“Can Any Man Forbid Water”
Acts 10:47-48

Introduction:
A. The importance of water baptism is generally downplayed by modern religion.
   1. “What possible good could being dipped in water possible do?”
   2. “It is good to baptized, but just to show that you have been saved”
B. The importance of water baptism is emphasized in the New Testament record.
C. There two persons who might attempt to forbid water.

Discussion:
I. The Person Who Should Baptize.
   A. He should forbid water to those who are not penitent believers (Acts 8:36, 37; cf. Matt. 3:7,8).
      1. Infants, little children, mentally incompetent – not capable of faith and no sins to repent of.
      2. Sinners who will not repent of sins – indicate they plan to continue in sin.
   B. He should not forbid water to a penitent believer because of:
      1. His fleshly status (Acts 10:34, 35)
      2. His past life (Acts 18:8; 1 Cor. 6:9-11) – No probation period.
      4. No supernatural experience – Where is passage? “Have experience and be baptized.”

II. The Person Who Should Be Baptized.
   A. Why should one want to be baptized in water?
      1. To obey a divine command (v. 48).
      2. To be saved from sin (I Pet. 3:20, 21; Acts 2:38).
      3. To be raised to a new spiritual life (Rom. 6:4).
      4. To receive the spiritual blessings that are in Christ (Gal. 3:27; Eph. 1:3).
      5. To be members of the blood bought church (1 Cor. 12:13; Acts 20:28)
   B. Why would one refuse to baptized?
      1. May be untaught (Matt. 28:18-20).
      2. May feel that he can be saved without it (Heb. 2:3; Mark 16:15-16).
      3. May feel no personal need for it (Rom. 3:23; Rom. 6:23).
      4. May feel he has plenty of time (Heb. 3:7-13; Jas. 4:13-17).
      5. May feel the time is not right (Acts 24:25).
      6. May be waiting on someone else (2 Cor. 5:10)
      7. May think he has already been baptized (cf. Acts 19:3-5).

Conclusion:
A. Are you forbidding water? By what right?
B. We want to baptize you, if you are a penitent believer and want to be baptized.