

BAPTISM, A SAVING FIGURE
I PETER 3:19-22

Introduction:

- A. There are some things we know the Bible teaches.
 - 1. Sin, creation, God's love, Deity.
 - 2. The return of Jesus, Salvation by Grace.

- B. There are some things we think it teaches.
 - 1. Some aspects of the Rapture. Return.

- C. Some of events of Jesus three days and three nights are unclear.

**I. JESUS ANNOUNCED HIS DEATH AND CLAIMED VICTORY BEFORE THE
OLD TESTAMENT SAINTS. V19**

- A. Jesus went into Sheol, the prison house of saved spirits, to announce victory and to lead them on high.
 - 1. Eph 4:8-10.
 - 2. Rev 1:17-18.

- B. These were Old Testament saints (Abraham, Isaac, etc) including some who refused to believe Noah's preaching about a coming flood. v20.
 - 1. "which sometimes were disobedient."
 - 2. "while the ark was a preparing."
 - 3. "in the days of Noah."

- C. Noah and his family were saved (delivered) from their unbelieving generation by the flood waters.
 - 1. "eight souls were saved by water."
 - 2. They were in the Ark but without the flood.
 - a. They would have still been "in the world."

II. WE ARE SAVED BY THE FIGURE BAPTISM PRESENTS.

- A. v21 "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also save us."

1. What does baptism figure?
 - a. Death, Burial, and Resurrection.

- B. The saints on the Day of Pentecost.
 1. Acts 2:40. "And with many other words did he exhort, saying, save yourselves from this untoward generation."
 2. In what way could they save themselves?
 - a. Not anyway to deliver from power of sin!

- C. Baptism does not save, but it allows us to have a good conscience.
 1. (Not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God.)
 2. The way we are saved. "by the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

III. THE MINISTRY OF JESUS, OUR SALVATION. V22

- A. "Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God."
 1. He makes intercession for believers.
 2. He rebukes the accuser.

- B. "angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him."
 1. His resurrection gave Him power.
 2. He will exercise it at His coming.