

## John the Baptist called to Preach about the Sin of the World

Original Sin Teaching – Inherited Sin, selfish corruption of world that we are born into naturally.

John 1:29 “The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away ***the sin of the world.***”

John 1:36 “The next day John was there again with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, “Behold, the Lamb of God.”

John 1:38 “Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “***where are you staying?***” He said to them, “Come, and you will see.” *‘Staying --living with—united to’*

*Interchangeable phrases ‘Come and see’, ‘Enter my life’, ‘Be clothed in me’, ‘Live in me’*

Romans 5:12 “ Therefore, just as *through one person (Adam) sin entered the world*, and through sin, death, and thus death came to all, inasmuch as all sinned...”

Psalm 51:5, 7 “For I know my transgressions; my sin is always before me..... Behold, *I was born in guilt, in sin* my mother conceived me.”

Psalm 88:16 “I have been *mortally afflicted since youth...*”

Ephesians 2:3 “we were *by nature children of wrath*, like the rest.”

Ephesians 2:2 “in which you once lived *following the age of this world*, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in *the disobedient*” (Like Adam/Eve)

Genesis 8:21 “since the desires of the human heart are *evil from youth*” (said at time of Noah)

Job 15:14 “How can any mortal be blameless, *how can anyone born of woman be righteous?*”

1 Corinthians 15:21-22 “For since *death came through a human being*, the resurrection of the dead came also through a human being. For just *as in Adam all die*, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life.”

St Irenaeus (end of 100’s) “But this man [of whom I have been speaking] is Adam, if truth be told, the first-formed man....We, however, are all from him; and as we are from him, we have inherited his title [of sin]. ...Indeed, through the first Adam, we offended God by not observing His command. Through the second Adam, however, we are reconciled, and are made obedient even unto death. For we were debtors to none other except to Him, whose commandment we transgressed at the beginning. (Against Heresies 3:22:4; 3:23:2; 5:16:3)

Tertullian (200’s) “On account of his transgression Man was given over to death; and the whole human race, which was infected by his seed, was made the transmitter of condemnation. (The Testimony of the Soul 3:2, c. 200 AD)

St Cyprian (250) “No one is held back from Baptism and grace, how much more, then, should an infant not be held back, who, having but recently been born, has done no sin [committed no personal sin], except that, born of the flesh according to Adam, he has contracted the contagion of that old Death from his first being born. (Letters 64:5 of Cyprian and his 66 colleagues in Council to Fidus)

St Augustine (350) “the deliberate sin of the first man is the cause of original sin” (De nupt. et concup., II, xxvi, 43).

Catechism # 399 “Scripture portrays the tragic consequences of this first disobedience. Adam and Eve immediately lose the grace of original holiness. They become afraid of the God of whom they have conceived a distorted image - that of a God jealous of his prerogatives.”

Catechism #401 “After that first sin, the world is virtually inundated by sin There is Cain's murder of his brother Abel and the universal corruption which follows in the wake of sin. Likewise, sin frequently manifests itself in the history of Israel, especially as infidelity to the God of the Covenant and as transgression of the Law of Moses. And even after Christ's atonement, sin

raises its head in countless ways among Christians. Scripture and the Church's Tradition continually recall the presence and universality of sin in man's history."

### ***So what is the Solution to Original Sin? Baptismal Waters—Baptism into Christ***

John's Baptism was only a preparation for salvation to come – Nothing Salvific or Sacramental  
John 1:26 "I only baptize with water....."

Matthew 3: 8 "Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance."

John's Baptism only 'Ceremonial' like Pharisaic-Temple Washings – Examples of Washings

Mark 7:3-4 "For the Pharisees and, in fact, all Jews, do not eat without carefully **washing their hands**, keeping the tradition of the elders. And on coming from the marketplace they do not eat **without purifying themselves**. And there are many other things that they have traditionally observed, the **purification of cups and jugs and kettles and beds.**"

Exodus 19:10 One example of God commanding people to wash their clothing as a symbolic act

Leviticus 8:6 Tells of the washing of Aaron and his sons when they were ordained as priests.

Numbers 31:21-24 tells about ceremonial purifying of soldiers after battle (Num 19 about the dead)

In NT, John 2:6 "Now there were six stone water jars there for **Jewish ceremonial washings**, each holding twenty to thirty gallons."

John 5:7-9 Jesus heals a crippled man by the **Pool** of Bethesda

John 9:6-7 "When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go **wash in the Pool** of Siloam". So he went and **washed**, and came back able to see."

### ***What John said about his own lowly actions of preparation with a ritual cleansing:***

Matthew 3:1-2 "In those days John the Baptist appeared, **preaching** in the desert of Judea and saying, "**Repent**, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

Matthew 3:6 "they were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as **they acknowledged their sins.**"

Matthew 3:11 " I am baptizing you with water, **for repentance**, but the one who is *coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals*. He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire."

John 1:26 I baptize with water". The Synoptic Gospels add "but he will baptize you with the holy Spirit" (Mk 1:8) or Matt & Luk even add "...holy Spirit and fire" (Mt 3:11, Lk 3:16).

### **Baptism as a Commissioning**

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."

Luke 12:49-50 "'I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!" **Baptism of His redemptive death-resurrection**

Mark 10:38 "Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I drink or **be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?**"

### **Baptism as clothed in Christ**

Galatians 3:27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have **put on Christ.**"

Romans 13:14 “But **put on the Lord Jesus Christ**, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh.”

Ephesians 4:24 “and **put on the new self**, created in God’s way in righteousness and holiness of truth.”

Colossians 3:9-10 “since you have **taken off the old self** with its practices and have **put on the new self**, which is being renewed, for knowledge, in the image of its creator.”

### **Baptism as Burial**

Romans 6:4 “We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

Colossians 2:12 “You were buried with him in baptism....”

### **Baptism as Incorporation**

1 Cor 12:13 “For in one Spirit we were all **baptized into one body**, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit...”

1 Cor 12:27 “Now you are Christ’s body, and individually parts of it.”

Colossians 1:18 “He is the head of the body, the church.”

Galatians 2:20 “yet I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me

### **Baptism as New creation**

2 Cor. 5:17 “So whoever is in Christ is a **new creation**: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come.”

1 Peter 1:3 “who in his great mercy **gave us a new birth** to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus....”

More Scripture about being made new-----Eph. 2:1-10; 4:23-24; Col. 3:9-10; 23; 1 John 3:9; 4:7.

### **Baptism as Rebirth- Second Birth – Born Again**

John 3:3,5 “Jesus answered and said to him, “Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being **born from above**.” Jesus answered, “Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being **born of water and Spirit**.”

Matthew 18:3 “and said, “Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and **become like children**, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.”

1 Peter 1:23 “**You have been born anew**, not from perishable but from imperishable seed, through the living and abiding word of God”

### **Salvific Effects/Consequences of Baptism**

1) Original Sin, All Sin washed away – Forgiveness of Sins

Acts 2:38 ““Peter said to them, ‘Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ **for the forgiveness of your sins**, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.’”

Matthew 26:28 “my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on **behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins**.”

Matthew 20:8 “Just so, the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give his life **as a ransom for many.**”

1 Peter 3:21 “This (Noah-Ark) prefigured baptism, which saves you now. It is not a removal of dirt from the body but an **appeal to God for a clear conscience**, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,”

- 2) Drawn into God’s Family by adoption – God claims us –God’s own sons/daughters  
Galatians 4:5-7 “to ransom those under the law, so that we might receive adoption. As proof that you are children, God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child”
- 3) Members of Christ’s Body – He the Head, & we the members  
1 Cor 12:12-13 “As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are **one body, so also Christ**. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body,  
Romans 12:4-5 “For as in one body we have many parts, and all the parts do not have the same function, so we, though many, are **one body in Christ** and individually parts of one another.”
- 4) We become Temples of the Holy Spirit  
1 Cor 6:19 “Do you not know that **your body is a temple of the holy Spirit** within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?”  
1 Cor 3:16 “Do you not know that **you are the temple of God**, and that the **Spirit of God dwells in you?**”

## Symbols in Catholic Celebration of Baptism

**Water.** Water is the primary symbol of baptism. John the Baptist used water (Mt 3:11) Yet, Jesus is living water (Jn 4:10), and when Jesus died, the water that flowed from his pierced side serves as a wellspring of his life and grace (Jn 19:34). Water is a symbol of life, growth, re-freshening and cleansing that comes with covenantal life with Christ.

**Oil.** Oil is also a symbol of baptism. Two kinds are used. The Oil of the Catechumens is used after the prayer of exorcism and applied to the chest. It represents salvation as well as the strength and power that come from Christ our savior. After the water has been poured, Sacred Chrism is used to anoint the crown of the head, and it represents participation in the priesthood of Christ & membership in His body. Oil calls to minds the healing from sin, and the sealing in of the Holy Spirit received in Baptism.

**Baptismal garment.** The baptismal garment is a white garment/robe/dress. It is an outward sign of the person’s Christian dignity/purity. It also signifies that the person has become a new creation and has been clothed with Christ (covered-surrounded by the merciful care of God).

**Candle.** The baptismal candle is lit from the Easter Candle. The candle represents the risen Jesus, who is the light of the world (Jn 8:12). Jesus is the guiding light for every baptized in person in a darkened world. The lighted candle also represents the flame of faith, which is to be kept burning brightly by trimming/refueling.