

UROMI MIRACLE CRUSADE, 2017

DAY 3: SUNDAY 5TH FEBRUARY.

BAPTISMAL SERVICE

TOPIC: *THE IMPORTANCE OF BAPTISM*

PREACHER: *BISHOP JESUTEKEVWE SAMUEL MIYERIJESU*

TEXT: *JOHN 3*

Baptism is a sacrament (it's a physical exercise with great spiritual implications) in the body of Christ – the Church. Before emphasizing on the importance of baptism, what does it even mean? What is baptism?



To begin with, what is baptism means rebirth, reborn or to be born again. There cannot be 'again' without 'before'. This means for someone to be born again, he/she must have been born before.

According to Jesus explanation, baptism which is to be born the second time is a spiritual birth that occurs after a man has been born of his human parents. How? This was what a man named Nicodemus, a teacher of the Law could not understand when he came to meet Jesus at night as narrated in John 3.

“How can a grown man be born again?” Nicodemus asked. “He certainly cannot enter his mother’s womb and be born the second time!” verse 4.

In an attempt to clarify Nicodemus doubts on the concept of rebirth, Jesus said to him: A person is born physically of human parents, but is born spiritually of the Spirit. From Jesus' explanation, baptism can be said to mean a spiritual birth. A second birth that is brought about by the Spirit of God. First, a man is born by his human or physical parents and second, by the Spirit of God.



As exemplified by Jesus Christ, genuine baptism is done in a water body (pool, river or any other) by immersion. In Jesus case, it was in a river – River Jordan. By this, any baptism done other than

the type shown to us by Jesus is not real baptism. For example: baptism by sprinkling of water is not a genuine one. Anyone who had done this must be baptized again by immersion for him/her to be truly saved.

Having known the meaning of baptism, what are some of the importance of baptism? Why is baptism necessary for any repentant sinner?

1. Baptism makes one a child of God. John 1:11-13. As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become the child of God.
2. Baptism enlists you as a heavenly candidate. John 3:3. This simply means that for you to go to heaven, you must be baptized.
3. Baptism makes you escape hell fire.
4. Baptism puts your name in the book of life (Rev. 20:15).
5. It makes you unbeatable, untouchable and impregnable to the attacks of enemies. In other words, baptism puts you above your enemies (John 3:8).

6. Baptism is important because it gives you joy. The awareness or consciousness that you are a child of God gives you happiness.

Most importantly, the man that is not baptized carries a heavy weight of sin on his head. It is baptism that takes this load of sin away from him and freedom becomes his own (Acts 8:28).

In conclusion, from the above, you can see that you must be baptized and not just baptized but genuinely baptized. Have you been baptized? If yes, how were you baptized – by sprinkling of water or immersion in the river? Ensure you are genuinely baptized so that you can enjoy the great benefits it brings.