

# The Westminster Confession of Faith

## Chapter 27

### *Of the Sacraments*

1. Sacraments are holy signs and seals of the covenant of grace, immediately instituted by God, to represent Christ, and His benefits; and to confirm our interest in Him: as also, to put a visible difference between those that belong unto the Church, and the rest of the world; and solemnly to engage them to the service of God in Christ, according to His Word.
2. There is, in every sacrament, a spiritual relation, or sacramental union, between the sign and the thing signified; whence it comes to pass, that the names and effects of the one are attributed to the other.
3. The grace which is exhibited in or by the sacraments rightly used, is not conferred by any power in them; neither doth the efficacy of a sacrament depend upon the piety or intention of him that doth administer it; but, upon the work of the Spirit, and the word of institution, which contains, together with a precept authorising the use thereof, a promise of benefit to worthy receivers.
4. There be only two sacraments ordained by Christ our Lord in the Gospel; that is to say, Baptism, and the Supper of the Lord; neither of which may be dispensed by any, but by a minister of the Word lawfully ordained.
5. The sacraments of the Old Testament, in regard of the spiritual things thereby signified and exhibited, were, for substance, the same with those of the new.

#### *Circumcision-Baptism*

1. Administered once only to each.
2. Administered to believers and their children.
3. Picture of inception of union with God (cleansing, justification, etc.)
4. Recipient wholly passive (he is circumcised-baptised: receives what another performs)

#### *The Passover-The Lord's Supper*

1. Administered repeatedly to each.
2. Administered to believers only.
3. Picture of maintenance of union with God (nourishment, growth, sanctification, etc.)
4. Recipient active (he participates by his own action)

## SERMON WORKSHEET

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2011 - PM service

### “Why God Confirms The Gospel To His Own”

READING: ..... TEXT: .....

#### INTRODUCTION

God gives us what we need - not what we W.....

We get what we need spiritually through: *Tick right box*

a) only hearing the preaching of the Word [ ] b) our other senses as well [ ]

#### 1 - THE SACRAMENTS ARE TO AFFIRM CHRIST TO US

This is what article ..... is about

The word “sacrament” means it:

a) was instituted by Christ [ ] b) is related to something sacred [ ]

It's a word we find often in the Bible: TRUE / FALSE ? *Cross out wrong one*

A sign is something which P..... us to something (e.g. Abraham in Romans .... : .....

A seal is something that P..... a statement was true (e.g. Esther .... : .....

The sacraments have no M..... in them

All the other sacraments some churches have actually take away from God's G.....

This confirming our relationship to Christ is what believers B..... from

In fact, what is promised at a baptism and reflected on before the Lord's Supper is almost:

a) identical to a public profession of faith [ ] b) identical to a marriage [ ]

#### 2 - THE SACRAMENTS ARE TO JOIN CHRIST WITH US

Illustrations don't properly C..... Scripture's teaching on the sacraments

Many churches, including some Reformed-Presbyterian, have failed to draw a D.....

Within Reformed circles this error has been known as 'presumptive R.....'

This teaching says that the command and promise made by God in baptism:

a) means salvation [ ] b) doesn't mean salvation [ ] c) means it's what we do [ ]

In Romans .... : ..... it says that not all who are descended from Israel are Israel

Only he who B..... and is baptised will be saved (Acts 2:38)

When the sacrament is as important as the Word the focus is on grace: TRUE / FALSE ?

This is why Article .... is keen the highlight the work of the Spirit

Rome says that only priests can administer the sacraments and others by:

a) dying without being baptised miss out [ ] b) baptising someone dying [ ]

#### 3 - THE SACRAMENTS ARE TO SHOW CHRIST IN US

If sacraments did save people you would:

a) have to witness to a lot more people [ ] b) baptise people and not witness [ ]

Article ..... also speaks about the actual sacraments themselves

Which pair of sacraments pictures growth? .....

In 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians .... : .... and Colossians .... : .... Paul shows how interchangeable they are

The sacraments tell us actually how God graciously F..... us with everything!