



To Be A Transforming
Community Committed
To Jesus Christ

SERMON STUDY NOTES

8th December 2019
Speaker: Martin Armstrong

Believer's Baptism

Scripture Passages: Acts 8:26-39, Romans 6:1-5, 1
Cor 10:1-7, Exodus 14

1. “Baptists” feel that Baptism is an area of doctrine they have got right. Yet they do not follow the pattern of scripture where people got baptised the day that they became a Christian. We often make people wait until they have proved they are genuine. (See Paul – Acts 9, Philippian jailer Acts 16, Ethiopian Acts 8). Why is this?
2. In biblical times many baptisms took place in a public places and were a public declaration. **Should this be the case today? Why is this important?**
3. **Have you been baptised?** Share with the group about your baptism.
4. Romans 6:1-7 tells how that we die to our old way of life. Baptism is where we bury our old life and then we rise up out of the grave, to a new life in Jesus Christ and walk with him. Did you find it easier to live for Jesus after your baptism?

5. By baptism in water and the Holy Spirit it is God's intension that we should be cut off and delivered from the association and control of this world; and that the way back into the old life should be closed behind us (like the Israelites after they crossed the Red Sea 1 Cor 10:1-3, 6). **Have you observed that "baptised Christians" are more likely to continue in their faith and remain firm?**

6. In Brian Archer's book "If you Care to Accept It," Papuan tribal people said "You can do what you like except baptise them. We have seen that this baptism cuts them off from our traditional spirits and ways." "Our baptism by an act of obedience to God's word causes a barrier to be built between us and the powers that Satan had over us to do what he wants with us." **What influences and activities in our lives and society could baptism help us break free from?**

7. "Believer's baptism isn't necessary for salvation, but it is necessary for obedience. Obedience is necessary if we are going to experience joy and growth and fruitfulness in the Christian life." **Do you agree?**

8. Have you been baptised? Why not? If you have been baptised yet are still struggling in certain areas, get your group to pray with you.