

Pastor's Patch

Believers Baptism



What better way to celebrate Easter than with a Baptism! Let's explain why.

What is Baptism?

As a Baptist Church we follow the New Testament pattern of believers that when someone believed in Jesus and repented of their sin they would next be baptised.

In fact, the New Testament is clear that believers were normally baptised as soon as they believed, meaning in reality there was no such thing as "an unbaptised believer".

2000 years ago the Christian believers began to share their faith with unbelievers.

This went hand in hand with them explaining that baptism was a commandment from Jesus to His followers as well as the logical way to mark publicly this change.

Once a person has been baptised, we pray for them to receive a fresh filling and anointing of God's Holy Spirit. This is because whenever someone takes a step of faith, the Lord uses that obedience to bless them further with gifts and abilities to better follow and share Jesus with others.

Why do we baptise by full immersion?

The original New Testament word "baptizo" found in the accounts of baptism means "to immerse or plunge under water". When Jesus was baptised in the river Jordan, it states he "came up out of the Jordan". These all point to full immersion baptism, not just a sprinkling of water on the head.

Who can be baptised?

People come to baptism by many routes - some are baptised in their teens or twenties. Others may have started their life of faith in different denominations, and become convinced Believers Baptism is for them, and it's even been known for people in their 70's to get baptised - showing it's never too late.

POINT TO PONDER

We read that the first believers in Jesus preached a simple message:

"Believe and be baptised, every one of you".

If you believe in Jesus, if you know that He died in order to bear the punishment and shame of your sin, if you believe that Jesus rose to life again showing that all who believe in Him can have New Life, then what is stopping you from being baptised? Speak to a leader to learn more.

Darrell Holmes

SERMON SUMMARY

Last week Darrell looked at the events of Palm Sunday as recorded in Luke chapter 19.

We were challenged to be Weeping Worshippers.

We can rejoice that Jesus rode into Jerusalem knowing it would be the place of His execution, in order to take the punishment for the sins of the world.

This understanding will inspire us to worship.

We are to weep for those who do not recognise Jesus for who He is and the hope He offers in life.

We weep that many do not know that Jesus is coming again soon to judge the world and condemn all those who have rejected Him.

Our weeping and sadness will inspire us to reach out to those who have not yet heard the Good News and forgiveness Jesus offers.