

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Chad Futrell

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Ben Grant

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Sibio Farrington

Assisting: Tyler Christian
Ricardo Alvillar

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Luka Herrera

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Byran Hatcher

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Julius Cook

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Wink Oxendine

Pantry Item

Snack Size Trail Mix/Nuts

Sermon Notes *Keep Looking Up*

I. *For A Better* _____

II. *For A Better* _____

III. *For A Better* _____

IV. *For A Better* _____

August 3, 2025

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

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Fayetteville, NC
28304

Phone:
(910) 425-1108

Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!
Sermons are
archived on our
YouTube page!

Service Times

Sunday:
B. C. 9:00am
Worship 10:00am

Wednesday Night:
B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class:
Tuesdays 10:00am

Elders
Wade Hedgepeth
Byran Hatcher

Volume 50 Issue 4

The Cape Fear Crier

“Cry aloud and shout...for great in the midst of thee is the Holy One of Israel.” Isaiah 12:6

Baptism and Salvation (cont'd)

By Garland Robinson

The purpose of water baptism has long been under attack. The devil will not sit still. Those under his influence detest the purpose of baptism and cry loud and long to persuade men to not believe what they read in the New Testament about it. I grew up hearing these things from denominational neighbors. I confidently believed one thing for sure, never in my lifetime would my brethren move away from the simple teaching of Jesus on baptism. But, oh, how I was mistaken! For many years now we're hearing some among "us" saying things like, "Jesus may save some people in their ignorance and unbelief," "we need to be more tolerant of people who genuinely love the Lord and that are not of our fellowship," "we must not think we are the only ones who will be saved." On and on such unbelief continues.

How can one be saved without believing and obeying the Lord's Word? Remember Matthew 7:21 where Jesus said he would save those who do the Father's Will? Baptism is part of His Will.

THE PURPOSE OF BAPTISM

What is the purpose of baptism? Different religious groups answer this question in various ways. Some say "it is the outward sign of an inward grace." Others say "we should be baptized because we are saved," or "baptism is to make one a member of our denomination," or "you do not need to be baptized," or "you cannot be saved without it." Is the Bible so indistinct that we are left in the dark on the subject? Why be baptized? What does the Bible actually teach on this subject?

There is no one specific purpose of baptism. There are many. One is baptized **in order to obey the Lord**. It is a command of Christ! We read in Acts 10:48, "*And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.*" The command of Jesus was, "*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned*" (Mark 16:15-16).

The apostles did exactly as they were told. On Pentecost they preached, “...*Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...*” (Acts 2:38). About 3,000 did as they were commanded, “*Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls*” (v.41). The same thing was done time and time again when people turned to the Lord desiring salvation. A grievous persecutor, Saul of Tarsus, was told, “*And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord*” (Acts 22:16). Saul did as he was commanded. He later said of that occasion, “*...I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision*” (Acts 26:19).

Water baptism is not an option. It is done in order to obey the Lord. Jesus said, “*And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say*” (Luke 6:46)? If one really desires to go to heaven, he will obey the Lord! All men must obey Christ to be saved for Jesus will take vengeance on those who do not obey (II Thess. 1:7-9; I Peter 4:17).

A person is baptized **to be united with the Lord**. We can be one with the Lord when we are baptized. There is no other action found in the Bible that puts one into Christ. “*Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin*” (Rom. 6:3-6). “*For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise*” (Gal. 3:26-29).

The apostles taught there is salvation in none other but Jesus (Acts 4:12; II Tim. 2:10). It is clear that all spiritual blessings are found in Christ (Eph. 1:3). One must be united with him in order to enjoy them. The only way to be united with him is by being baptized into Him.

A person is baptized **in order to become a child of God — to be born again**. No greater blessing can be awarded a person than to be a child of God, a child of the King of the universe. “*Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God...*” (I John 3:1).

(Continued next week)

By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 7/27 B.C.: 29 Daily Bible Readers: 8
Chapters Read: 256 Worship: 60 Wednesday: 22

Family News and Notes

Jan Keen is still undergoing chemo. Please pray for her family members caring for her as well. **John McDougale, Geraldine Harrington’s** uncle, is not doing well. **Carole Pearson**, Dave Carver’s cousin is still recuperating from a stroke. **Margaret Langston** is in Carolina Inn. **Gwen Jennen** is having health problems. **Carlton Norris, Jeanette Freshley’s** dad, is in hospice care and not doing well. **Barbara Norris** is also struggling with her health. **Ally** is in West Virginia with her grandparents to help out and Jeanette is also there. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins’** parents need prayers.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Wade & Sandra Hedgepeth, Barry & Melany Hatcher, Frances Salaz, Linda Hernandez,** and the **Davis** family.

Bible Reading Plan

Aug 3	Aug 4	Aug 5	Aug 6	Aug 7	Aug 8	Aug 9
Est 3-4	Est 5-6	Est 7-8	Est 9-10	Job 1-2	Job 3-4	Job 5-6
Ps 17	Ps 18	Ps 19	Ps 20-21	Ps 22	Ps 23-24	Ps 25-26

Events

Teachers’ Meeting: Next Sunday following the morning worship.
Silver Linings: Friday, August 15th at 11am.
Labor Day Fellowship: Monday, September 1 at the church building. Bring sides & desserts.
Loris Lectureship: August 30, 10am. Kerry Duke & David Hill speaking.

