

## Baptism and the Silver Spoon

1. We enjoy disliking people who were born with a silver spoon in their mouth.
2. “Born with a silver spoon” definition: someone who is born into a \_\_\_\_\_ and advantaged situation through no work of their own, usually through \_\_\_\_\_ wealth.
3. Examples.
4. Why do we find it so easy to dislike people who are born with a silver spoon in their mouth?
5. How might our dislike for those born with silver spoons in their mouth affect our evaluation of our own situation?
6. Read Isaiah 43:1-7.
  - a. What similarities do we see in verses one and seven?
  - b. How many times does the word “I” appear in these verses?
  - c. What sorts of things is God (the “I”) doing in these verses?
7. How do these verses impact our understanding of a silver spoon?
8. God creates ex nihilo, that is “out of nothing.” Where are some places in Scripture where we see this? Genesis 12:1-3. Genesis 45:9.
9. Read Romans 6:4, 7, and John 3:3-5. Where is God making something new in these verses?
10. Luther had this to say about Jesus’ Baptism, “[Christ] accepted [baptism] from John for the reason that he was entering into our stead, indeed, our person, that is, becoming a sinner for us, taking upon himself the sins which he had not committed, and wiping them out and drowning them in his holy baptism.”

11. The gifts from God through Christ in holy Baptism are forgiveness, life, and salvation. We too are re-born in Baptism with silver spoons in our mouth! Instead of justification for our enjoyment of rejecting those to whom everything is given as a gift, we should honor the one who does the giving. (Staples Center, example.)
12. What are some ways we can honor the giver of the gifts besides contempt for those born with silver spoons in their mouths?
13. What are the dangers of modeling for our families or other Christians' disdain for the prosperity of others? What are the advantages of approaching this issue through our Baptisms?