

The Epistle To The Galatians¹

Baptized into Christ, Putting On Christ and All One in Christ

I Introduction

- A. We are sons of God because we are in Christ and are in Christ because we have been baptized into Christ. **(Gal.3:26-27)**
 - 1. This is the main factor in our being sons of God, in our being sons of Abraham and in our being the seed of Abraham
 - 2. It brings us into the enjoyment of the blessing of God's promise through faith and into an organic union with Him.
- B. We are one in Christ with His resurrection life and His divine nature to be the one new man. **(3:28, Eph.2:15)**
 - 1. In this one new man there is no room for our natural being, our natural disposition or natural character.
 - 2. Instead, Christ is all and in all. **(Col.3:10-11)**

II Baptized into Christ

- A. Being baptized into Christ
 - 1. This is the main factor in our being sons of God, in our being sons of Abraham and in our being the seed of Abraham
 - 2. It brings us into the enjoyment of the blessing of God's promise through faith and into an organic union with Him.
 - 3. To be baptized into Christ Jesus, we were baptized into the death of Christ. **(Rom.6:3)**
 - 4. Believers are baptized into the name of the Triune God, into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **(Matt.28:19)**
 - 5. Believers are baptized into the Body. **(1Cor.12:13, Eph.2:15-16)**
- B. Baptizing into the name of the Holy Trinity implies a spiritual and mystical union with him. The name here is equivalent to His person. (*Word Studies in the New Testament*, M.R. Vincent)
 - 1. Christ as the life-giving Spirit charged the disciples to perform this baptism, which has two aspects, the visible and the invisible. **(Acts 2:38, 41; 10:44-48)**

¹ Outline and materials based on the *Life-Study of Galatians by Witness Lee, Living Stream Ministry, Anaheim, California, May, 1984*. Any inaccuracies or errors, in the outline above, are the sole responsibility of the adopter of these materials. - D.M.

2. The visible without the invisible is vain. The invisible without the visible is abstract and impractical.
3. After He charged His disciples to baptize people, He baptized the believers into the Holy Spirit (**1Cor.12:13, Acts1:5, 2:4, 11:15-17**)
4. Based on this baptism, the disciples went out to baptize the new converts, both visibly into the water and invisibly into the death of Christ, Christ Himself, the Triune God and into the Body of Christ (**Acts 2:38, Rom.6:3-4, Gal.3:27, Matt.28:19, 1Cor.12:13**)
5. The water signifies the death of Christ with His burial and is a tomb to terminate the old history of the one being baptized and to germinate the same one with a new life, the eternal life of the Triune God, for the Body of Christ.
6. Baptism should never be a dead ritual; it is a vital transfer out of the old creation into the new.

III Putting On Christ (Gal.3:27)

- A. To put on Christ is to clothe ourselves with Christ, to put Christ on as a garment
- B. This is the result of being baptized into Him. This would not be possible if Christ were only in the heavens. Instead, today, He is the life-giving Spirit. When we baptize others, we and they must realize that we are surrounded by Him as the life-giving Spirit and they are being immersed into this wonderful Spirit, Who is Christ.
- C. Paul conclusion in chapter 3 with a word on baptism and putting on Christ shows that to enter into the reality of all that has been covered in that chapter can only be realized by baptism.

IV All One in Christ

- A. In Christ there is no place for the natural man (**Gal.3:28**). No Jew , No Greek, no slave, no free, no male, no female – all have been terminated in Christ; therefore we are “one.”
- B. If we are not one practically, it is because so many have not entered into the proper and genuine baptism in which they are immersed into the person of the Triune God, into Christ as the life-giving Spirit, into the death of Christ and into the Body of Christ..