

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

**CHRISTIAN
STEWARDS
AND THE
SACRAMENT OF
BAPTISM**

TALK PIECE

I AM BAPTIZED!

Gracious Father in heaven, we thank and praise You that You have made us Your children in baptism, and as Your children You provide for our every need, especially the need of the forgiveness of sins. Empowered by Your grace help us to live lives of thanksgiving by giving glory to Your name as we commit our time, talents, treasure, and testimony to Your service. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

PRAYER

—THE BAPTIZED STEWARDS LOVE
THE LORD AND HIS CHURCH.
—BAPTIZED STEWARDS RESPOND TO
THE WHOLE BREADTH OF
RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH ARE
THEIR'S AS CHILDREN OF GOD.

Born into Stewardship

BAPTISM



HOLY

*What does such baptizing with water signify?
It signifies that the Old Adam in us should, by
daily contribution and repentance, be drowned and
die with all sins and evil lusts and, again, a
new man daily come forth and arise, who shall
live before God in righteousness and purity forever.”*
Martin Luther, Small Catechism

PRAYER

Dear Father in heaven, teach us that our lives are always in Your hands and we need never fear or worry. You supply all our bodily and spiritual needs.

In Your love You sent Your only Son, Jesus, to suffer and die for us. He took the punishment for our sins that we deserved. Now we have full and complete forgiveness. We thank You for Your gift of love.

You tell us that we can come to You in prayer, bringing all our concerns and cares before You, knowing that You hear and answer us. Truly Your love is great.

Our Lord and God, accept our hearts and lives. Use us to Your glory and in the service of others. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.



“We love because He first loved us.” Baptism demonstrates God’s love for us. That love is our motivation for living the stewardship life.



—THE CHRISTIAN STEWARDS RETURN TO GOD
—TIME
—TALENTS & GIFTS
—TESTIMONY
—TREASURE

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—which is your spiritual worship.” Romans 12:1

—OUR BAPTISMAL RESPONSE—

LSB 590

*Baptized into your name most holy,
O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
Among your seed, your chosen host.
Buried with Christ and dead to sin,
I have your Spirit now within.*

“What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.”

Psalm 116:12-14

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

“A Christian life is but a daily baptism.”

WATER AND WORD

**SACRIFICE
MEANS OF GRACE**

“A treasure which God gives us”

“No greater jewel can adorn our body or soul than Baptism.”

SACRAMENT

[Baptism] is so full of comfort and grace that heaven and earth cannot fully grasp it... Hence every Christian has enough in baptism to study and practice all his life.”



**BAPTISM IS AN IMPORTANT
PART OF THE
CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP LIFE.**

*“Arise and be baptized and wash away
your sins.”*

Acts 22:16

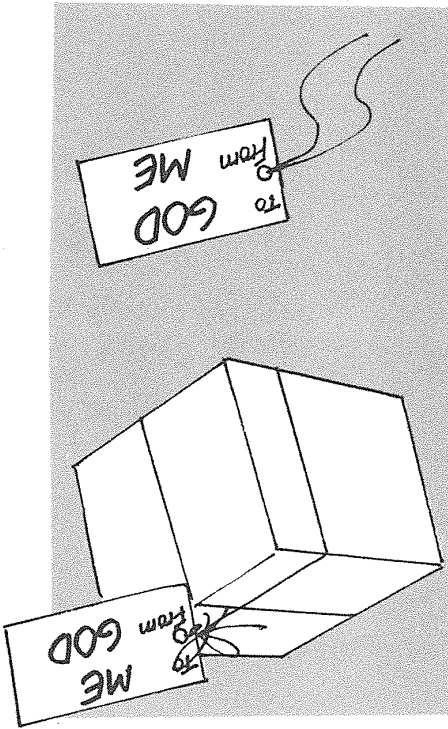
*God's benefits for us in baptism are many—
forgiveness, salvation, new life,
membership in God's family, the Holy Spirit.*

The Psalmist asked:

*“What shall I render unto the Lord for all His
benefits towards me?”*

The baptized steward regularly asks that question also.

God's Word provides the answer.



“Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess His name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”

Hebrews 13:15-16

“Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

II Corinthians 9:7

WHAT IS BAPTISM?

**BAPTISM = WATER + APPLICATION
OF WATER + WORD OF GOD.**

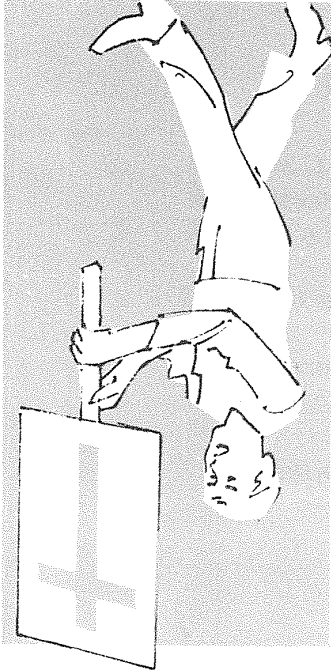


Matthew 28-“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

SMALL CATECHISM:

“Baptism is not simple water only, but it is the water comprehended in God’s command and connected with God’s word”.

HE LIVED FOR US—WE LIVE FOR HIM—CHRIST REIGNS IN US



—WHAT WE ARE: BAPTIZED
—WHAT WE ARE TO DO: DECLARE HIS
PRAISES

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light” 1 Peter 2:9

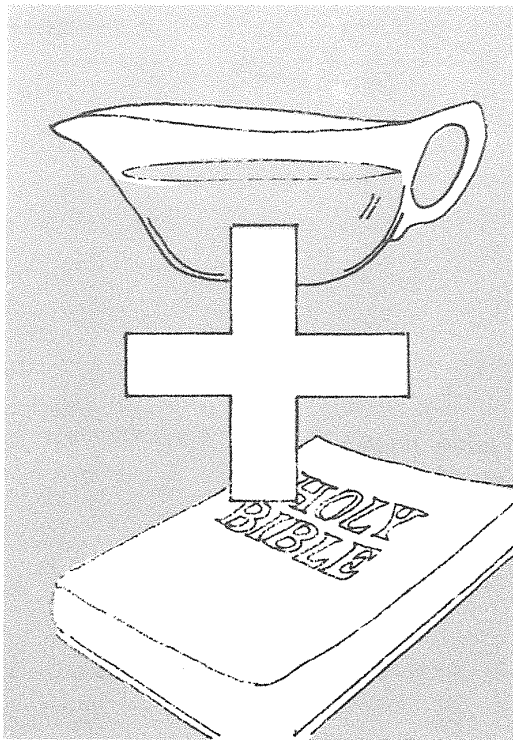
In baptism God gives Christian Stewards their life's program. In baptism stewards receive grace and responsibility.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

“But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.”
1 Corinthians 6:11

*“And you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem
and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends
of the earth.”*

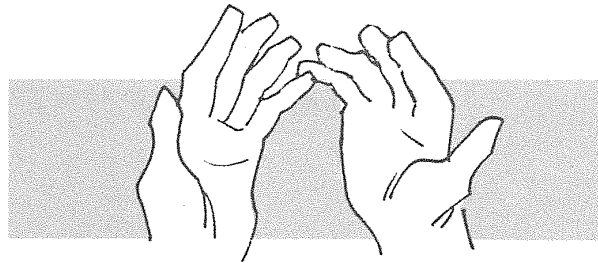
Acts 1:8



WHAT IS BAPTISM?

BAPTISM IS A SACRAMENT:

- Sacred act instituted by God.*
- Visible means connected with the Word of God.*
- Offers the forgiveness of sins.*



BAPTISM=We receive something from God

Belong to God

~~Self~~
~~X~~

STEWARDS

Anchored in Christ

~~Adm~~
~~X~~

The baptismal covenant is one of the great treasures of the Christian Steward

—He assures us we may take refuge in Him

and care

—He invites us to make use of His boundless strength

—His love & grace & goodness are forever available

—We can draw on Him for all our needs

—We have forgiveness of sins

—We are kept by the Holy Spirit

—We are His

In baptism God makes a covenant with us.

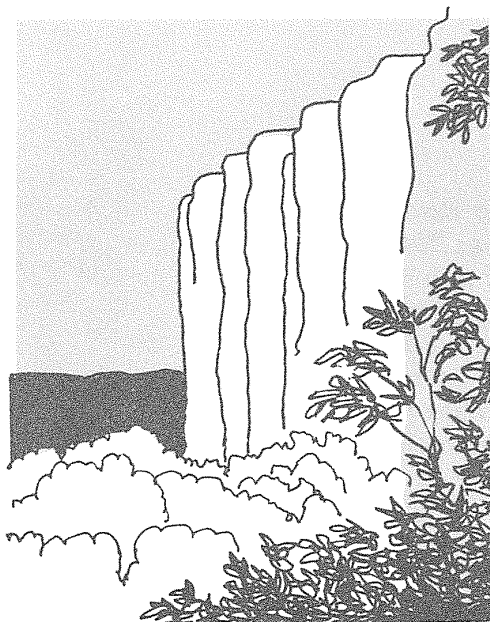
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Galatians 3:26-27

“ For in Christ you are all sons of God, through
faith. For as many of you as were baptized into his
Christ have put on Christ.”

*“What does baptism give or profit?
It works forgiveness of sins, delivers from death
and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all
who believe this, as the words and promises
of God declare.”*

Martin Luther, Small Catechism



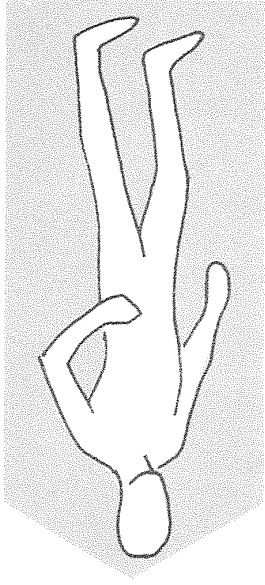
WHAT IS BAPTISM?

BAPTISM IS A MEANS OF GRACE

*A channel through which God offers
and gives the free gift of His
forgiveness.*

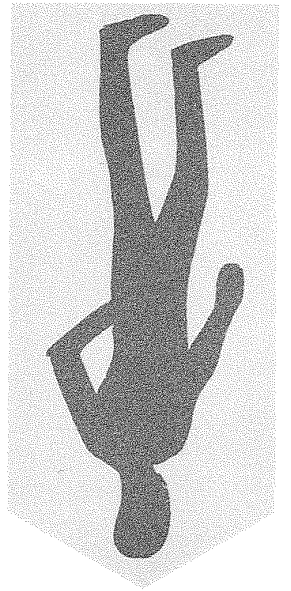
*Christ lived, suffered, died, rose again
for us. The blessings of that activity
are imparted to us by the Holy Spirit.*

*The Spirit uses means—
one is BAPTISM*



CHRIST RULES!

*To live as Christian Stewards implies that we continuously consent to the death of the old man (sinful self), which desires to hold on to everything for selfish purposes.
At the same time Christian Stewards consent to the rise of the new man, which acts according to God's will.*



For Christian Stewards baptism is a continual point of reference.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

LSB 601

*All who believe and are baptized
Shall see the Lord's salvation;
Baptized into the death of Christ,
They are a new creation;
Through Christ's redemption
They will stand
Among the glorious heavenly band
Of every tribe and nation.*

“Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

Romans 6:3-4

WHAT HAS BAPTISM GIVEN THE STEWARD?

—Baptism made us God’s children and members of His Family.
We became His again.

“But when the time had fully come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.”

Galatians 4:4-5

—Baptism brings to us the forgiveness of sins.

“Rise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name.” Acts 22:16

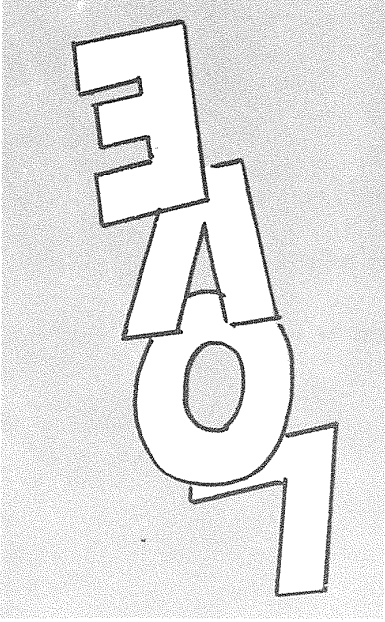
In baptism God placed His name upon us and claimed us to be His own.

“Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word.”
Ephesians 5:25-26

Christian stewards look at this miraculous event in wonder at what God has done.

His love and mercy for us in our baptism is extravagant.
—Mercy: He withholds from us the things we deserve
—Love: He bestows on us the things we don't deserve

BUT... WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?



For the Christian Steward baptism is where the stewardship life began.

*“And be renewed in the spirit of your minds,
and put on the new nature, created after the
likeness of God in true righteousness and
holiness.”*

Ephesians 4:23-24

WHAT DOES BAPTISM OFFER THE STEWARD?

—Baptism gives us salvation

*“Baptism which corresponds to this, now saves you.”
1 Peter 3:21*

*“He who believes and is baptized will be saved.”
Mark 16:16*

*Baptism rescues us from the jaws of the devil and gives
us victory over death and the devil.*

—Baptism gives us new life. It is the door to newness of life.

*“As many of you as were baptized into Christ, have put
on Christ.” Galatians 3:27*

Nicodemus in John 3

**Baptism made us God’s, made us stewards, enables us
to live the stewards life.**



Baptism thrusts us into the stewardship life, We can now live the free, responsible, and joyful life.

—Baptism gives us daily strength to live as stewards of God.
“We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.” Romans 6:4

—Baptism has given us the Holy Spirit and His Gifts.
“And Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’” Acts 2:38

WHAT DOES BAPTISM OFFER THE STEWARD?

“If any one is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has passed away, behold, the new has come. II Corinthians 5:17