

Can we “Baptize for the Dead”?

S.R. 1Co.15:12-34

Intro. There is at least 1 denomination that practices “baptism for the dead”, based on v29. Is it scriptural? Does the passage actually teach such a doctrine? Can we actually SAVE our long lost relatives & friends and be together with them in heaven?

Let’s see what Paul was teaching

1Co.15:1-11 Christ died for our sins

1Co.15:12-34 Christ was resurrected.

- a. When Christ was preached it was about His death, burial & resurrection.
- b. Without the resurrection we have nothing.
- c. Without resurrection we teach a lie.
- d. Without resurrection Jesus did not conquer death, our greatest enemy.
- e. V29 The SUBJECT is resurrection, NOT baptism.
- f. Some were saying there is no resurrection.
- g. If no resurrection WHY be baptised?
- h. Do not be deceived, stop sinning, some had no knowledge, this is shamefull.

1Co.15:35-49 The resurrected body.

The New Testament practice was the IMMERSION of LIVE people who had been taught the gospel, believed it, repented and confessed Jesus as Lord. (See over)

As to the concept of being baptised for / on behalf of some one else, consider the following scriptures;

NAS Mar 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

NAS Mar 16:16 "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

NAS Rom 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

NAS Rom 6:4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

NAS Rom 14:12 So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God.

NAS Heb 9:27 And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,

There is no such thing as “baptism for the dead”.