

Baptism: Zwingli or the Bible?

Titus 1:9



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Baptism: Zwingli or the Bible?

- **The First 1500 Years:**
 - **No one denied the essentiality of baptism for salvation.**
 - **The Bible (Mk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21).**
 - **Early Church (100-300 A.D.)**
 - **Catholic Church (300-1500 A.D.)**
 - **Martin Luther (1483-1546 A.D.)**



Justin Martyr (110-165)

**“...then they are brought by us
were there is water, and are
regenerated...For...they then
receive the washing with
water... we have learned
from the Apostles this
reason... in order that we...
may obtain in the water the
remission of sins.”**

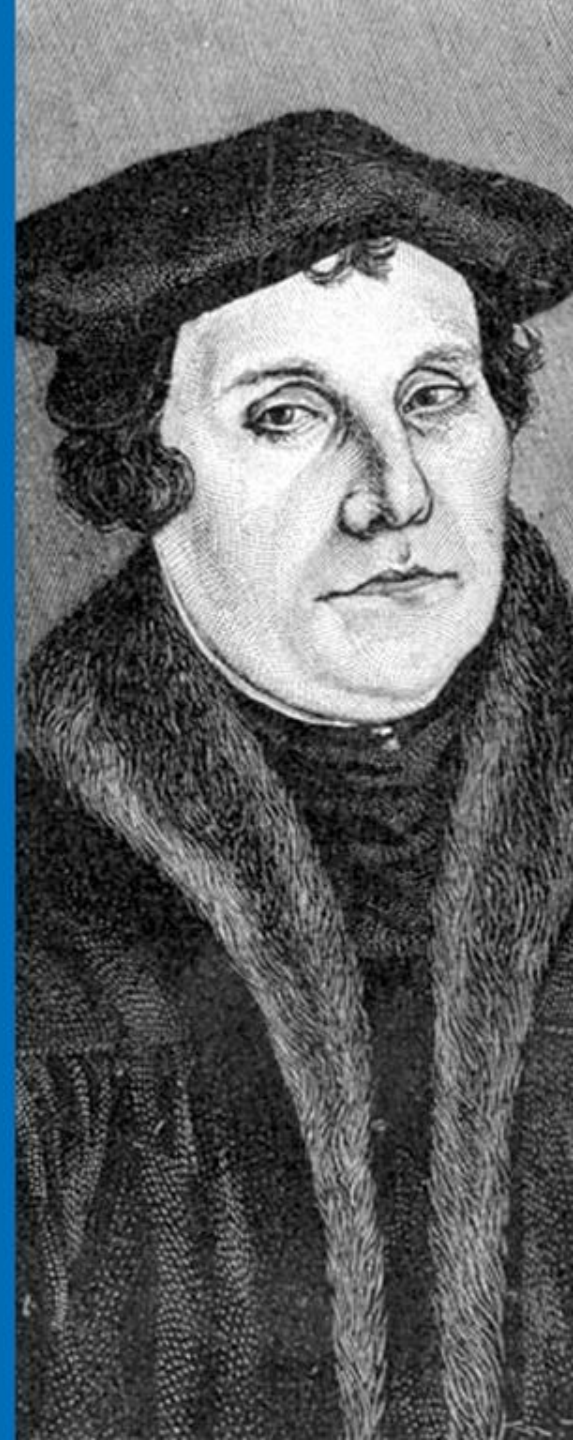


Cyril of Jerusalem (315-386)

“Great is the Baptism that lies before you: a ransom to captives; a remission of offensives; a death of sin; a new-birth of the Soul; a garment of light; a holy indissoluble seal; a chariot to heave; the delight of Paradise; a welcome into the kingdom; the gift of adoption!...”

"Holy Baptism has been purchased for us by the same blood which Christ shed for us and with which He paid for our sin. This blood, with its merit and power, He deposited in Baptism so that men attain it there. For the person who is receiving Baptism in faith is in effect actually being visibly washed with the blood of Christ and cleansed from sins."

MARTIN LUTHER



Baptism: Zwingli or the Bible?

- **Huldreich Zwingli:**
 - **Lived 1484-1531.**
 - **He was the first to teach that baptism had nothing to do with salvation. Period.**
 - **Breaking with the Bible and 1500 years of unity on the Doctrine.***





Huldreich Zwingli

“For baptism is given and received for the sake of fellow-believers, not for a supposed effect in those who receive it.”



Huldreich Zwingli

“In this matter of baptism, all the doctors [i.e., teachers] have been in error from the time of the apostles. For all the doctors have ascribed to the water a power which it does not have and the holy apostles did not teach.”

Baptism: Zwingli or the Bible?

- **The “new” view of Baptism:**
 - **Baptism has nothing to do with salvation.**
 - **It is something one does to show to others that they are saved.**
 - **Equated O.T. circumcision to N.T. baptism. It was a sign of the covenant not something did to get into covenant.**

“ For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

Ephesians 2:8-9

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Baptism: Zwingli or the Bible?

- The “new” argument on Baptism:
 - The common argument: **Ephesians 2:8-9** says we’re not saved by works.
 - Baptism is a work.
 - Therefore, baptism has nothing to do with salvation.

Baptism: Zwingli or the Bible?

- Is Baptism a work?
 - Work(s) is used in a few different ways in the Bible.
 - Sometimes used to describe faith. **Jn. 6:26-29**
 - Sometimes used to describe something we do that God commanded (**Jas. 2:26**).
 - Also, sometimes used to describe meritorious works (things done to *earn* something like salvation). **Rom. 3:27-28**

Baptism: Zwingli or the Bible?

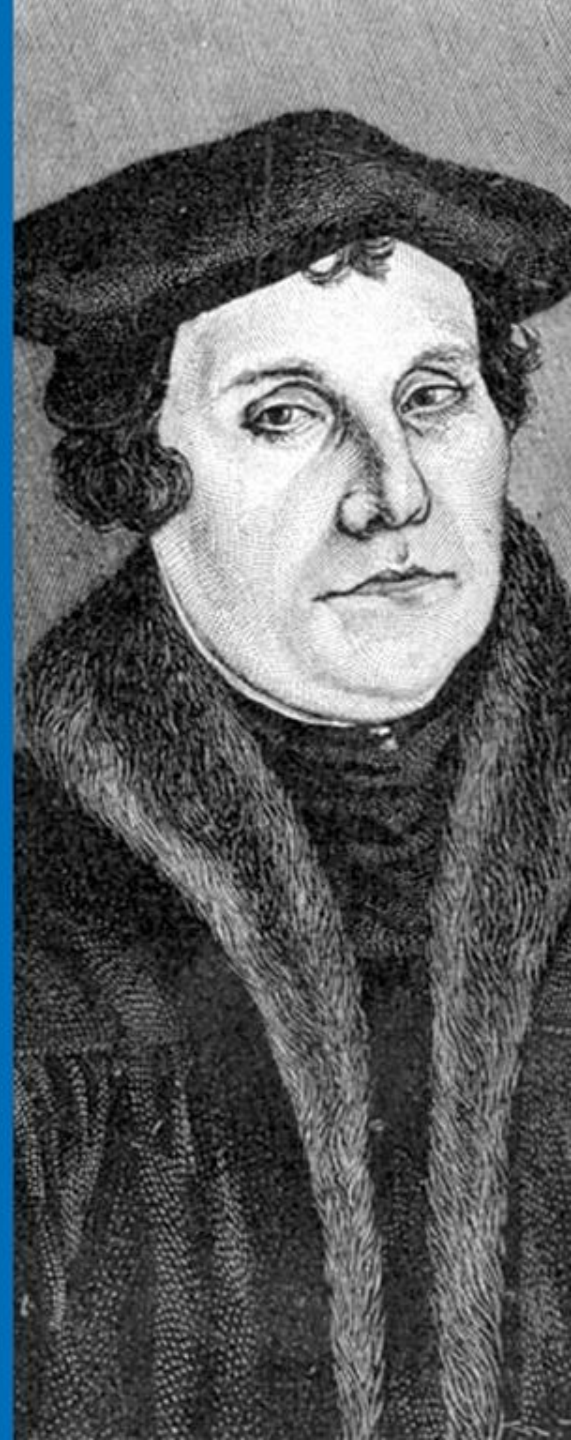
- Is Baptism a Work?
 - Paul's use of works:
 - Paul frequently uses a more complete phrase “works of law” or “works of the law.” (ex. **Rom. 3:20, 28, Gal. 2:16, 3:2**, etc.)
 - Expresses the concept of gaining salvation by keeping the rules.
 - Most religious people agree, that law keeping cannot save.

Baptism: Zwingli or the Bible?

- Is Baptism a Work?
 - Baptism is not a work of law because I am not the one working!
 - It is something I “do” like faith, confession, repentance, etc.
 - But the cleansing of my sin is outside my power. I can’t do that.
 - Scripture affirms this.
(Titus 3:5-7; Eph. 2:5-6, 10; Col. 2:12-13)

"To this you many answer:
Yes, it is true that our
works are of no use for
salvation. Baptism,
however is not our work
but God's ... God's works
are ... necessary for
salvation, and they do not
exclude but rather
demand faith."

MARTIN LUTHER



"He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned."

Mark 16:16

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