

'WHAT GOOD WILL WATER DO ME?'

None, in the sense of your enquiry. It is a question of conforming to the ordinances and appointments of God, who has purposely made use of things which are nothing in themselves, that His name may be honoured in their employment and achievement. **(1 Cor. 1: 27-29)** He has appointed and commanded baptism. It is part of His will: and we know what Jesus has said: —

'Whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother'. 'Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you'.

The Christadelphians

Please be assured that anything connected with the Christadelphians is entirely free, and based wholly upon Christ's precept, "freely ye received, freely give". Christadelphians, or as the name implies, brethren in Christ, are a body of people (established initially in the mid nineteenth century) bound together by a wholehearted belief in the Bible. We do not profess to have received any new revelation, but hold that the Bible itself is able to make one "wise unto salvation" **(2 Tim. 3:15-17)**. Believing in the Divine Authorship of the Bible, we do not accept any interpretation which does not harmonise with its teaching as a whole. Finding that the creeds and practices of those who claim to be Christian are in many ways opposed to this teaching, we feel compelled to stand apart from them. We believe in the personal, visible return of Christ to the earth, to establish his throne and reign thereon, and we seek to share this knowledge with others. However we guarantee that we will not pressurise you in any way, if at any time you wish to discontinue contact.

To find out more about the word of God please contact:

**THE CHRISTADELPHIANS
FREEPOST (CN 2737)
CROYDON
CR9 7WZ**

or the publisher:

Andrew G Stubbs, The Christadelphians
(Sherwood Meeting), 14 Covedale Road,
Sherwood, Nottingham, NG5 3HY, England.

or visit our website:

www.OnlyTrueGod.info

Why we ought to be Baptized

Watchman Christadelphians - Leaflet 50

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Why we ought to be Baptized

1. **Because being baptized was one of the conditions of salvation, proclaimed by Christ's authorized messengers in the first century:**

Peter said. 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you'. **(Acts 2:38)** 'He (Peter) commanded them to be baptised in the name of the Lord': **(Acts 10:48)** 'He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved'. **(Mark 16:16)**

2. **Because all believers of the gospel as preached by the apostles at the first, were baptized:**

'Then they that gladly received his (Peter's) word were baptized'. **(Acts 2:41)** 'And many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized'. **(Acts 18:8)** "When they believed Philip... they were baptized, both men and women'. **(Acts 8:2)** Philip baptized the eunuch. **(Acts 8:38)** 'He (Paul) received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized'. **(Acts 9:18)** Lydia was baptized, and her household. **(Acts 16:15)** The keeper of the prison was baptized 'he and all his straightway'. **(Acts 16:33)** 'When they (twelve men at Ephesus) heard this, 'they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **(Acts 19:5)**

3. **Because baptism is the divinely appointed rite for introducing believing sinners 'into Christ':**

'Baptized into Jesus Christ', **(Rom. 6:3)** 'as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ', **(Gal. 3:27)** 'born

of water'. **(John 3:5)**

4. **Because out of Christ, there is no salvation for any sinner (and all have sinned):**

'In Adam all die'. **(1 Cor. 15:22)** 'At that time ye were without Christ... having no hope, and without God in the world'. **(Eph. 2:12)** Gentiles 'alienated from the life of God'. **(Eph. 4:18)** 'All have sinned'. **(Rom. 3:23)** 'The wages of sin is death'. **(Rom. 6:23)** But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh'. **(Eph. 2:13)**

5. **Because Christ and the apostles were baptized:**

Jesus was baptized of John in the Jordan. **(Mark 1:9)** Paul 'arose, and was baptized'. **(Acts 9:18)** Some of the disciples of John the Baptist followed Jesus and became the apostles. **(John 1:35-37)**

6. **Because in baptism, we obtain the forgiveness of our sins:**

'Be baptized... for the remission of sins'. **(Acts 2:38)** 'Be baptized and wash away thy sins'. **(Acts 22:16)** 'Baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God). **(1 Peter 3:21)** 'Purged from his old sins'. **(2 Peter 1:9)** 'The washing of water by the word'. **(Eph. 5:26)**

WHAT IS IT TO BE BAPTIZED?

But you will say, "What is baptism?" The question may be answered by considering the following facts:-

1. **It is an action requiring the use of water:**

'See, here is water, what doth hinder me to be baptized'? **(Acts 8:36)** 'Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized'. **(Acts 10:47)** 'John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there'. **(John 3:23)**

2. **It involves being buried or immersed in water:**

'We are buried with him by baptism into death ... planted together in the likeness of his death'. **(Rom. 6:4-5)** 'Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him'. **(Col. 2:12)** 'Born of (Greek, 'out of) water'. **(John 3:5)** 'They went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him'. **(Acts 8:38)**

In fact, to immerse completely is implicit in the meaning of the original Greek word 'baptize', which means simply 'dip under' (Liddell & Scott, Greek Lexicon). The word was used in the dyeing trade.