

YOUR BAPTISM AT THE CROSS

COLOSSIANS 2:12, 13

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: Our conversion to Christ is the end of one connection and the joining to another. This is described in Romans 6 and Colossians 2 as having been baptized into Christ.

YOU WERE BURIED. Christ's crucifixion was proof that your sins were forgiven. His burial is proof of the burial of your old past sinful life. He forgave all your sins and remembers them no more. This marks the end of the power and the reign of sin over you. (Colossians 2:12, 13, Romans 6:3, fn 6:1-4, Isaiah 43:25, fn 43:25, Psalms 103:12, fn 103:12) *If your old sinful life is buried, how can you keep from remembering it?*

YOU WERE RAISED. Resurrection is evidence of new life. God replaced your old life with Christ's life. Your new life is not built on your former life but on Jesus Christ and Him alone. (Colossians 2:12, 13, fn 2:13-15, fn 2:14[2nd], Romans 6:8-11, fn 6:11, Colossians 3:3, 4 fn 3:3, II Corinthians 5:17-21, fn 5:17, fn 5:21, Galatians 3:26, 27) *How do you know that your previous life of sin has been replaced?*

YOU RECEIVED FAITH—faith in the power of God who raised Jesus from the dead. Spiritual baptism or salvation is not possible without faith. With faith in Jesus Christ, salvation is complete. (Colossians 2:12, Ephesians 2:8, 9, fn 2:8, 9, Romans 3:28, fn 3:28, Romans 9:30-33, fn 9:31-33, Hebrews 11:6) *Why did God require faith alone for your conversion and spiritual baptism?*

According to this preparation how may we pray for you to be strengthened in your personal relationship with Jesus? How else may we pray for you?

