

The Role of Baptism

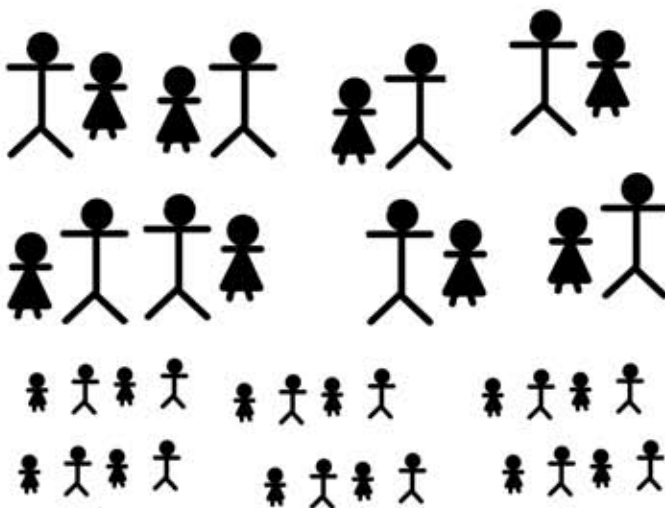
Baptized into the body of Christ

Baptism does not save us but is the outward demonstration of the conversion that has already taken place in the heart.

Ro 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?

Ga 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

1Pe 3:21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:



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Jordan River (death)

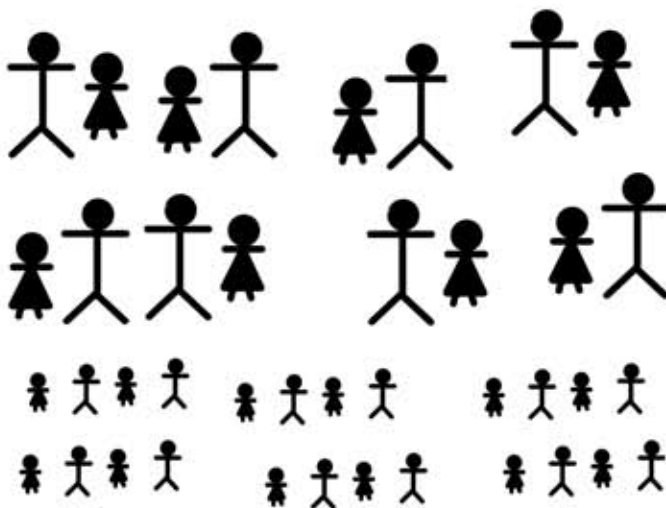
The way of the cross is the strait and narrow way that leads to life!

We are NOT baptized into a minister, or any group other than the true church, which are the born again saints.

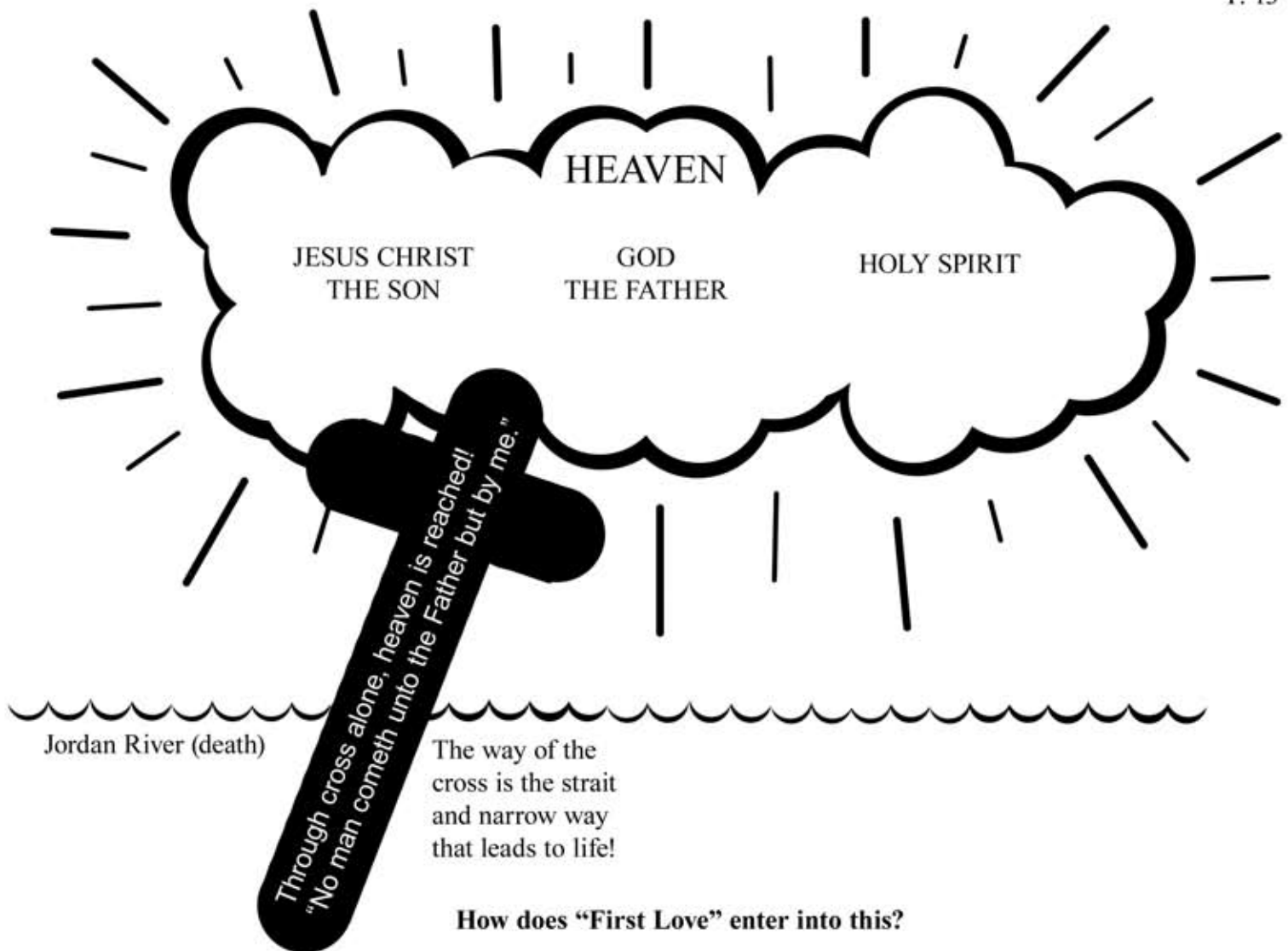
1 Cor 1:10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. 11 For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. 12 Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. 13 Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?

1 Cor 3:3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? 4 For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal? 5 Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? 6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. 7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

21 Therefore let no man glory in men.



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Rev 2:1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; 2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: 3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. 4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because **thou hast left thy first love.** 5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

Who is speaking? Jesus

Who is He speaking about? The church at Ephesus

Is he reprimanding people that had switched churches? No!

What then is in focus? They had good works, vs 2-4, but the loving relationship was gone.

1 Co 13:13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

What is the plea? Repent! Repent! He says it twice! Update their relationship with Jesus Christ.