

# HERITAGE *Herald*

July 26, 2020



THIS WEEK:

Dear Friends and Members,

We praise the Lord that our church is handling this challenging time well. We are grateful to be able to have two church services on Sunday and two church services on Wednesday. It is a real blessing to me to have two very capable assistant pastors who are able to help me in the preaching and other areas of the church's ministries.

Last Sunday morning, my wife Linda was rushed to the hospital for severe abdominal pains. It was determined to be a blockage by gallstones. On Monday, while awaiting an operation to remove the stones, she suffered a mild heart attack. On Tuesday, they moved her to another hospital and on Wednesday, they put five stents in her major arteries which were severely blocked. On Thursday, the doctors removed 5 gallstones. We are so thankful for the wisdom and skill of the doctors and to the Lord who allowed things to happen in His perfect timing to bring about a successful result to what could have been a fatal end. On Friday around 12:30 noon, she was discharged from the hospital. Since then, she has been resting at home. We praise God and give Him all the glory!



**A Word of Comfort:** *My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from Him* (Psalm 62:5).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**AUG 24 - HBTS Fall Semester begins** - Monday evenings: *Hebrew Language IV* (4-7 PM) and *Angelology* (7:30-9:30 PM)

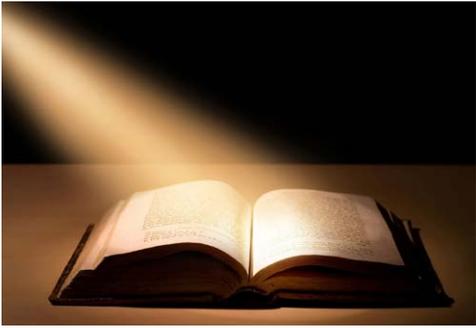
a newsletter from

HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH  
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Endicott, NY 13760  
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• VISIT OUR WEBSITE •  
for more information and archived *Heralds*  
[www.heritagebaptistchurch.info](http://www.heritagebaptistchurch.info)  
or email the pastor  
[hbc5923@stny.rr.com](mailto:hbc5923@stny.rr.com)

SERVICE TIMES  
SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10 AM  
SUNDAY MORNING - 11 AM  
SUNDAY EVENING - 6 PM  
WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK - 7 PM

# for the discerning



## The Biblical Doctrine of Baptism

The book of Acts is a treatise by Luke, which reveals the various accounts of the ministry of the New Testament churches. It is interesting to see what it reveals about various subjects. We can learn a great deal about the ordinance of *baptism*. First, baptism is associated with the biblical doctrine of salvation. We note that baptism does not save, but when a person receives the word of truth and is saved, they identify with their Savior, Jesus Christ (2:38-41), according to the Lord's commission (Acts 1:8). Second, baptism is associated with church membership; again, we are able to recognize this close relationship, *Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls* (Acts 2:41). We note, those who received God's Word were baptized and then added to them. That is, they were added to the early church of 120 disciples or the Apostolic church. It is evident from the following verses 42 through 47, that they acted like church members ought to act.

In Acts chapter 8:13-21, we find thirdly, baptism does not save. The Scripture account is of Philip going from Jerusalem to the city of Samaria to share the Gospel. While there, he encounters a sorcerer named Simon who makes a profession of faith and is baptized, continuing with the Samaritan assembly. Later, the Apostles Peter and John visit the new church plant at Samaria and meet Simon, who is taken by the miracles that he sees them do and offers to buy this ability from them. Peter, discerning that Simon is not saved declares,

*Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent*

### MonthlyMemoryVerse

*how to be blessed by God's Word*

**"...blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it."  
Luke 11:28**

### Notable Historic QUOTE:



"Our greatest happiness does not depend on the condition of life in which chance has placed us, but is always the result of a good conscience, good health, occupation, and freedom in all just pursuits."

- Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826)  
3rd President of the United States

## for the discerning (continued from page 2)

*therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity (Acts 8:20-23).*

It should be clear that saved people are not bound or chained in iniquity, but rather loosed from the bondage of iniquity through the finished work of Christ. Also, saved people do not perish as money perishes. Thus, even though Simon had made a profession of faith and was baptized and a church member, he still was not saved. Baptism does not save as some may think.

Finally, in Acts chapter 8, we find that baptism has a qualification. As Philip reveals Jesus Christ to a traveler, traveling from Jerusalem to Ethiopia, the traveler asks if there is anything that would hinder him from being baptized. When Philip answers him, he shares the qualification for baptism:

*And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him (Acts 8:37-38).*

It should be noted that babies cannot believe, which nullifies the sprinkling of babies as baptism. The Greek word *baptize* means to immerse; otherwise, the word *rhantizo* would have been used for sprinkling. Also, we see both the baptizer and the one being baptized came up out of the water (vs. 39). This would not have been necessary if sprinkling was utilized as a mode of baptism.

Therefore, we learn from the Book of Acts that **baptism** has an association with both salvation and church membership; however, it does not guarantee salvation nor does it bestow salvation. Baptism has a qualification for practice and that is a genuine belief in Jesus Christ as the Son of God. This limits baptismal candidates to those old enough to believe and to ask to be baptized for themselves. It is also recognized that the mode of baptism is immersion, rather than sprinkling.

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*"The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law."*  
Deuteronomy 29:2

current schedule:\*

**FALL SEMESTER BEGINS  
MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 2020**

**Aug 24-Dec 2020**  
**HEBREW LANGUAGE IV**  
Dr. Keith Main  
Monday evenings, 4-7 PM

**Aug 24-Dec 2020**  
**ANGELOLOGY**  
Dr. Keith Main  
Monday evenings, 7:30-9:30 PM

*\*all classes at HBC unless otherwise noted.*

To see all of the degree programs offered by HBTS, please visit our website at:  
[heritagebaptistchurch.info/theologicalseminary.htm](http://heritagebaptistchurch.info/theologicalseminary.htm)

**SEMINARY BOOKSHELF**

Books may be purchased through Heritage Baptist Church (607-786-9496) or Bible Baptist Church (860-229-5387)

A Primer of Baptist History	Colossians & Philemon	Daniel	The Doctrine of Heaven's Music
The Doctrine of Spiritual Gifts	En Epheso	Genesis	Geocentricity
If Any Man Be in Christ	I Will Build My Church	Jonah	The Lord God Hath Spoken
Peter	Proverbs	Psalms 1 - 41	Psalm 119
Spiritual Gifts	I & II Thessalonians	Titus	Revelation

## The Practical Power of the Word of God in the Local Church

### Colossians 1:3-8

Message by *Dr. Caswell A. Reeves*

*The importance of the Word of God is seen in many instances throughout the Scripture. In Paul's letter to the church of Colosse, he reveals its practical power in the New Testament church.*



- I. It brings forth faith in Christ (vs. 4)
- II. It brings forth love for others (vs. 4)
- III. It brings forth hope of heaven (vs. 5)
- IV. It brings forth fruit (vs. 6)
- IV. It brings forth love for the preacher (vs. 8)

*We need to take advantage of the power of the Word of God in each of our lives. It gives power to your life and the life of the church. Are you taking advantage of God's Word?*