

WHY ALL THE FUSS

By Dr. Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.

Many times I have heard people state how they are excited about various proceedings, events, actions, which are about to take place. Some of such may be:

- 1) Graduation
- 2) Wedding or Baby Shower
- 3) Wedding
- 4) Birth
- 5) Baptism
- 6) First Communion
- 7) Ordination
- 8) Etc.

It is really strange how people will often drive hundreds or often thousands of miles to be a spectator or share in such events and then neglect to share in a God directed ordinance. No doubt parents and grandparents lead in these events. But really, why all the fuss?

God does not call for our presence at the above, but out of respect for loved ones we want to be there. Then, in many instances we attend to "keep peace".

Some times a person chooses to not walk the aisle with fellow students, or not to have an "Open Church Wedding", or to not have a public baptism. That does not make it any less important. We can all relate how some students who have been on the Dean's List, & a big fuss has been made over his/her graduation, has bombed out in life. Then most of us have been to the "Big Church Wedding" with candles, flowers, tuxedos, & gowns only to see the couple split within a short time.

How many have we seen baptized only to turn again to walk with the devil. How many have we seen ordained to preach God's Word, only to depart from the path many thought he was going to be like "John The Baptist"?

So, I ask again, "Why All The Fuss?" God makes certain demands on us that we must keep. The formality of a wedding, birth of a baby, a baptism, or an ordination is not as important as we make it. John 10:27 "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

Plainly, don't get short changed. Let's be ready to meet our Maker. The Bible (in Acts) teaches that to avoid hell and gain heaven - one must:

- 1) Believe In Jesus As Savior (16:31)
- 2) Repent Of Sins (17:30)
- 3) Confess Christ Audibly (8:37)
- 4) Be Baptized In Water (2:38)
- 5) Live A Christian Life (14:22)
- 6) Be Active In the Church (2:47)

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