

14. Is Scriptural washing in close analogy, as regards the mode, with the ordinary washings in every-day life?

No. The Scriptural washing of a person is always effected in connection with the act of sprinkling. But the ordinary washing of a person, and washing generally, in daily life, are performed by rubbing, or similar operations. It is neither by simple immersion, nor sprinkling, that we wash ourselves, our clothing, or our furniture. The immersion of a person, or thing, under water is not of itself sufficient to cleanse. God's wisely established plan, however, is that in *spiritual life* sprinkling is washing, through sprinkling there is cleansing.

15. Do the dictionaries of our language show that to wash means to immerse?

Worcester (edition 1849) gives nine different meanings of the verb to wash, but no one of these is to immerse. Webster (unabridged edition, 1861) gives twelve different definitions, but in no one of these does he indicate that the word means simply to immerse. The second definition given by him is: "To wet; to fall on and moisten, as *the rain washes the flowers or plants.*"

16. Do the Scriptures teach that immersion is essential to washing?

No. The application of water to a part of the body significantly represented the perfect cleansing or purity of the whole man. It was a custom not only among the Hebrews, but also among the Greeks and Latins, to wash their hands in token of their innocence, and to show that they were pure from any imputed guilt. In Isaiah 6:7, it is shown that the entire purification of the prophet from moral defilement was secured by simply applying a coal of fire to his lips only. "Lo," says the seraph, "this hath touched thy lips, and thy iniquity is taken away, and thy sin is purged." Psalm 26:6: "I will wash my hands in innocency." Matthew 27:44: "Pilate . . . took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just man."

17. By what passages of Scripture is it proved that

the
the
E
ter
"P
cha
ter,
(in
sno
goa
sane
22:
scie
pur
I
won
and
T
that
not
or c
is th
the
nee
spri
kled
I
ritic
T
dere
plac
ing
with

2
tism
T