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Forgiveness of Sins

Man is a sinner. (Romans 3:23). As he is, he is lost and undone. He is without God and hope. Should he die in this state he would be lost for all eternity. This is a horrible thought, but is true nevertheless.

Because man is a sinner, and he is very conscious of his sins, then he is constantly looking for a way to atone for them or to receive forgiveness. This problem is universal but different people try to solve it in different ways. Some offer animal sacrifices or seek to punish themselves to atone for their sins. Others engage in good works or isolate themselves in places of lonely abodes in an attempt to find peace in their souls. Some of those who believe in Christ turn to faith only, praying through, and other such doctrines to obtain salvation. But none of these beliefs and practices that are based on error will cleanse man of sin.

God has shown his love for us to the extent of giving his son so that one and all might be saved. (John 3:16,17 ; Romans 5:8). Christ himself was willing to die, and if he was willing to do this for man then it is only right to conclude that he alone has the right to say what conditions must be met if man is to be saved. What are these conditions? Listen to the scriptures :

1. One must believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. "I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins." (John 8:24).
2. He must repent of all of his sins. "I tell you, Nay : but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:3).
3. He must confess Christ as the Son of God. "Whoso-

ever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 10:32,33).

4. Finally, he must comply with the command of baptism. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:16). "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:38).

The Lord tells us in his word that when we comply with these commands there is salvation for us, but not until then. Thus, through obedience to his teaching we obtain the remission of our sins, the Lord saves us, and therefore we are forever forgiven of all of our past sins.

Sin is destructive. It can torment one, cause endless heartaches, and bring final destruction. But isn't it wonderful that we can have our sins forgiven, blotted out, and forever taken away? We have a Saviour and his name is Jesus. He can be your Saviour and my Saviour in reality if we will only look to him in faith and obey his will.

Have your sins been forgiven? If not, you are lost and will be eternally lost unless you turn to Jesus, who is able to save you. If you will turn to him in loving obedience he can, and will, save you and make you his. Then with peace in your soul, and with relief from your past sins, you can follow Jesus home to that upper and better kingdom. The Lord invites you to come. Please do.

A New Creature

The eternal purpose of God in sending Jesus Christ to this sinful earth, and allowing him to die upon the cruel tree, was to show His love for all mankind. We read, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8).

After his death Jesus was buried in a tomb. But upon the third day of his death he came out of the grave, by the power of God, as a resurrected Saviour. (Mark 16:1-6). After his resurrection he appeared to many men and women on different occasions. And before his ascension into heaven he appeared to his disciples, "And he said unto them, go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15). What gospel? That Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that he was buried and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures. (1 Corinthians 15:1-4). And he immediately said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved ; but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:16).

Thus, one must believe the gospel which is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and then be baptized, obeying the gospel, in order to be saved in Christ. By obeying the gospel Jesus meant that one must die to his sins, be buried in the watery grave of baptism, and come out of it as a new man. Baptism is a likeness of Christ's death, burial and resurrection. The Apostle Paul teaches this fact to the Christians at Rome, when he said, "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death : that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we

have been planted together in the likeness of his death. we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection : Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed and henceforth we should not serve sin. (Romans 6:3-6). Through baptism our old man is buried, and we come out of the waters of baptism as a new born person to walk in the newness of life.

The Bible teaches that by being baptized into Christ one puts on Christ and that he enters Christ. (Galatians 3:27). And "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away ; behold, all things are become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17). Because he was crucified with Christ and was buried into his death by baptism, and therefore has risen to walk in newness of life, the old life ended when he died and was buried. Therefore, through this obedience we become new creatures, born anew, to live a new life. The affections, the motives, the thoughts, the hopes, and the whole life has been changed. All things are become new ! After being born of water and of Spirit, one now enters into the kingdom of God. (John 3:3-5).

To these new creatures, God comanded : "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth ; fornication, uncleanness. inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry : For which things sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience : In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these ; anger, wrath, malice, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds ; And have put on the

new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him." (Colossians 3:1-10). "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness." (Colossians 3:12-14).

The new creature will adorn the Christian graces: "In your faith supply virtue; and in your virtue, knowledge; and in your knowledge, self control; and in your self control, patience; and in your patience, godliness; and in your godliness, brotherly kindness; and in your brotherly kindness, love." (2 Peter 1:5-7). And in so doing the new creature becomes a partaker of the divine nature. He will now bear spiritual fruit such as: "love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance", and so on, as mentioned in Galatians 5:22,23.

What a great change! Are you a new creature, a new born person? Have you ever been born again to become a new creature? If not, behold, now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation. Why not hear the gospel of Christ, believe it, and obey the gospel?

"In the Steps of the Faith Of Abraham"

by D. Thurman

Abraham stands out in God's book as one of the greatest man the world has ever known. But the way is left open for us to follow in his steps to the same spiritual heights. We are included by Paul in an epitaph to Abraham in Rom. 4:11-

12, "That he might be the father of all them that believe..... who also walk in the steps of that faith of Abraham." This is a triumphant faith that God will bless even today. "Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Know ye not that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham." These children walk in the steps of faith of their father.

Walking in His Steps of Great Faith

This faith, and obedience, must be in each child of God. "Therefore it is of faith that it might be by grace, to the end that the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all." (Rom. 4:16). Thus an obedient faith in God's word can make us heirs of God as Abraham's children: "For ye are all the children, of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ..... and if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." (Gal. 3:26-29).

Now, to walk in the steps of Abraham, we must have the same faith. That puts us in the right relationship with God! "And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God." (Jas. 2:23). Abraham was walking the right path when he believed God! All who refuse to believe are bound for eternal torment. You can mark that down! Yes, we must walk in the steps of that faith of Abraham to please God. "So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham." (Gal. 3:9).

Walking in His Steps of Faithful Obedience

To walk in the steps of that faith, we must be just as obedient as he was. "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should afterward

receive for an inheritance, obeyed ; and he went out, not knowing whither he went." (Heb. 11:8). Abraham asked no questions and put up no arguments. The Lord spake, and Abraham obeyed ! His obedient faith was prompt and complete ! Oh, that we had folk who believed God like that today ! Too, you should recognize that Abraham was not called the friend of God until he obeyed : "Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he offered up Isaac his son upon the altar ? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect ? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness : and he was called the Friend of God." (Jas. 2:21-23). And it is by this same obedient faith that we become friends of Christ. "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." (Jno. 15:14). It naturally follows that we are the foes of Christ if we do not obey ! He said, "He that is not with me is against me." This proves our love also. "If ye love me, keep my commandments." (Jno. 14:15).

Walking in His Steps of Regular Worship

Walking in the steps of the faith of Abraham will lead into regularity of worship. "And the Lord appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land : and there builded he an altar unto the Lord, who appeared unto him." (Gen. 12:7). But after a while the Lord wanted him to move on again, and said, "Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it ; for I will give it unto thee. Then Abram removed his tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of Mamre, which is Hebron, and built there an altar unto the Lord." (Gen. 13:17-18). You could trace the pilgrimage of Abraham's life by the altars he erected ! When the Lord spake, Abraham moved. And wherever Abraham moved, he built there an altar unto the Lord. He cultivated the habit of regular worship of God ! So, all who walk in the steps of Abraham's faith will erect

altars of regular worship of God ! The altar of family devotion is sorely needed this day !

Walking in His Steps of Hospitality

To walk in the steps of that faith of Abraham is to exercise hospitality and concern for others ! Read carefully the 18th. chapter of Genesis. Abraham used such persuasion that it was almost force. And the men came into fresh on Abraham's hospitality ! How often is such hospitality seen in our time ? Yes, it is to this event in Abraham's life that the writer of Hebrews refers : "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers : for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." (Heb. 13:2). The fact that he thought to feed men resulted in his feeding angels should bring home to us the words of 1 Pet. 4:9 "Use hospitality one to another without grudging."

But this occasion also revealed Abraham's deep care and concern for others. On hearing of the impending doom of Sodom, Abraham became concerned for others. He pleaded for the city for the sake of the righteous : for fifty, forty, thirty, twenty, and finally, for the sake of ten righteous, he begged that the city be spared ! The fact that not even ten righteous could be found to save the city does not minimize Abraham's care and concern for others. Have we this same care and concern for others, how we could publish abroad the gospel of Christ to dying men !

Walking in His Steps Toward the Right Goal

To walk in the steps of that faith of Abraham is to have the right goal in life ! He was not grovelling in worldly matters that blinded his eyes to eternal rewards. "By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise : for he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." (Heb.

11:9-10). That faith was not to go unrewarded. "But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city." (Heb. 11:16). Abraham's faith caused him to raise his eyes above the transient things of this world, and centre his affections on things in God's country!

Followers of Abraham must also look beyond this world. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." (Col. 3:1-2). This is the appeal Jesus made. "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself that where I am, there ye may be also." (Jno. 14:2-3). That home of the soul is the city for which Abraham yearned! It is not built by man, but by our God! "For we know that if the earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." (2 Cor. 5:1). We must look to that city whose builder and maker is God, if we walk after Abraham. It is for this reason that God "hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you." (1 Pet. 1:3-4).

To be blessed with faithful Abraham, one must believe God, must render complete obedience to Him, must be hospitable and care for others, and must set heaven as life's definite goal! This will make one Abraham's seed, and an heir according to God's promise to him (Gal. 3:26-29). Friend, are you willing to "Walk in the steps of that faith of Abraham"?

Should I Have My Baby Baptized ?

by Carl Frazier

Sincere Bible student, you are urged to get your Bible and check the things that are said herein. The Apostle Paul said of the Bereans, "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." Acts 17:11.

Original Sin

Many sincere people believe that all men are born with the guilt of Adam's sin upon their soul. One Catechism says, "Yes, all human souls are created with Original Sin in them, because Adam was, the father of all the human race." In the book, "QUESTIONS OF CATHOLICS ANSWERED" Mr. Winfrid Herbst says, "Yes, every child born into this world has the guilt of original sin upon its soul. Original sin is the sin that we inherit from our first parents.....Original sin excludes from heaven unless forgiven. It is forgiven only by baptism. Hence when an unbaptized child dies it cannot enter the kingdom of heaven."

Guilt of sin cannot be inherited

One of the greatest fallacies in the conceptions of the religious world is that man is born into a state of sin. The Bible defines sin thus: "Sin is the transgression of the law." 1 John 3:4. It must be obvious to the unbiased that a new born child has not transgressed the laws of God. It does not even know the laws of God. Since sin is the violation of law, it is impossible to inherit sin.

No generation since Adam has escaped the CONSEQUENCES of its forebear's sins, But the Bible teaches that guilt is not inherited. "Now, lo, if he beget a son, that seeth all his father's sins which he hath done, and considereth, and doeth not such like.....he shall not die for the iniquity of his father, he shall surely live." Ezekiel 18:14-17.

Jesus proclaims innocence of infants

Jesus said, "Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and becomes as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 18:3. "But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me : for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew

19:14, 15. Thus Jesus used children to illustrate SINLESSNESS and PURITY — — — — not as SINNERS in need of salvation. Little children exemplify what converted people are to become. Let us make the following observations : (1) Children were brought to Jesus to be blessed. (2) The disciples rebuked the people (v. 15). It would be strange for them to rebuke parents who were bringing their SINFUL children to the Lord to be saved. It seems that the disciples would have been glad. No, these children were not sinners.

The spirit comes from God

Spiritual corruption at birth is not possible because we receive our spirit from God. Who would argue that God gives the infant a corrupted spirit? The Bible says, "Be in subjection to the Father of spirits, and live." Hebrews 12:9.

Solomon, speaking of death said, "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was : and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." Ecclesiastes 12:7. The scriptures teach that, "The Lord.....formeth the spirit of man within him." Zechariah 12:1. God would not form or father an evil spirit. The infant is just as pure at birth as Adam was when God created him.

Each person responsible for own sins

The Lord said, "What mean ye, that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge? As I live saith the Lord God ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel." Ezekiel 18:2,3. In verse 20, the Lord continues : "The SOUL that SINNETH, IT shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him." If children were not held responsible for the sins of parents under the Law of Moses, then the same must be true now under law of Christ. If the doctrine of inborn sin is true it must not have a broken link — — yet this passage is a broken link in the chain. Note : it is the SOUL that SINNETH that DIES.

When all stand before God to be judged, each will have to give account for his own sins. "So then every one of us shall give account of HIMSELF to God." Romans 14:12.

No Plan for Saving Infants

If original sin is inherited, why did God not give a plan for saving infants. There are no commands in the Bible for infants or those incapable of understanding and obeying

them. The Apostle Paul said, "Where no law is, there is no transgression." Romans 4:15. Since there is no law for the infant he cannot sin.

Jesus said, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Matthew 28:19. In Mark 16:16 He said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." And in Acts 2:38, "Repent, and be baptized.....unto the remission of sins." The believing and penitent were to be baptized. Not an infant included, and rightly so, for they are not lost. They are safe.

Arguments for Inherited Sin Examined

"Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me." Psalms 51:5. Some would use this statement of David as proof that we inherit sin at birth. A close examination reveals: (1) David was not speaking about his birth; but his conception. (2) David is not talking about HIS sin; but the sin of his mother. The very act that brought about his conception was sinful. Note: David did not say that he was born a sinner.

"For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous." Romans 5:19. Many believe that Paul was teaching that sin is inborn. Paul does not say how they are made sinners by Adam's disobedience, nor how they are made righteous by Christ's obedience. It is pure assumption to say that the sin of Adam is imputed to all. Paul is teaching that, following Adam's example one becomes a sinner, and following Christ's example one becomes righteous.

"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." Corinthians 15:22. If this teaches that in Adam all are born sinners, it also teaches that in Christ all are made free from Adam's sin. Whatever we lost in Adam unconditionally, we regained in Christ unconditionally. This passage is speaking concerning physical death, and the resurrection of the dead.

"And were by nature the children of wrath, even as others." Ephesians 2:3. Some teach that Adam's sin caused him to have a "fallen nature", and that he transmitted it to his offspring. This so-called fallen nature is supposed to be transmitted from father to son, making all at birth "children of wrath." If the "fallen nature" of Adam can be transmitted to his offspring, why could not the righteous nature of Noah be (Genesis 6:9) transmitted? Why, also, when a person is regenerated — — born again — — and made partakers of the Divine nature (1 Peter 1:4); does he

not transmit that to his offspring? If one can be transmitted so can the other.

"If sin is not inherited why do all sin?"

The Bible gives the answer. ".....But every man is tempted when he is drawn away by his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." James 1:13-15. One is not born dead as many human creeds teach; but one is drawn away by lust, commits sin, and death follows. Therefore, men sin today for the same reason that Adam did, who could not have inherited sin.

Someone asks, "Do you mean that a child does not have a natural tendency to sin?" If a child was in an environment as clean and pure as Adam's he would have no more natural tendency to sin than Adam did. When Adam was given the chance to sin, he took it. What child does more than that? When you find the reasons, you will find that Adam had them then, and every person has them now. We do not get them by inheritance.

Infant Sprinkling

The unscriptural doctrine of Original Sin brings about the unscriptural practice of Infant Baptism or "christening": Many in the religious world sincerely believe that they must take their infants and have them "baptized". The Bible does not teach that sprinkling is baptism or that infants are proper subjects of Bible baptism.

The word "Baptize" is a Greek word which has been Anglicized. To determine its meaning we must go, not to present day dictionaries, but to the original Greek word "baptidzo" from which it comes. Most Greek lexicons will tell us that it means "to immerse, to dip, to plunge, to submerge". Only the idea of complete immersion carries out the idea of baptize.

However, you don't need to know Greek to learn that New Testament baptism is always immersion. It is described as a "burial" a "planting". Romans 6:3-5. Philip immersed the Ethiopian eunuch. "They both went down INTO THE WATER, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him." Acts 8:38,39. You cannot be buried in a few drops of water applied to the head.

Affusion Substituted for Immersion

The first case of sprinkling for immersion is that of Nova-

tian about A.D. 253. Seriously ill he was expected to die. He had never been baptized and was considered too sick to immerse. They "besprinkled" him with water while in his bed. From that time the practice was followed only in case of sickness, and was called "clinic baptism." In 1311 A.D. the council of Ravenna declared immersion, sprinkling or pouring to be indifferent.

What do Scholars say about it ?

Martin Luther said, "It cannot be proved by the sacred scripture that infant baptism was instituted by Christ, or begun by the first Christians after the Apostle." (Vanity of Inf. Bapt. II, p.8.)

"There is no express mention of the baptizing of infants in the New Testament, but it is at least probable that there were infants among the whole families that were baptized by St. Paul (Acts 16:15 ; 1 Corinthians 1:16)." (Question Box, p. 243, Cath.)

Infant Baptism not taught in Bible

The Bible is our sole guide in all religious matters. It furnishes completely unto every good work. 11 Timothy 3:17. There is not one single passage commanding infant baptism. There is not one example in the Bible of an infant being baptized. There is not an argument in favour of it that will stand the test of the Scriptures.

Beginning of Infant Baptism

Origen was the first writer in church history to specifically advocate infant baptism. He based his arguments on two false assumptions. (1) That there is something sinful about the physical birth, later called "Original Sin". (2) That baptism of infants removes this sin. Many who advocate infant "christening" now, base their belief on the same false assumption. The doctrine of original sin is the foundation of the doctrine of infant baptism. Some who once taught the doctrine of original sin no longer believe it, yet they still believe and practice infant baptism. This is like trying to hold up a house after the foundation has been knocked out. We can safely conclude from history that prior to A.D. 175 infant baptism was an unknown practice.

Affirmative arguments examined

Some teach that when Jesus said, "Suffer little children and forbid them not, to come unto me." Matthew 19:14. He baptized the little children that were brought to Him. The following observations are in order: (1) Jesus was not talking about baptism in this passage. (2) Jesus did what the parents requested.....laid His hands on them to bless them. (3) The disciples would not have rebuked the parents if they were bringing SINFUL children to the Lord to be saved. (4) They were not sinful as Jesus said, "of such is the kingdom of heaven."

We know that Jesus did not baptize these little children because He did not baptize. "Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples." John 4:2: Jesus did bless them. Why do not the advocates of infant "christening" bless the little children instead of sprinkling water on their head and putting salt in their mouth, and spittal on their ears and nostrils? What a mockery of true Bible baptism.

"Infants are a part of all nations"

Some affirm that since infants are a part of all nations, they should be baptized. Jesus said, "Go ye therefore, and TEACH all nations, baptizing them." Matthew 28:19. Infants cannot be taught. Jesus also said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Mark 16:16. Infants cannot be taught, cannot believe, cannot repent of sins, therefore they are not to be baptized.

"Circumcision is a type of baptism"

Some teach that since infants were circumcised, infants should be baptized. Let us make some observations. (1) Circumcision was for male children only. This would limit baptism to male children. (2) Jesus was circumcised and baptized both. Luke 2:21; Matthew 3:13-17. If sprinkling corresponds to circumcision, where is the authority to baptize girl babies? That which proves to much, proves nothing. It is evident that baptism did not take the place of circumcision.

Household Baptism

It is assumed that there were infants among the whole families baptized by the apostles. Not a single infant is mentioned in any of the many examples of conversion in

the New Testament. In fact, it is evident that no infants were baptized.

In Lydia's household, Acts 16:14,15, only those capable of receiving comfort from the WORDS of Paul and Silas were baptized, v. 40. It is not certain that Lydia was married, and if so, that she had any children, or infants.

In the Jailer's house, Acts 16:32-34, those who heard the gospel and believed were baptized. This excludes infants as they cannot understand, and believe the gospel.

"What Harm in having My Baby Sprinkled?"

Infant sprinkling is sinful. There is no Bible authority for it. It cannot be done in the name of Christ, as we are commanded to do all things. Colossians 3:17. "Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God." II John 9.

If infant baptism became a universal practice it would make void the Lord's plan of salvation for the lost. The command is to believe, John 3:16, to repent and be baptized unto the remission of sins Acts 2:38. If all were baptized then infants, when they become old enough to believe they would refuse baptism, saying they had been baptized. This would reverse the order of salvation.

Infant "christening" robs the child of the personal joy of obeying Christ. The infant is sprinkled WITHOUT faith, WITHOUT desire, WITHOUT repentance, WITHOUT confession, WITHOUT love, WITHOUT expectation, WITHOUT divine authority, WITHOUT Bible example, and WITHOUT consent.

Infant baptism robs thousands of salvation. Christ became the author of salvation to all who obey Him. Hebrews 5:9. Many refuse to obey Christ by being immersed, saying, "My parents had me baptized when I was a baby." Dear reader, God does not authorize infant baptism, and it nearly always stands in the way of your child obeying Christ later. Yes, there is harm in it. It may keep your child from being saved. Have you obeyed your Lord in baptism? If not, what doth hinder you from being baptized? Acts 22:16.

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These are but a few of the addresses of the churches of Christ located in India. Contact the one nearest you for information about worship services, Bible Correspondence Courses, and tracts.

BOOK POST

From:

Church of Christ

C-22 South Extension-2

New Delhi-49, (India)

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