Lord's Day 27 Name _____

This important Lord's Day deals with the question, "Does the water of baptism itself wash away sin?" as well as the great covenant doctrine of infant baptism.

A. The working of baptism.

1. Baptism is a very spiritual matter. However, superstition has arisen concerning it. The Roman Catholic Church teaches not only that a person must be baptized with water to be saved, but also that the external sign (water) actually washes away sin.

a. Our Lord's Day denies this when it says "_____
_____"

b. The Belgic Confession, Art. 34 denies this when it teaches "_____
_____
_____"

c. Why does Answer 72 of the Catechism speak of the Holy Ghost as well as the blood of Jesus Christ? _____
_____

2. Baptism is called the "washing of regeneration" and the "washing away of sins" for two good reasons. These reasons are, according to Answer 73:

a. To *teach* us _____

b. To *assure* us _____

c. In both this teaching and assuring, the emphasis is on the words *as* and *as really as.*

Thus the idea of the sacrament as a sign and seal must always be remembered.

B. Infant baptism.

1. What well-known church group insists that infants must not be baptized, but only those who profess to be believers? _____

a. They call this "faith baptism," that is, faith must be present in an individual before he may receive this sacrament.

b. They appeal to such a text as Mark 16:16 to prove their point. Look up this passage. Does this passage prove their point? Why or why not? _____
_____
_____

c. Look up the following passages. What part of these verses indicates that more than the adult believers were baptized?

1) Acts 16:14-15 _____

2) Acts 16:33 _____

2. Answer 74 gives three reasons why infants are to be baptized.

a. Infants as well as adults are included in the covenant and church of God.

1) Quote Genesis 17:7: "_____
_____
_____
_____"

2) Quote Acts 2:39: "_____
_____
_____"

3) Quote from the Baptism Form, first line under "I. To Infants of Believers."
"_____
_____"

b. The Holy Ghost, the author of faith, is promised to infants as well as to adults.

1) Quote Psalm 22:10: "_____
_____"

2) Quote Luke 1:15b: "_____
_____"

c. Infants of believers must be distinguished from children of unbelievers as was done in the Old Testament by circumcision (Gen. 17:9-14).

1) The sign of the covenant in the O.T. was _____.

2) This sign involved _____, but since the precious blood of Christ has been shed, we are given a new sign of the covenant which is _____.

3) Circumcision was performed upon male infants at what age? _____

4) Colossians 2:11, 12 teaches us that being circumcised without hands (that is, spiritual circumcision) means that we are _____ in baptism, and risen with Him through _____.

C. True or False (Review of Lord's Days 25-27)

____ 1. The sins of everyone who is baptized are washed away by the blood of Jesus.
____ 2. A person must be baptized into Christ in order to be saved.
____ 3. Sacraments are signs and seals of the righteousness of faith.
____ 4. God promises to save all the infants of believers.
____ 5. Infants of unbelievers may also be baptized.
____ 6. The sacrament of baptism has replaced the rite of circumcision.
____ 7. Being washed in the blood of Jesus, we more and more die to sin and live unto holiness.
____ 8. Faith is worked in our hearts by the sacraments.
____ 9. The water in baptism becomes powerful, that it washes away sin.
____ 10. As the preaching is designed for the ear, so the sacraments are for the eye.