

## **Baptismal Pictures**

### **Rom 6:1-4**

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. NKJV

Background: We are in the midst of Paul's argument that salvation is exclusively by grace through faith in the completed work of Jesus Christ. But Paul knew that some had questions about this and would say, "Well then if it is by grace and God's grace is so great that it can take care of any sin, then let us sin more and more so that God's grace might be shown to be really great."

But is never what Paul taught. He taught that the same grace that keeps us saved, also keeps us from sin. Therefore he has this admonition as seen above.

He also wants them to remember the symbolism and profession of their water baptism. That symbolism and profession was entirely contrary to a life outside of God's will.

So as we prepare today for this baptismal service let us examine closely this passage.

- I. As many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death.
  - A. We have been united together in the likeness of His death v-5
    1. This is what he is saying, that with reference to the death of Jesus we were baptized and united with Him.
    2. On Galatians 3:27, Robertson writes, "He does not here mean that one enters into Christ and so is saved by means of baptism after the teaching of the mystery religions, but just the opposite. We are justified by faith in Christ, not by circumcision or by baptism. But baptism was the public profession and pledge, the soldier's sacramentum, oath of fealty to Christ, taking one's stand with Christ, the symbolic picture of the change wrought by faith already (Rom 6:4-6)." (from Robertson's Word Pictures in the New Testament, Electronic Database. Copyright © 1997, 2003, 2005, 2006 by BibleSoft, Inc. Robertson's Word Pictures in the New Testament. Copyright © 1985 by Broadman Press.)
    3. Compare with 1 Corinthians 10:1-2 (NKJV)1 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, 2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

- II. Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death
  - A. “Whoso, then, has been baptized into Christ’s death has formally surrendered the whole state and life of sin, as in Christ a dead thing. He has sealed himself to be not only "the righteousness of God in Him," but "a new creature"; and as he cannot be in Christ to the one effect and not to the other, for they are one thing, he has bidden farewell, by baptism into Christ’s death, to his entire connection with sin.” JFB
- III. So we also should walk in newness of life
  - A. That just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father
  - B. We also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection v-5
  - C. The body of sin might be done away with, v-6
  - D. That we should no longer be slaves of sin v-6
  - E. For he who has died has been freed from sin v-7
  - F. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; v-10
  - G. But the life that He lives, He lives to God v-10
  - H. Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord v-11