

---

---

## The Westminster Confession of Faith

*Week 10*

### 27:1 What is a Sacrament?

Signs

39 Articles – “Outward and Visible sign of an Inward and Spiritual grace” (Church of England)

Sign is a visible representation

Baptism is a sign of the beginning of the Christian life - water

The Lord’s Supper or Holy Communion is a sign of the ongoing Christian life - food

Seals

Official emblem from God himself

Romans 4:11; Genesis 17:7, 10-11

Immediately Instituted by God

Words of Institution (Matthew 28:19, 1 Corinthians 11:23)

Mysteries

Represent Christ (Colossians 1:24-27; 1 Corinthians 4:1)

They...

Confirm our interest in Christ

Put a visible difference between the church and the world

Call us to action

### 27:2 Sacramental Union

Spiritual union

Not physical (RCC)

Not symbolic (Memorialists)

Holy Spirit

---

---

## The Westminster Confession of Faith

*Week 10*

### 27:1 What is a Sacrament?

Signs

39 Articles – “Outward and Visible sign of an Inward and Spiritual grace” (Church of England)

Sign is a visible representation

Baptism is a sign of the beginning of the Christian life - water

The Lord’s Supper or Holy Communion is a sign of the ongoing Christian life - food

Seals

Official emblem from God himself

Romans 4:11; Genesis 17:7, 10-11

Immediately Instituted by God

Words of Institution (Matthew 28:19, 1 Corinthians 11:23)

Mysteries

Represent Christ (Colossians 1:24-27; 1 Corinthians 4:1)

They...

Confirm our interest in Christ

Put a visible difference between the church and the world

Call us to action

### 27:2 Sacramental Union

Spiritual union

Not physical (RCC)

Not symbolic (Memorialists)

Holy Spirit

Examples

“This is my body, blood” – Matthew 26:26-28

“Baptism saves you” – 1 Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3-4

### **27:3 Sacramental Efficacy**

What efficacy is

Grace (God’s presence and action in our lives) conferred

God works in our lives through the sacraments

It doesn’t depend on

The sacraments themselves

The person administering them

It does depend on

The work of the Holy Spirit

The words of institution

### **27:3 How many sacraments are there?**

Two sacraments

Baptism

Holy Communion or The Lord’s Supper

Ministers are are the dispensers (1 Corinthians 4:1)

Other ordinances or rites

RCC and orthodox adds confirmation, penance/confession of sin, anointing the sick, marriage, ordination

Sacraments/sealing ordinances v. ordinances

### **27:4 OT and NT Sacraments**

Baptism is the New Testament fulfillments of circumcision (Colossians 2:11-12; 1 Peter 3:21)

Holy Communion is the New Testament fulfillment of Passover (1 Corinthians 10:1-4)

Examples

“This is my body, blood” – Matthew 26:26-28

“Baptism saves you” – 1 Peter 3:21; Romans 6:3-4

### **27:3 Sacramental Efficacy**

What efficacy is

Grace (God’s presence and action in our lives) conferred

God works in our lives through the sacraments

It doesn’t depend on

The sacraments themselves

The person administering them

It does depend on

The work of the Holy Spirit

The words of institution

### **27:3 How many sacraments are there?**

Two sacraments

Baptism

Holy Communion or The Lord’s Supper

Ministers are are the dispensers (1 Corinthians 4:1)

Other ordinances or rites

RCC and orthodox adds confirmation, penance/confession of sin, anointing the sick, marriage, ordination

Sacraments/sealing ordinances v. ordinances

### **27:4 OT and NT Sacraments**

Baptism is the New Testament fulfillments of circumcision (Colossians 2:11-12; 1 Peter 3:21)

Holy Communion is the New Testament fulfillment of Passover (1 Corinthians 10:1-4)