

Baptism: What is it and Why do it?

WELCOME

T H A N K S F O R C O M I N G

Sunday November 13, 2022

FOR ALL OF YOU WHO WERE
BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST HAVE
CLOTHED YOURSELVES WITH CHRIST

Acts 8:26-39

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship,

and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.” Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.

“How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

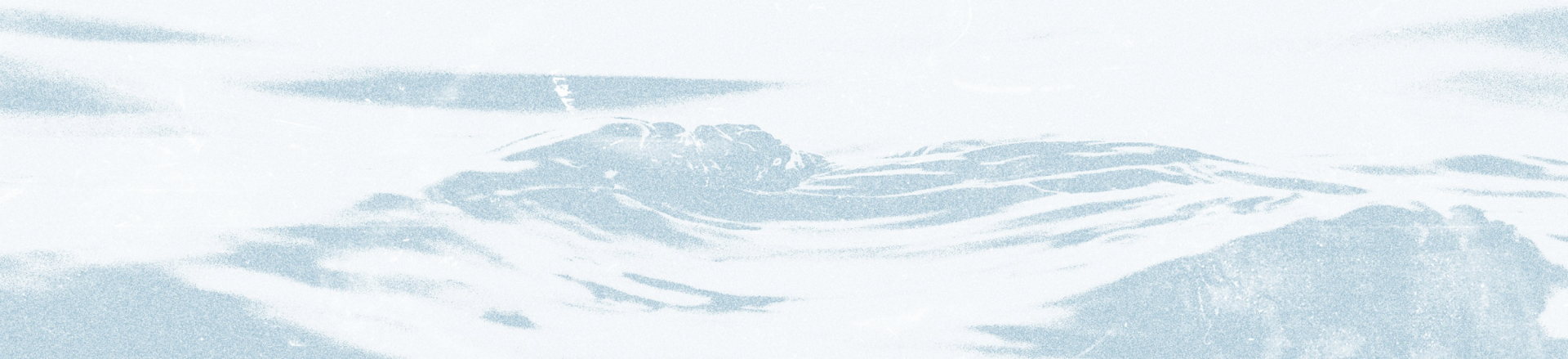
**“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and as a lamb before its shearer is
silent, so he did not open his mouth.
In his humiliation he was deprived of
justice. Who can speak of his
descendants?”**

For his life was taken from the earth.” The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.



**When they came up out of the water,
the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took
Philip away, and the eunuch did not
see him again, but went on his way
rejoicing.**

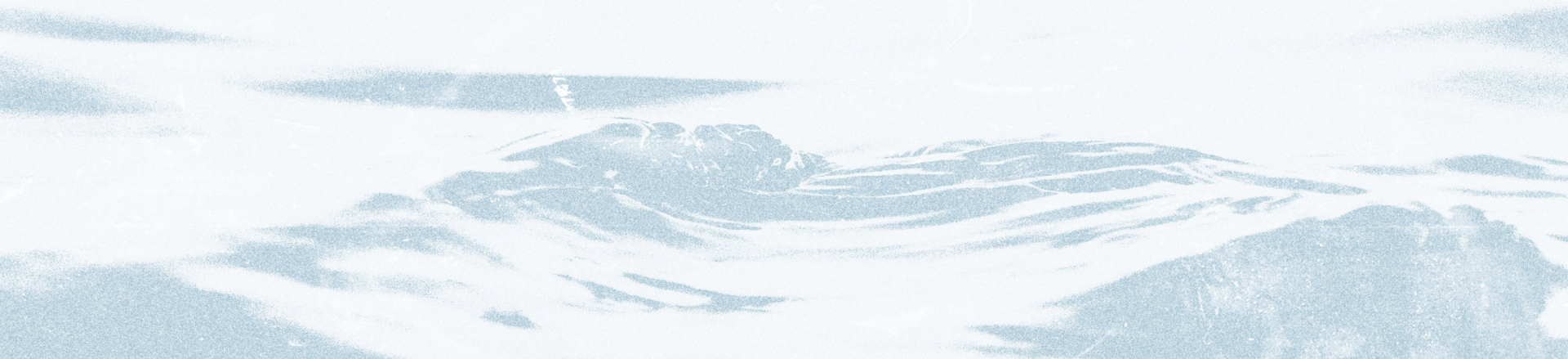


Baptism is really important to Jesus!

Matthew 28:18-20

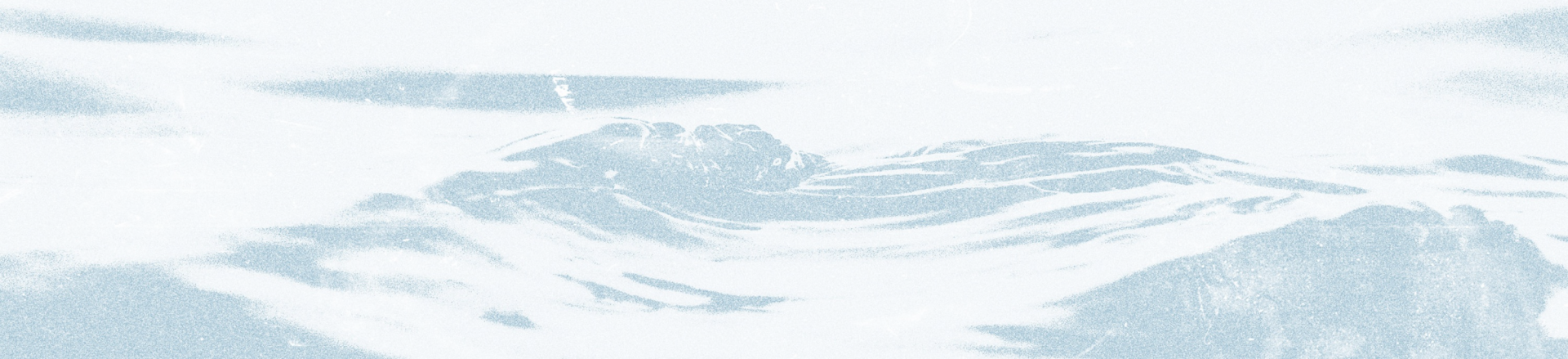
Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

**and teaching them to obey everything I
have commanded you.
And surely I am with you always, to the
very end of the age.”**



Some questions about baptism:

- **Is it the way into church membership?**
- **Is it the washing away of sins?**
- **Must I be baptized to be saved?**



So What is Baptism then?

- **Baptism Identifies us with Jesus**

Romans 6:1-5

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

**We were therefore buried with him
through baptism into death in order
that, just as Christ was raised from the
dead through the glory of the Father,
we too may live a new life.**

**For if we have been united with him in a
death like his, we will certainly also be
united with him in a resurrection like
his.**

- **Baptism Identifies us with the Christian message**

2 Corinthians 5:17

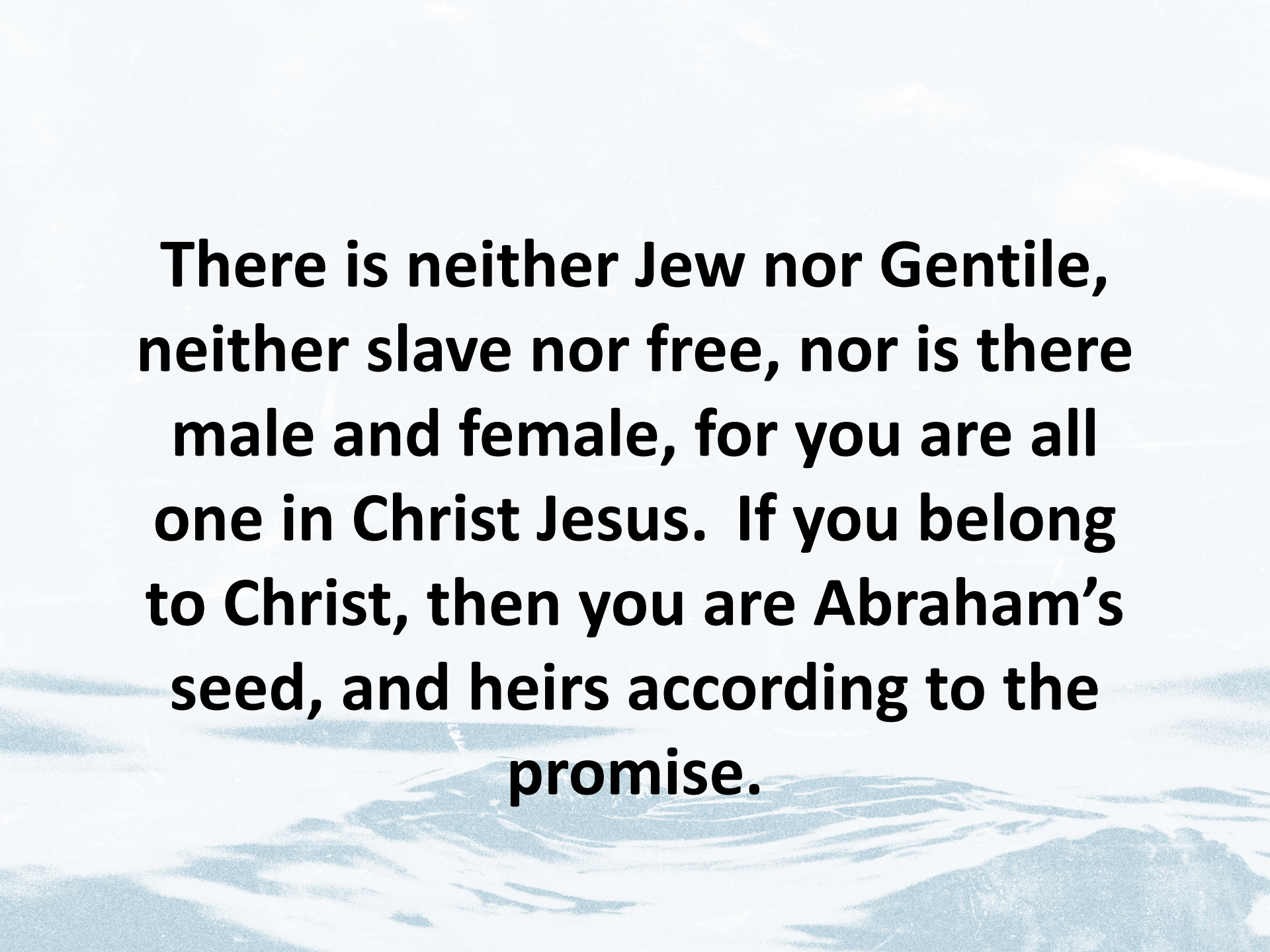
Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

- **Baptism Identifies us with the whole Christian Church**

Galatians 3:26-29

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.





**There is neither Jew nor Gentile,
neither slave nor free, nor is there
male and female, for you are all
one in Christ Jesus. If you belong
to Christ, then you are Abraham's
seed, and heirs according to the
promise.**

What are the expected results?

- **Springboard into fruitful service**
 - **A good conscience**
- **Jesus will smile big and rejoice**
- **The JOY of another step with Jesus**