

**MIDDLE SCHOOL ABLAZE (10-1-23): BALTIMORE CATECHISM NO. 2**  
**PART 3, LESSON 24—BAPTISM**

**PRAYERS**

- I. “Signum Crucis”: “In nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti. Amen.”
- II. “Prayer to the Holy Spirit”
- III. Saint and Virtue:
  - A. Archangel Gabriel
  - B. Charity/Love

**TRUE/FALSE**

- 1. The Baptism preached by Saint John the Baptist had the same power as the Baptism instituted by Christ.
- 2. For us to be joint heirs of God the Father with Christ, we must also suffer with Christ.
- 3. The sanctifying grace infused into a soul by Baptism supernaturally gives to a human person a likeness to God.
- 4. We see evil on earth because Christ has been given all power in heaven but not on earth.
- 5. Baptism of an adult takes away both original sin and actual personal sins but cannot take away the punishment due to person sins.
- 6. Baptism restores sanctifying grace to the soul along while removing all the negative consequences of original sin.
- 7. All validly baptized persons are subjects of the Church, even if they are not members.
- 8. In the case of emergency, even a heretic or an unbaptized person can validly and licitly baptize.
- 9. In a Baptism it is valid for one priest to pour the water while another priest says the baptismal formula.
- 10. Children should be baptized as soon as possible after birth.

**BAPTISM: BIRTH IN THE LIFE OF GRACE**

- I. Christ (Head)/Christians (Member of the Mystical Body of Christ)
  - A. Christ (Last Adam):
    - 1. Born in Bethlehem of the Virgin Mary
    - 2. Died on Calvary for our sins and was buried in the tomb

3. Rose from the tomb in glory (“Second Birth”)
- B. Children of the First Adam:
  1. Born deprived of grace with the mark of original sin
  2. By Baptism, dies to sin and is buried with Christ
  3. Then rises reborn (regenerated) from the water with Christ in a new life of sanctifying grace (“Second Birth”)
- C. Christians are to fulfill the command of the original creation given by God to Adam and Eve AND the commission of the new creation in Eve:
  1. Genesis 1:28—“Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” (Covenant family)
  2. Matthew 28:19-20—“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (The Father’s Family/Christ’s Kingdom/Mother Church/“Domestic Church”)
    - a. We did not merit Baptism because of our good works
    - b. Rather, despite our sins, the Father in MERCY offers us rebirth and regeneration in grace given through His Son in the power of the Holy Spirit

II. Baptism—“gives our souls the new life of sanctifying grace by which we become children of God and heirs of heaven” (315)

- A. Valid Baptism: requires intention of doing what the Church does
- B. A valid Baptism takes away:
  1. Original sin
  2. Actual personal sins
  3. Temporal punishment due to sin (true contrition required)
- C. The character imprinted upon the soul effects:
  1. Church membership—Maintained:
    - a. By profession of the one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic Church’s Faith
    - b. By keeping the bonds of communion with the Catholic Church (Nb: Separated brothers and sisters—members in Orthodox churches and Protestants in “ecclesial communities”)

2. The responsibility of one subject to Church law—even if one is not a member, except in the case of invincible ignorance
  3. The capacity of receiving other Sacraments (“Gateway”)
- D. Ministers:
1. Ordinarily bishops, priests, or deacons
  2. In danger of death—anyone may and should baptize the person pouring ordinary water over the forehead, saying while pouring it— “[Name], I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”
- E. Necessity of Baptism for salvation— “Unless a man be born again of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God” (John 3:5).
1. Baptism of blood—one suffers martyrdom for the faith of Christ.
  2. Baptism of desire:
    - a. One loves God above all things
    - b. One desires to do all that is necessary for his salvation
- F. Infant Baptisms: Under pain of mortal sin, parents or guardians should have a child baptized as soon as possible after birth.
1. Through godparents the infant promises:
    - a. To renounce Satan and his works
    - b. To live according to the teachings of Christ and Mother Church
  2. Typically, the child should have a name recalling a saint— whose virtues are to be imitated and whose intercession and protection should be sought
  3. Godparents:
    - a. Catholics who know and practice the Faith
    - b. Assist parents who raise the child in the Faith

## **DISCUSSION QUESTION**

As Catholics, do we see an infant born into this world as, generally speaking, spiritually deprived or depraved? What does Baptism offer the infant to overcome the child’s spiritual affliction?

## **QUESTIONS FOR FATHER JACK MISSION/FINAL PRAYER AND BLESSINGS**