2.11 Christian Disagreements About Baptism: Infant and Believers Practice: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8062 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Which one of the following best describes the term 'believers' baptism' in the context of Christian practice studied here?

- ☐ A. Baptism given to an infant to welcome them into a family covenant
- ☐ B. Baptism practised only by pouring a small amount of water on the head
- ☐ C. Baptism given after a person has personally declared faith, often by immersion
- ☐ D. A private prayer of dedication without any water

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

2 State what is meant by the term 'covenant' as it is used in Christian arguments about infant baptism, in the context of disagreements over baptismal practice.

(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)

3 Give two theological reasons why Roman Catholics and Anglicans defend infant baptism, in the context of disagreements about baptismal practice in Christianity.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

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4 Give three theological differences between the infant baptism position and the believers' baptism position, stated as concise points in the context of Christian disagreement over who should be baptised.

(Total for Question 4 is 3 marks)

5 Explain two theological reasons Anglicans and Roman Catholics use to justify infant baptism, focusing on the reasoning behind covenant and original sin teachings.

(Total for Question 5 is 4 marks)

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Mark scheme · 2.11 Christian Disagreements About Baptism: Infant and Believers Practice: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

identifies C, believers' baptism given after a person has personally declared faith, often by immersion **B1**

Answer: C

Question 2

a solemn agreement between God and his people, often seen as including promises and signs such as circumcision or baptism, oe **B1**

Answer: A solemn agreement between God and his people, including promises and signs such as circumcision or baptism.

Question 3

it is seen as incorporation into the covenant community, like circumcision in the Old Testament, oe **B1**

it is believed to apply cleansing of original sin and brings the child into the life of the Church, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. inclusion into the covenant community; cleansing or removal of original sin and incorporation into the Church.

Question 4

one difference: whether baptism is a covenant sign applied to children or a personal testimony after conversion, oe **B1**

one difference: whether baptism is understood primarily as a sacrament conveying grace (infant view) or primarily a public declaration of faith and obedience (believers' view), oe **B1**

one difference: the role of parental or godparental promises in infant baptism versus the emphasis on individual profession in believers' baptism, oe **B1**

Answer: Any three: covenant sign vs personal testimony; sacrament conveying grace vs public declaration of faith; parental/godparent role vs individual profession.

Question 5

point 1: infant baptism is justified by the idea of covenant continuity, where baptism replaces circumcision as a sign of inclusion into God's people, oe **B1**

development: this links to the belief that children of believers share the covenant promises and should be initiated early, oe **B1**

point 2: infant baptism is justified by the doctrine of original sin and the need for grace, oe **B1**

development: baptising infants is seen as bringing them into the life of grace and the church's care from the start, not withholding the sacrament until personal understanding develops, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. covenant continuity with circumcision, so children of believers are included; concern to bring infants into grace and remove original sin, beginning Christian life early.

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