

THE MEANS OF GRACE

WHAT BAPTISM INDICATES

DEVOTION

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What does such baptizing with water indicate?

It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. (Romans 6:4)

FOR SHARING

1. “A good beginning makes a good ending.” Apply this proverb to daily life.
2. How do we know that the “Old Adam” still lives in us?
3. Jesus was “delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification” (Romans 4:25). What does His sacrifice mean for you every day? How does His victory encourage you in your work?
4. A “Christian life is nothing other than a daily Baptism, once begun and ever to be continued” (LC IV 65). Explain.
5. In what specific ways can you share Christ’s new life in you with others?

PRAYER

O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thank You for washing me and making me Your child through my Baptism. Continue to renew, cleanse, and restore me to Yourself through Your Word and Sacraments. In Jesus’ name. Amen.