



## **“The Church Is Committed to the Ordinances” (Selected Scriptures)**

### **INTRODUCTION**

- What are ordinances?
  - a) Includes baptism and Lord’s Supper
  - b) “a ceremony that Christ commanded to be permanently practiced by the church”
  - c) Symbols of redemption
  
- What are sacraments?
  - a) Ceremonies that convey grace to the participant
  - b) 7 sacraments: Baptism, confession, confirmation, holy order, Lord’s Supper, anointing of sick, and marriage ceremony
  - c) Claim to be salvific – “works of salvation”
  
- Sacraments claim to save; ordinances claim to symbolize salvation.
  
- *KEY POINT: The Lord wants us to remember what He did for us.*

### **LORD’S SUPPER**

- Cf. Luke 22:14-20
  
- Sometimes called the Eucharist, or communion, or breaking of bread, or the Lord’s Table
  
- Jesus instituted this after the final Passover meal before His crucifixion.
  
- Cf. I Corinthians 11:18-34

- When We Observe the Lord's Supper, we...
  - a) proclaim Christ's work on the cross (Mark 14:24; I Corinthians 11:26).
  - b) proclaim His return and setting up of a future kingdom (Matthew 26:29; I Corinthians 11:26).
  - c) proclaim our union with Christ (I Corinthians 10:16).
  - d) proclaim our fellowship with other believers in Christ (I Corinthians 10:17; 12:13).

## **BAPTISM**

- Where Did Baptism Come From?
  - a) Used by Levitical priests (Leviticus 16)
  - b) Commandment by Christ (Matthew 28:19)
  - c) Practiced in the N.T. church (Acts 2; 10; 19)
  - d) Taught in the Epistles
  
- What Does Baptism Signify?
  - a) It identifies us with Christ (Acts 2:38; 8:15-16; Romans 6:1-4; Galatians 3:27).
  - b) It identifies us with the church (Acts 2:41-42).
  - c) It symbolizes a cleansing from sin (I John 1:7).
  
- Why Should Christians Be Baptized?
  - a) It is commanded (Acts 2:38).
  - b) It was a consistent pattern exemplified in the N.T. church.
  - c) Its symbolism only resonates with genuine believers.

## **CONCLUSION**

### **TAKE IT A STEP FURTHER**

- 1) What steps can be taken to better prepare yourself for taking the Lord's Supper?
- 2) What do you believe your response should be when you observe a baptism?
- 3) Book Recommendation – *Baptism and the Lord's Supper* by Thabiti Anyabwile and J. Ligon Duncan III