

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1859.

THE PULPIT

THE BAPTISM OF JOHN.
(John 1: 1-14.)
The baptism of John is generally synonymous with John's baptism, that is, the baptism which his preaching enjoined, always preceded by repentance, or the exercise of some Christian grace. There is no instance of one's being baptized, that did not precede repentance or faith.

I John was sent of God to preach and baptize (John 1: 6, 7.) This is not good authority: "John the Baptist was from the highest source."
II. Repentance, confession, was necessarily required prior to baptism. (Mark 1: 5.) So was also the exercise of faith. (John 1: 12.)

So when Peter preached, (Acts 2: 38,) they were baptized and saved, (see 44 and 47 verses.)
Paul testified repentance and faith to the Ephesians. Jesus preached the same doctrine, (Mark 1: 14, 15.) Philip baptized the same to the Samaritans and to the Eunuch with similar results, (Acts viii. 12, 37.) The commission, both in Matt. xxviii. 19, and Mark xvi. 15, shows that repentance is to precede the ordinance. The explanation is shown to be invariable, from the fact that John would not baptize the Pharisees, because they did not repent. A very important instance is given in the case of the Ethiopian eunuch, and in the case of the man at Lystra, who were baptized after they had repented.

III. An example is before us for all evangelical ministers and churches. If John, Christ, Peter, Paul, Philip and others required repentance and faith, and they would not baptize without the exhibition of these graces or state of heart that indicated them; then to follow primitive example, we must require the same in extending the kingdom of Christ: the penitent, the believing, the saved, were added to the Lord, (Acts ii. 41-47; v. 14; viii. 12-39.) On Acts viii. 36, Dr. Clark observes, "By this we may see that Philip had explained the whole of the Christian faith to him, and the way by which believers were brought into the Christian Church." The logical inference is, that those who follow the example of primitive practice, build Churches of evangelical ministers.

IV. For remission of sins. The original word *apistan* is rendered both baptism and forgiveness. Baptism does not produce remission, though it may be some evidence of the gracious state that delights in obedience. The particle *en* is rendered, "on account of," "because of," "by reason of," or "by reason of." The remission of sin: that is, they were baptized because they repented, repented of sin, believed in the Messiah.

Sins were remitted in primitive times in consequence of faith, belief, through the blood of Christ. Hence, "My blood of the New Testament, which is shed for the remission of sins" (Matt. xxvi. 28.) "Without the shedding of blood there is no remission" (Heb. ix. 22.) "To declare his righteousness for the remission of sins" (Rom. iii. 25.) "Repentance" is to be blotted out, (Acts iii. 19.) To give repentance and remission of sins, (Acts v. 31.) "The blood of Jesus cleanseth from all sin" (1 John 1: 7.) In those passages remission is plainly taught without respect to baptism or faith. It is not baptism for remission is named in only three places—our text, (Mark 1: 4, and Acts ii. 38;) and those not with the idea to procure or secure the remission; but rightly understood rather as the evidence that the gracious work of forgiveness has already taken place, and the pardoned sinner is baptized to exhibit his gratitude and obedience. Like the Eunuch, he goes on his way rejoicing. No direction is to be baptized, and repent and believe afterward; because the gracious change was prior to the ordinance.

Jesus first made disciples before they were baptized. John preached, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord, (John 1: 1.) Luke 1: 17.) That baptism alone does not prepare for the Lord's Church, and service is evident from that of Simon.

KEY-WORDS.
1. Adults only would furnish evidence of repentance and faith; hence, those only were baptized. Children could not confess their sins or show that they were sorry for them, or express their faith in Jesus. But those exercises were pre-requisites to the ordinance.

2. The idea of baptism was unknown or speculative times. It is mentioned by some that the twelve disciples named in Acts 10th were re-baptized because they had not been baptized in the name of the Trinity. But if re-baptized, it was only in the name of the Lord Jesus, (5th verse.) John, as Lightfoot declares, "baptized in the name of the Messiah;" if those twelve received the ordinance at Ephesus, it was in the same name before administered; hence, not different; they were baptized, and believed before they met Paul, (1: 2, 3 and 4 verses.)

3. Baptismal regeneration is a dangerous dogma. Millions have regarded their condition safe, from the fact that they have been baptized or even sprinkled in infancy. They have looked upon the rite as a charm to keep off the devil, while they have lived wholly under his influence. Let an ascetic in nothing, save the gracious internal change, which baptism is the outward sign.

THE UNLIVED BAPTISM.
The excellent Richard Baxter, who of his own heart was obedient to his command, but would lay upon it, among others, the following injunction: "I charge thee to make the study of Christ and the great work of man's redemption by him, thy chief business, and to seek earnestly and constantly, and in that wonderful place to see the face of Jesus, and to hear what is said of him by the Son of heaven, and to come boldly as reconciled to God by him."

MISSIONS

THE BAPTIST MISSION BOARD.
The Board of Missions of the Baptist Church of the South, has just published a report, which is a most interesting and valuable document. It contains a full and complete account of the work of the Board during the year 1858, and also a full and complete account of the work of the Board during the year 1859.

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ORDINATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

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EDITORIAL TELEGRAMS
The Christianianity of the world is being...
The Baptist Union of America...

TO ALL PEDOBAPTISTS
Will you say the Editor a Paper by...
The Baptist Union of America...

UNION UNIVERSITY.

Necessary to endorse the Bates Chair...
The beginning though small, yet the...
We have been compelled to give our...
It has been proposed to raise it by...

TO ALL PEDOBAPTISTS (continued)
The Baptist Union of America...

TO ALL PEDOBAPTISTS (continued)
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The Baptist Union of America...

TO ALL PEDOBAPTISTS (continued)
The Baptist Union of America...

TO ALL PEDOBAPTISTS (continued)
The Baptist Union of America...

AND KIND V...
Dear Sir, I have received your...
The Baptist Union of America...

NEWS ITEMS.

The New York Tribune of the 20th...
Hon. Foreman vs. Foreman...
The Senate has passed a bill...

INJUSTICE.

Masses, articles signed by a Nashville...
The object of the writer must be to place...

LIBRARY.

The movement of Southern Baptists in...
organizing a Baptist Sabbath School Union...

TO ALL PEDOBAPTISTS (continued)

TO ALL PEDOBAPTISTS (continued)
The Baptist Union of America...

TO ALL PEDOBAPTISTS (continued)

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The Baptist Union of America...

ISSORS. NEWS FROM THE FIELD AND KIND WORDS FROM FRIENDS.

Dear Bro. Graves - Your copy of January 21st was duly received, in which you say you are...

Dear Bro. Graves - I have your copy of the 21st and find it very interesting and profitable...

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

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OBITUARIES.

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FINANCIAL.

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PASSING EVENTS.

It will be seen from the following report of the proceedings the Church in Jackson...

Dear Bro. Graves - I have your copy of the 21st and find it very interesting and profitable...

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THE IMPENITENT DEAD.

Dear Bro. Graves - I have your copy of the 21st and find it very interesting and profitable...

Dear Bro. Graves - I have your copy of the 21st and find it very interesting and profitable...

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REPUBLICATION OF RAPE AND VALUABLE ENGLISH WORKS.

Dear Bro. Graves - I have your copy of the 21st and find it very interesting and profitable...

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NEW BOOKS IN PRESS.

Dear Bro. Graves - I have your copy of the 21st and find it very interesting and profitable...

THE LIVING EPISTLE.

Dear Bro. Graves - I have your copy of the 21st and find it very interesting and profitable...

BY STATE AUTHORITY.

Dear Bro. Graves - I have your copy of the 21st and find it very interesting and profitable...

