and the blood of Jesus (**10:19**). In **10:22**, “sprinkling” is applied to the inner cleansing of the heart (which is accomplished by the blood of Jesus), while the same passage describes our bodies as being “washed with pure water,” which is an obvious allusion to water Baptism.

B _____ (**βαπτίζω**) The word “Baptize” or “Baptized” in our English translations is actually not a translation at all but is instead a *transliteration*. This means it was simply picked up out of the Greek and placed into English *without* an attempt to translate the word. “**Baptizo**” (**βαπτίζω**) in the original language becomes “**Baptize**” in English. The word actually means to sink, drown, go under, bathe, dip, or immerse but why isn’t it translated this way?

The reasoning could be political. At the time of the King James Version, sprinkling was an accepted form of baptism in the Church of England. It would have been embarrassing for the church if the translation commissioned by the King rendered the word *Baptizo* as *Immerse* when they were practicing sprinkling.

B _____ - In the New Testament there is obviously a difference in the reason and purpose of the Baptism of John the Baptist (i.e. “for repentance” **Matthew 3:11**; **Acts 19:1-5**) vs. the Baptism of Jesus, however there is absolutely no indication that the *form* of their Baptism was any different. Consider that in **John 3:22-24**, John the Baptist was said to be “baptizing at Aenon near Salim, because **water was plentiful there...**” Now, if John was simply sprinkling or pouring, he would not have needed an abundance of water.

To this, some might say, “What about Pentecost?” How could 3,000 (**Acts 2:41**) have been *immersed* in the city of Jerusalem, which is far removed from any large body of water? The simple answer here is there would have been ample places to fully immerse this many believers in Jerusalem due to Jewish ritual cleansing which was part of daily life. There was the Pool of Bethesda (**John 5:1-17**), the Pool of Siloam (**John 9:1-12**), and dozens of *mikveh* (Jewish ritual baths) at the southern end of the temple mount. Consider that Jewish people always understood what Baptism meant because it was ingrained into their culture. Ritual cleansing was not a sprinkling or pouring but was a full immersion in water. Neither Jesus, nor His disciples, ever had to explain this to their fellow Jews.