

4/23/2023 - Speaker: Al Schaap

Series: Foundations

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:23-32 (pp. 1135f.)

Message: “The Sacraments – Communion”

Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all share the one loaf. (1 Corinthians 10:16-17)

Communion (“The Lord’s Supper”, “Eucharist”) both Celebrates Community with Jesus & His People and deepens it!

Q. What are sacraments?

A. Sacraments are visible, holy signs and seals. They were instituted by God so that by our use of them He might make us understand more clearly the promise of the gospel, and seal that promise. (cf. *Gen. 17:11; Deut. 30:6; Rom. 4:11*)

And this is God’s gospel promise: to grant us forgiveness of sins and eternal life by grace because of Christ’s one sacrifice accomplished on the cross. (*Matthew 26:27-28; Acts 2:38; Hebrews 10:10*)

1 Corinthians 11:23-32 -

Q. Who should come to the Lord’s table?

A. Those who are displeased with themselves because of their sins, but who nevertheless trust that their sins are pardoned and that their remaining weakness is covered by the suffering and death of Christ, and who also desire more and more to strengthen their faith and to lead a better life. Hypocrites and those who are unrepentant, however, eat and drink judgment on themselves. (cf. 1 Corinthians 10:19-22; 11:26-32)

“This is My body...do this in remembrance of Me.”

“This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this...in remembrance of Me.”

“For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.”

Q. Are both the word and the sacraments then intended to focus our faith on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross as the only ground of our salvation?

A. Yes! In the gospel the Holy Spirit teaches us and by the holy sacraments confirms that our entire salvation rests on Christ’s one sacrifice for us on the cross. (Romans 6:3; 1 Corinthians 11:26; Galatians 3:27)

...the bread that we break (is) a participation in the body of Christ...we...are one body....(1 Corinthians 10:17)