

make you clean." They have called on the Name of the Lord, and have prayed, "Wash me throughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin." They have bathed themselves by faith in the Grace of Christ, and "have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

That Baptism (the sign-post) is rightly placed at the commencement of the Christian course, is apparent by analogy from the journey of the Israelites. They "were all baptized unto Moses," (that is discipled to Moses, and not submerged to Moses) "in the cloud and in the sea," at the outset of their journey.

And this place of the Ordinance is directly substantiated by the Greek text in Acts 8:16—"For as yet He (the Holy Ghost) was fallen upon none of them, but only having been baptized they began-to-be for the Name of the Lord Jesus." (This clause is very imperfectly translated in the English versions. The second Greek verb is not the auxiliary, but a particular verb of very special force, signifying "they were in the beginning to the Name of the Lord Jesus,"—having been baptized:) "But only having been baptized *they began unto the Name of the Lord Jesus.*)

Since Christ is Immanuel (God with us), it is faith, and not superstition, which honours Him, by hastening publicly to confide every sinful soul, whether infant or adult, to His regenerating and sanctifying Grace.

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