

Go and “teach” all nations, and baptize the people; not the teaching to “follow” baptism, but teach them to observe all the things spoken by Jesus. Well, now, if you baptize a little infant, then remember to tell it all the things; teach it, then baptize, after which, you must teach it to observe all things.

But you see it won’t require a dead form to carry out the Gospel of Christ, but an infant could not ask, what is the word? Persons have been used to trust to a dead form and have their children sprinkled, but if any of you were sprinkled, it was at a time when you could not help yourself, and hence you do not know anything about it, only, that you have been told that somebody sprinkled you when an infant.

Then, notwithstanding your infant sprinkling, you never obeyed the Gospel because it was a Gospel of repentance, and is to be so when carried to all whom the Lord our God shall call. The Gospel, which we have to preach, is a Gospel of repentance and of remission of sins, to everyone that will obey it, including a baptism, a voluntary baptism, which is applicable to all the truly obedient, in every nation, who are determined to lead a new life, and bring forth fruit meet for repentance, and what was it? The Apostle, in the New Testament, informs us that it was to be buried with Christ by baptism into his death, and rise to newness of life in the likeness of his resurrection.

In my travels abroad, I sometimes meet, among many others, members of the church of Rome, so called; I believe they call themselves such. I say to them, “Are you sure there was such a church as that in the days of the Apostles, and that you are members of that church?” “If there was such a church,” says I, “it is spoken of in the New Testament. Well are you sure that you are a member

of the church of Rome that is spoken of as having grown and swelled and perpetuated itself? How have you become such?” “By being baptized,” is the answer. “Then you would think an unbaptized person was not a member of that church?” “Yes, we would consider all such persons aliens.”

“Well, then, I will convince you that you are not a legal member in the church of Rome, baptism being the initiatory right into that church.” “How will you do it,” says he, “Because the Apostle in his epistle gives instructions and directions how every member was initiated into the Church, that was established by himself at Rome.” He says that “as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ, and if ye have put on Christ, then are ye Christ’s.”

“He also says, ‘Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.’” Romans, chapter 6: 3–6.

“Now,” says I, “remember that every one of your members of the Church of Rome have been buried with Christ by baptism into death, and hence you must have risen to newness of life in the likeness of his resurrection. So writes the Apostle to the true Church of Rome, and you will find it in the New Testament, as before stated.”

“Now then,” says I, “you have acknowledged that no man is a member of the Church of Rome, unless he