

Lecture 26 – The Means of Grace: The Word & Sacraments (cont.)

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?

1 Corinthians 10:16

Key Terms

Author, content, efficacy, outward form, function, necessity, origin, meaning

Lecture Objectives

- Explore, list, and explain similarities and dissimilarities between the Word and sacraments
- Describe ways in which these similarities/dissimilarities deepen our understanding of the Spirit's use of means in our lives
- Describe ways in which these similarities/dissimilarities help us communicate the Gospel more effectively

Preview

In our last lecture we defined the means of grace. We also began our discussion of the similarities between the Word and sacraments. In today's lecture we will look at the efficacy of the Word and sacraments, the dissimilarities of the two, and finally, the sacraments as signs and seals of salvation. Prior outline points have been listed for continuity.

The Means of Grace: The Word & Sacraments (cont.)

I. The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

II. The Doctrine of Election

III. The Doctrine of the Church

IV. The Means of Grace

A. Introduction

B. The Word

C. Sacraments

1. The sacraments in general

a. Classic definitions

b. Biblical teaching

1) Similarities

a) Author

b) Content

*c) Efficacy

(1) Romans 1:16-17

(2) 1 Peter 3:21

(3) 1 Corinthians 10:16

2) Dissimilarities

a) Outward form

(1) The Word

(2) Sacraments

b) Function

(1) The Word brings about faith

(a) Romans 10:17

(b) 1 Peter 1:23-2:3

(2) The sacraments strengthen faith

(a) Romans 6:1-4

- (b) 1 Corinthians 10:16
- c) Necessity
 - (1) The Word is necessary for salvation
 - (a) Romans 10:17
 - (2) People can be saved without the sacraments
 - (a) Luke 23:42-43
 - (3) Sacraments are important
- 3) Sacraments are signs and seals of salvation
 - a) Romans 4:11
 - b) God does the work
 - c) Example of wedding band
- 4) Baptism and communion have things in common
 - a) Origin
 - (1) Command of Christ
 - (a) Matthew 28:19-20
 - (b) Matthew 26: 26-28
 - b) Meaning
 - (1) Forgiveness of sins
 - (a) Acts 22:16
 - (b) Matthew 26:28
 - (2) Union with Christ
 - (a) Matthew 28:19
 - (b) 1 Corinthians 10:16
 - (3) Minister
 - (a) Colossians 2:11