January 25 Salvation

What is Baptism?

 We have looked at the steps leading up to baptism: Hearing that leads to believing, confessing that Jesus is the Christ and repenting of our sins and seeking forgiveness.

 Now we are ready to look at baptism:

 To answer the question, What is baptism? It is an outward act of obedience to an inward belief in Jesus.

 What happens in immersion baptism - Read: Romans 6:4 and Romans 6:8.

 Through our baptism we have buried our sins in a watery grave and are to rise to a new life in Christ.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Romans 6:11.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Lord, Help me to keep my sins buried in that watery grave and to live the way you would want me to live.

January 26

Salvation

Rise to a New Life

 We enter into baptism our old self, and we rise from the water cleansed from our sin and enter into a new life in Christ – Read: Colossians 2:12.

 In this new life Christ lives in us – Read: Galatians 2:20.

 We have Christ living within us, now what do we do? – Read: Ephesians 4:22-24.

 We see our lives must change since we have put on Christ, because if we keep on in our old ways Christ’s dying for us was in vain.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Romans 8:6.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me, O Lord, not to rearrange my life so Christ will “fit in” but to make him first in my life.

January 27

Salvation

What is Received?

 Through baptism we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit – Read: Acts 2:38.

 The Holy Spirit was promised to the original twelve disciples – Read: John 14:16-17a. That helper is with us today and is received in baptism!

 The Spirit will bring us truth – Read: John 16:13a.

 The Spirit comes into our heart – Read: Romans 5:5b.

 Why would anyone not want to be baptized? The cleansing from sin and the gift of the Holy Spirit. WHAT LOVE! WHAT A GIFT!

VERSE FOR TODAY: Ephesians 1:13, 14.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Thank-you, O Lord, for the Holy Spirit that I can be filled with

your truth and love every day of my life.

January 28

Salvation

Why Water?

 Water is a symbol of washing in the blood of Jesus, since he died for us.

 Water is used to cleanse within – Read: I Peter 3:20b-21

 Baptism alone will not save us, we must rise from baptism to live a new life, if

we go on willfully sinning, our baptism will not save us in itself, we must live a new

life in Christ – Read: I Peter 4:2.

 We know when we are dirty on the outside water will make us clean so will the

cleansing water of baptism makes us clean within.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Acts 22:16.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Help me to hear you calling, O Lord, and respond to that call to a

new life in you.

January 29 Salvation

Do we HAVE to be Baptized?

 There seem to be conflicting verses in the Bible on the need to be baptized. Such as –

Read: Mark 16:16. In contrast to – Read: Romans 10:9.

 Baptism is an act of obedience and a following of Jesus as our example – Read: I Peter

2:21. In light of these verses there should be no confusion about the need for adult baptism

because an infant cannot confess or believe and to follow the example of Jesus that is no

question that the person must be an age to have an understanding of the things of God.

Don’t let the above so called conflicting verses confuse you the key is to believe

and in believing you will want to be obedient and be baptized.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Luke 3:21

PRAYER THOUGHT: Dear Lord, help me to know that baptism is part of my total acceptance

and obedience to you.

January 30

Salvation

Being Put Right with God

 Grace is unmerited kindness, mercy and forgiveness of God. Grace is a free gift from

God; all the laws obeyed make no difference, if you are not right with God and have His grace. –

Read: Galatians 5:4.

The laws Paul was talking about were the old Jewish laws of circumcision,

but many of us today find ourselves caught up in the “laws” set down by denominations, when

what we really need is to be put right with God – Read: Romans 3:22-24.

 Going along with the lines that we cannot earn our salvation – Read: Ephesians 2:8, 9.

VERSE FOR TODAY: John 1:17.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Praise be to you, O Lord, for giving us the wonderful gift of grace, since

you knew none of us could ever repay the debt of love we owe you through the death of Jesus.

January 31

Salvation

What is Faith?

 A Biblical definition of faith: Read Hebrews 11:1 Faith is believing and trusting, in our

everyday life we put our faith in many people, our banker, not to embezzle our money, in our

child’s school teacher, to be a good teacher and countless others. The most important faith we

must have is faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

 Basis for faith and love – Read: Colossians 1:5.

 We all have different hopes for our own futures, for eternity our hope is eternal

life through Jesus.

 Why should we have faith in Jesus? Read: I Peter 1:8, 9.

 What better reason is there? Put your faith in the Lord for the salvation of your

soul!

VERSE FOR TODAY: Habakkuk 2:4.

PRAYER THOUGHT: May the faith I have in you, O Lord, never waver but become stronger

through the years.

February 1

Salvation

Hope through Faith

 Faith and hope go hand in hand, if we have faith we have hope for this life and the life

to come, we put our faith in Jesus, even though we haven’t seen him – Read: I Peter 1:8

and II Corinthians 4:18b. As we know whatever we can see in this life, money, goods and

especially this body will pass away but God and heaven are forever, both unseen.

 One of the most important things in these uncertain times is to be firm in your faith and

hope – Read: Hebrews 10:23.

 As the saying goes, “Where there is life there is hope.” While we still have life, we must

put our hope in Jesus.

VERSE FOR TODAY: Romans 15:13.

PRAYER THOUGHT: Let the faith in my heart, O Lord, fill me with hope for all eternity.