

Heidelberg Catechism

LORD'S DAY 27

Question 72. Is then the external baptism with water the washing away of sin itself?

Answer. Not at all: for the [a] blood of Jesus Christ only, and the Holy Ghost cleanse us from all [b] sin.

Question 73. Why then doth the Holy Ghost call baptism "the washing of regeneration," and "the washing away of sins"?

Answer. God speaks thus not without great cause, to-wit, not only thereby to teach us, that as the filth of the body is purged away by water, so our sins are [c] removed by the blood and Spirit of Jesus Christ; but especially that by [d] this divine pledge and sign he may assure us, that we are spiritually cleansed from our sins as really, as we are externally washed with water.

Question 74. Are infants also to be baptized?

Answer. Yes: for since they, as well as the adult, are included in the [e] covenant and [f] church of God; and since [g] redemption from sin by the blood of Christ, and the [h] Holy Ghost, the author of faith, is promised to them no less than to the adult; they must therefore by baptism, as a sign of the covenant, be also admitted into the christian church; and be distinguished [i] from the children of unbelievers as was done in the old covenant or testament by [j] circumcision, instead of which [k] baptism is instituted in the new covenant.

[a]: Mat. 3:11; 1Pet. 3:11

[b]: 1John 1:7; 1Cor. 6:11

[c]: Rev. 1:5; 1Cor 6:11

[d]: Mark 16:16; Gal. 3:27

[e]: Gen. 17:7; Acts 2:39

[f]: 1Cor. 7:14; Joel 2:16

[g]: Mat. 19:14

[h]: Luke 1:14,15; Psa. 22:10; Acts 2:39

[i]: Acts 10:47; 1Cor. 12:13; 1Cor 7:14

[j]: Gen. 17:14

[k]: Col. 2:11,12,13

Name : _____

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Vocabulary

Please define the following words/terms in the context of the Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 27:

External baptism : _____

Blood of Jesus Christ : _____

Washing of Regeneration : _____

Washing Away of Sins : _____

Purged away : _____

Spirit of Jesus Christ : _____

Divine pledge : _____

Name : _____

Sign : _____

Spiritually cleansed : _____

Infants : _____

Included in the Covenant : _____

Sign of the covenant : _____

Christian Church : _____

Distinguished : _____

Old covenant : _____

Circumcision : _____

New Covenant : _____

Name : _____

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Scripture Reading/Comprehension

Please read the following Bible passages and answer the questions:

1. 1Cor 6:11

How were you washed, sanctified and justified? Please explain.

2. Rev. 1:5

Were you freed from your sins? How? Please explain.

Name : _____

3. Acts 2:39

What is the “promise” referred to in this verse? Who is this “promise” for? Are you a recipient of this “promise”?

4. Gen. 17:7

Please explain what covenant this verse is referring to. Does this covenant apply to you? If so, how?

Name : _____

5. Col. 2:11,12,13

How does the Old Covenant rite of circumcision relate to the New Covenant sacrament of Baptism?
