

# ECCLESIOLOGY

the study of the church

## PART 2



Ecclesiastical DNA

Review



ELDERS &  
DEACONS

Review



VISION

MISSION

VALUES

## VISION

- Our desire is to align with what we believe to be **the vision of God** as stated in Numb. 14:21; Isa. 11:9; Hab. 2:14; Psalm 22:27 and Revelation 5:9.

## VISION

- Our vision is to see the earth full of the knowledge of the LORD and people ransomed by the blood of the Lamb from every tribe and language and people and nation.

## MISSION

- We believe the Mission of God to be the making, maturing, and assembling of disciples of Jesus Christ by local churches into local churches . . .

# MISSION

- . . . for the strengthening and building up of the body of Christ. God's means to this end is the Mission of the Church.

# MISSION

- Our mission is to make disciples by establishing churches locally, nationally, and globally (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 4:11-16; Colossians 1:27-29).

- **Mission fills the gap between** the Garden in Eden (Gen. 1) and the absence of Temple in Revelation (21:22).



- Our Theological DNA is our unique theological personality within the Evangelical Family



- See Further Brochures
  - OUR DNA
  - The Heartbeat of WBC

W  
•  
worship

I  
•  
instruction

F  
•  
fellowship

E  
•  
evangelism



## ORDINANCE

• Broadly speaking, Christianity encompasses three major branches: Roman Catholicism, Eastern Orthodoxy, and Protestantism. In all churches affiliated with these traditions, two common celebrations stand out: **baptism and the Lord's Supper** (Communion; Eucharist).

• <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/the-ordinances-of-the-church/>

## WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SACRAMENT AND AN ORDINANCE?

• **The sacraments infuse grace into the people of God.** His grace is transmitted through the sacraments as they are administered, and that grace effects the transformation of the character of their recipients, whose participation in the sacraments is necessary for salvation.

• **The sacraments are means of grace by which God confers the benefits of salvation to his people.** Rather than infusing grace, the sacraments, in conjunction with the Word of God, offer a promise of divine blessing (e.g., sanctification) to their recipients, who appropriate the promise by faith.

• **The ordinances symbolize the faith and obedience of the people of God.** Rather than transmitting grace or serving as means of grace, the ordinances are opportunities for their recipients to express their allegiance to Christ. <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/the-ordinances-of-the-church/>





## TRANSUBSTANTIATION (Roman Catholicism | Eastern)

- Elements **become** flesh and Blood.



## CONSUBSTANTIATION (Lutheranism)

- “This **is** my Body” – Christ present in, around, and under the elements.



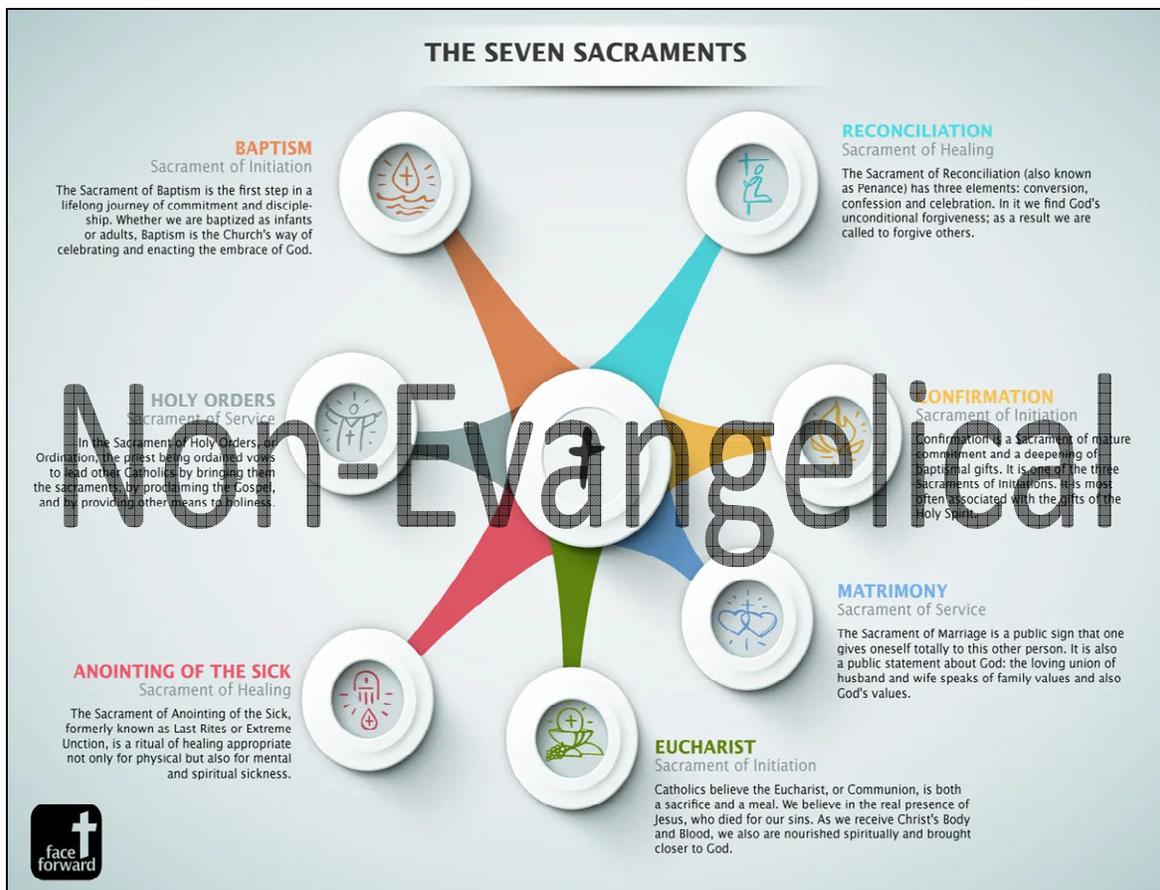
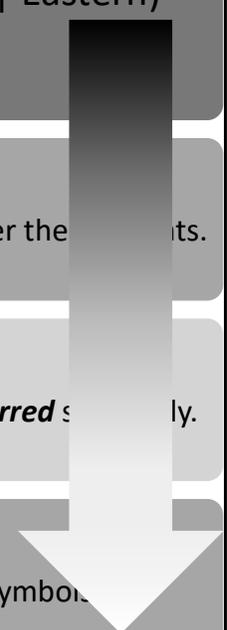
## SPIRITUAL PRESENCE (Presbyterian)

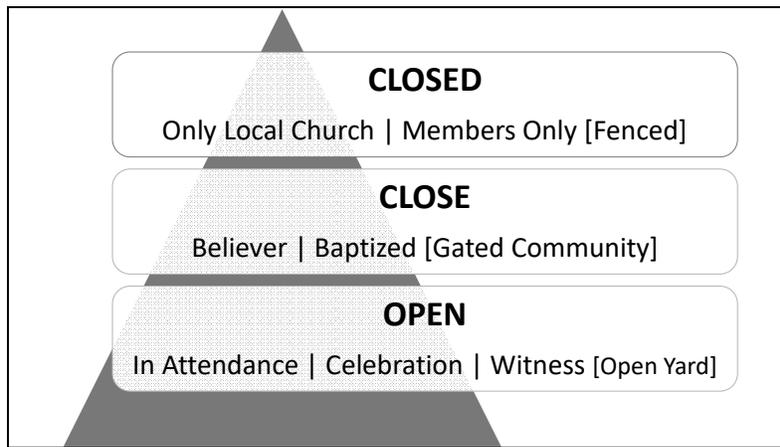
- Elements purely physical symbols, but **real grace conferred** spiritually.  
– “lifted into presence of Christ”



## MEMORIALISM (Baptists | Evangelicals)

- “In **remembrance** of me” Nothing more than physical symbols.





## MATT. 26:17-30

- What Jesus does here in vv. 26-29 is **shadow** to the **substance** in 27:45-56. The same PLOT LINE in **shadow** is part of the greater PLOT LINE in **substance**. It is layered.
- What is the BIG IDEA?
- The DBRA of JESUS! Yahoo!

## STRUCTURE

- I. The Preparation of Passover (vv. 17-19)
- II. The Prophecy of Judas (vv. 20-25)
- III. The Picture of New Covenant (vv. 26-29)

## PASSOVER (vv. 17-19)

- A. Remembering the Exodus
- B. His time is near [v. 18]
- C. Mark 14:12-16 gives a more detailed and intentional story of the preparation. Showing how God is in control of this moment.

## PICTURE (vv. 26-29)

- The referent is Jeremiah 31:31.
- Other names for the **NEW COVENANT**
  - Deuteronomy 30:6 "Moreover, the Lord your God will **circumcise your heart** and the heart of your descendants, to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, in order that you may live."
  - Eze 11:19 And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; **and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh:**
  - Eze 36:26 **A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.**

# PICTURE (vv. 26-29)

- A. The Bread / His Body (v. 26)
- B. The Wine / His Blood (vv. 27, 28)
- C. The Promise / His Return (v. 29 [Already – Not Yet])
- D. The Song / His Worship (v. 30)



ONE STORY  
ONE SAVIOR

## THE POINT

•One day God said He would establish a **NEW COVENANT** with His people and in that day He would remember their sins no more. God's people will be internally transformed instead of the external obedience demanded by the Law. God would cause that which He desires in and through His people.

## NEW COVENANT

In the Person and Work of Jesus, God does something for us that we cannot do for ourselves. He sent His Son to be our Savior from sin and death.



## WHO

•According to the pattern established by God’s word, **every believer is to be baptized. A believer is** someone who has recognized their sinful condition and placed their faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross.

## WHO

- **Matt. 28:19** “make disciples . . . baptizing them.”
- **Rom. 10:9, 10** “if you confess.”
- **John 1:12, 13** “but as many as receive.”

## WHO

•This would **exclude infants** as they are not able to believe.



## WHAT

•When Gentiles converted to Judaism one of the three things that would happen is . . . they would have to undergo **baptism**.

## WHAT

- Water baptism is an expression of **our faith**.
- Water baptism portrays **our union** with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection (**Rom. 6:1ff**).

## WHY

•**FIRST**, water baptism appears as an **essential part of the making and maturing of disciples** in **Matt. 28:18-20**. The church in Acts understands the importance of baptism by its continued practice (cf. **Acts 8:36-39**).

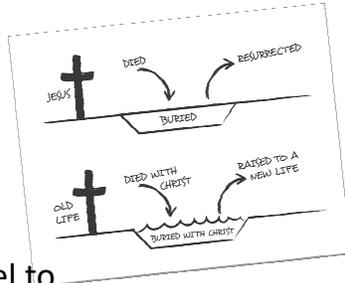
# WHY

•**SECOND**, The act itself speaks strongly of **identification**. Today, New Testament baptism is for the Christian to testify of their faith in Christ by an outward demonstration of their inward **identification** with Christ.



# WHY

•**FINALLY**, water baptism by immersion is an **opportunity** to preach the gospel to those who witness it.



# WHY

•Baptism provides us with an opportunity to testify **to family, friends and outsiders** of the inward reality of our identification with Christ.

# HOW

• Believer's baptism is by immersion. This is the "mode/pattern" of the NT and early church.

# WHERE

•In the early NT times, new believers were often baptized in rivers. Like the NT church, we baptize anyone where there is water.  
•We believe it is an "ordinance" **of** the NT Church. Only "Churches" baptize believers.



•65 times **baptizo** is used in the NT.  
•Only 10 times is the word used by Paul.  
•Of those 10 occurrences once it is used in Romans (6:3), once in Galatians (3:27) and all of the rest are in 1 Corinthians.  
•Of those occurrences in 1 Corinthians all but three (10:2; 12:13; 15:29) are in chapter 1.

- 22 times **baptisma** is used in the NT.
- Only 4 times is the word used outside of the **GOSPELS**.
- Rom. 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by **baptism** into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, **even so we also should walk in newness of life.**

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## QUESTION

1. Is Christian Baptism following what the Old Testament teaches? Or is Christian Baptism based on TRADITION?
2. Are most passages in Paul referring to SPIRIT BAPTISM?
3. Did the early Church think first of SPIRIT BAPTISM or of WATER BAPTISM?
4. Did the early Church separate the two idea?



## PROTECT AND ENABLE

- God has written into His **Story** various means of protecting His people from sin and enabling them in the pursuit. This is best imaged in the identifying of the individual by geographically defined assemblies with a biblical structure (i.e. Elders and deacons) and mission (i.e. Church planting).



## THE SOLUTION

- Baptism
- Lord's Table
- MEMBERSHIP (Pragmatic)
- Involvement
  - Through Participation
  - Through Personal Service

## Baptism?

- It is the public act of aligning oneself with and submitting to a geographically defined assembly with a biblical structure and mission.



## Lord's Table?

- It is the repeated act of aligning oneself with and submitting to a geographically defined assembly with a biblical structure and mission.



# Membership?

• It is the aligning of oneself with and submitting to a geographically defined assembly with a biblical structure and mission.



# Participation?

• Participation and Personal Service is you taking responsibility for your own involvement in the life of the local assembly.

