

Second London Baptist Confession Chapter 28: Baptism and the Lord's Supper

Introduction

- Definition of Ordinance: “a symbolic, declaratory rite commanded by Christ, designed to represent the thing symbolized, and to strengthen and confirm faith”
- Sacrament (Latin ‘sacramentum’): something sacred; Ordinance: something prescribed, instituted. Either term is acceptable.

I. A General Definition of the Ordinances (Par. 1)

- Names: “*Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances...*” (Matt. 28:19; 1 Cor. 11:23-25)
- Character: “*...of positive and sovereign institution.*”
- Author: “*They are appointed by the Lord Jesus the only lawgiver...*”
- Perpetuation: “*...and are to be continued in His church to the end of the age.*” (Matt. 28:20; 1 Cor. 11:26)

II. The Proper Administrators of the Ordinances (Par. 2)

Chapter 29: Baptism

I. Definition (Par. 1)

- Designation: “*Baptism is an ordinance of the New Testament...*” (Matt. 28:19)
- Author: “*...ordained by Jesus Christ.*” (Matt. 28:19)
- Significance: “*To those baptized it is a sign of their fellowship with Him in His death and resurrection, of their being grafted into Him, of remission of sins, and of submitting themselves to God through Jesus Christ to live and walk in newness of life.*” Baptism depicts the application of salvation: union with Christ (Rom. 6:3-5): legal and moral cleansing (Acts 2:38; 22:16).

II. Proper Subjects (Par. 2)

- Command, Examples, Theological Argument; Paedobaptism has only a (flawed) theological argument.

III. Outward Element (Par. 3)

- Outward Element Stated: Par. 3a: “*The outward element to be used in this ordinance is water...*”
- Accompanying Formula Stated: Par. 3b: “*...in which the individual is to be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*”

IV. Proper Mode (Par. 4)

- Immersion: central meaning and general usage of bapti,zw; NT examples of baptism (Matt. 3:16; John 3:23; Acts 8:36, 38, 39); intended significance of baptism