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# OBSERVING THE ORDINANCES

Week 1: Introduction, History, & Overview

## THE WORDS (OBSERVING THE ORDINANCES)

### 1. OBSERVING

Some definitions that Merriam Webster gives for “observe” are:

- a. to \_\_\_\_\_; to watch carefully especially with attention to details
- b. to conform one's action or practice to; to \_\_\_\_\_ in a customary or accepted way

### 2. THE

Southern Baptist doctrine teaches that there are \_\_\_\_\_ ordinances.

### 3. ORDINANCES

Some definitions that Merriam Webster gives for “ordinance” are:

- a. something \_\_\_\_\_ or decreed by fate or a deity
- b. a prescribed usage, \_\_\_\_\_, or ceremony

<b>Ordinance or Sacrament?</b>
Ordinance: a prescribed usage, practice, or ceremony. <i>Theological key: outward expression of _____</i>
Sacrament: a Christian rite that is a means of divine grace. <i>Theological key: impartation of God's _____</i>

## THE WHAT (WHAT DID IT LOOK LIKE IN THE FIRST CENTURY?)

### 1. BAPTISM

- a. **What is baptism?** “Baptism” is a \_\_\_\_\_ of the Greek words, *bapto* and *baptizo*. Both words clearly imply immersing or dipping under. **Matthew 3:16-17** is an example of this in Jesus’ baptism: **When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water.**
- b. **Who baptized?** John the \_\_\_\_\_ (**Matthew 3:16-17, Matthew 3:6 & Mark 1:5, Matthew 28:19-20, John 1:26**); disciples (**Acts 2:41**); \_\_\_\_\_ (**Acts 8:35-39**); Ananias (**Acts 9:17-18**)
- c. **Who didn’t baptize?**

### 2. COMMUNION

Jesus and His disciples were celebrating that \_\_\_\_\_ meal when Jesus decided to add to the significance of that event. The passages about Jesus instituting this are **Matthew 26:17-30, Mark 14:12-26, Luke 22:7-20**, and **1 Corinthians 11:17-32**.

Jesus takes the unleavened bread and makes it about His \_\_\_\_\_ that will be broken.

Also, during that Passover meal (called the Seder), there are four cups of wine that are drunk. They represent the four “I will” statements in **Exodus 6:6-7**, where God says: **“I will bring you out,” “I will rescue you,” “I will redeem you,”** and **“I will take you.”** Jesus lifts the third (?) cup (the cup of redemption) and makes it about His \_\_\_\_\_ when He says, **“This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”**

How did Jesus’ ministry begin? In **John 2**

How did Jesus’ ministry end? In **John 19:24**

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_—they are bookends to His ministry.

## THE WHY (WHY DO WE CONTINUE TO DO OBSERVE THESE ORDINANCES?)

Baptism \_\_\_\_\_ the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

Communion \_\_\_\_\_ the broken body and blood of Jesus the Christ.

The ordinances are so important because they \_\_\_\_\_ us of the center of our faith—the finished work of Jesus on the \_\_\_\_\_.

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# OBSERVING THE ORDINANCES

Week 2: Baptism 101

## REVIEW

1. OBSERVING (to inspect; to celebrate)
2. THE (Baptist doctrine teaches there are two ordinances—baptism and communion)
3. ORDINANCES (something ordained; a practice)

### **Ordinance or Sacrament?**

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## RUDIMENTS (THE BASICS OF BAPTIST DOCTRINE)

- \_\_\_\_\_ authority (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ of the local church
- \_\_\_\_\_ of all believers (**1 Peter 2:5-9**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ ordinances (**Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-32**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ soul liberty (**Romans 14:5-12**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ of church and state (**Matthew 22:15-22**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ offices of the church (pastor-elder and deacon) (**1 Timothy 3:1-13**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ church membership (**Acts 2:41**)

## RESEARCH (WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?)

**Matthew 28:19-20: Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you.**

1. MEANING (WHAT DOES BAPTISM MEAN?)

**Rick DeMichele:** Water baptism is clearly a *figure* or *type* of something which already took place in the heart of the believer the moment he/she was saved (**Romans 6:4-6: Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.**).

**Baptism pictures and proclaims four important things:**

1. the believer's death, burial, and resurrection with Christ (**Colossians 2:12**)
2. the death of our \_\_\_\_\_ life to sin, and our resurrection to walk in \_\_\_\_\_ of life (**Romans 6:4**)
3. our faith in the \_\_\_\_\_ (**Matthew 28:19b**)
4. our “**putting on**” of \_\_\_\_\_ (**Galatians 3:26-27**)

2. SUBJECT (WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?)

**Rick DeMichele:** The Bible makes it clear that scriptural baptism is \_\_\_\_\_ baptism.

**Acts 2:41; 8:12, 36-37; 10:47-48; Acts 16:30-34**

**Rick DeMichele:** Who then should be baptized? According to the established Bible pattern, only those who have trusted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

3. MODE (HOW SHOULD ONE BE BAPTIZED?)

**Rick DeMichele:** \_\_\_\_\_ in water is the only scriptural method of baptism.

**John 3:23; Acts 8:38-39; Romans 6:3-6**

4. FORMULA (WHAT WORDS SHOULD BE SAID?)

First option: “the name of Jesus Christ” or “the name of the Lord Jesus”: **Acts 2:38b; 10:48; 19:5; 8:16b; Galatians 3:27**

Second option: “the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit”: **Matthew 28:19b**

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# OBSERVING THE ORDINANCES

Week 3: History of Baptism

## REVIEW

1. OBSERVING (to inspect; to celebrate)
2. THE (Baptist doctrine teaches there are two ordinances—baptism and communion)
3. ORDINANCES (something ordained; a practice)

### **Ordinance or Sacrament?**

Ordinance: a prescribed usage, practice, or ceremony. *Theological key: outward expression of \_\_\_\_\_*

Sacrament: a Christian rite that is a means of divine grace. *Theological key: impartation of God's \_\_\_\_\_*

## RESEARCH

1. MEANING (WHAT DOES BAPTISM MEAN?)
2. SUBJECT (WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?)
3. MODE (HOW SHOULD ONE BE BAPTIZED?)
4. FORMULA (WHAT WORDS SHOULD BE SAID?)

First option: “the name of Jesus Christ” or “the name of the Lord Jesus” ([Acts 2:38b](#); [10:48](#); [19:5](#); [8:16b](#); [Galatians 3:27](#))

Second option: “the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit” ([Matthew 28:19b](#))

Which is right? The answer is found in \_\_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_-

## OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY (FORESHADOWING BAPTISM)

1. \_\_\_\_\_: [Genesis 1:1-2](#)
2. THE \_\_\_\_\_: [Genesis 7-8](#)
3. PASSING OF THE ISRAELITES THROUGH THE \_\_\_\_\_: [Exodus 14](#)

#### 4. RITUAL WASHING IN \_\_\_\_\_

From Wikipedia: There are several occasions on which biblical or rabbinical regulations require immersion of the whole body, referred to as *tevilah*.

- Conversion to Judaism
- Bodily fluids and skin conditions
- Contact with a dead things
- Yom Kippur

Conclusion: Submersion in water and a subsequent change is \_\_\_\_\_ an entirely New Testament idea.

### CHURCH HISTORY

“The study of uninspired ecclesiastical history is the study of the progress of error; but it is not on this account the less important or instructive.” Isaac Taylor Hinton, *A History of Baptism*, 1840, page 160

#### CHURCH FATHERS

**Steven Cole:** Although baptism could be administered at any time by men the two most popular dates for the ceremony were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Tertullian** - “We are immersed \_\_\_\_\_ times, fulfilling somewhat more than our Lord has decreed in the Gospel” - *de Bapt. c. iv*

#### MIDDLE AGES

Baptisteries didn't appear in churches until the \_\_\_\_\_ century. Even in cities where there were multiple churches, with very few exceptions, there would only be one baptistery.

#### PROTESTANT REFORMATION

**Jeff Johncoat:** Greek/Latin New Testament printed in \_\_\_\_\_. . . . Martin Luther declared his intolerance with the Roman Church's corruption . . . in \_\_\_\_\_

**This day in Christian History**, by William D. Blake, *Almanac of the Christian Church: January 5, 1527* - Swiss Anabaptist reformer \_\_\_\_\_, 29, was drowned in punishment for preaching adult (re-)baptism. Manz's death made him the first Protestant in history to be martyred at the hands of other Protestants.

**Fisher Humphreys:** Believer's baptism responded to two things:

1. Restorationist impulse
2. Achieving a \_\_\_\_\_ church

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# OBSERVING THE ORDINANCES

Week 4: Communion 101

## REVIEW

1. OBSERVING (to inspect; to celebrate)
2. THE (Baptist doctrine teaches there are two ordinances—baptism and communion)
3. ORDINANCES (something ordained; a practice)

### **Ordinance or Sacrament?**

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## RUDIMENTS

- \_\_\_\_\_ authority (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ of the local church
- \_\_\_\_\_ of all believers (**1 Peter 2:5-9**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ ordinances (**Matthew 28:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-32**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ soul liberty (**Romans 14:5-12**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ of church and state (**Matthew 22:15-22**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ offices of the church (pastor-elder and deacon) (**1 Timothy 3:1-13**)
- \_\_\_\_\_ church membership (**Acts 2:41**)

## RESEARCH

1. MEANING (WHAT DOES COMMUNION MEAN?)

**The Baptist Faith & Message: “A symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.”**

A. It is a \_\_\_\_\_ of the past

**23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He**

**broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 1 Corinthians 11:23-24**

**Strong's Concordance: bread: composed of flour mixed with water and baked; the Israelites made it in the form of an oblong or round cake, as thick as one's thumb, and as large as a plate or platter hence it was not to be cut but broken**

B. It is a \_\_\_\_\_ of the covenant

**In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." 1 Corinthians 11:25**

C. It is a statement of \_\_\_\_\_ about the future

**For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. 1 Corinthians 11:26**

## 2. SUBJECT (WHO SHOULD TAKE COMMUNION?)

**27 Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy [literally, not weightily] manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. 28 But let a man examine [dokimazo] himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment [in a legal sense] to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. 1 Corinthians 11:27-29**

A. Those that view it as \_\_\_\_\_

B. Those that have \_\_\_\_\_

C. Those that are \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. MODE (HOW SHOULD ONE TAKE COMMUNION?)

In \_\_\_\_\_. **Acts 2:41-42: 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. 42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.**

**Acts 20:7: Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.**

## 4. FORMULA (WHAT WORDS SHOULD BE SAID DURING COMMUNION?)

Every time Jesus is recorded doing it, His \_\_\_\_\_ are mentioned.

Other verses: **Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 21**

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# OBSERVING THE ORDINANCES

## Week 5: History of Communion

### REVIEW

1. OBSERVING (to inspect; to celebrate)
2. THE (Baptist doctrine teaches there are two ordinances—baptism and communion)
3. ORDINANCES (something ordained; a practice)

#### **Ordinance or Sacrament?**

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### RESEARCH (WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?)

1. MEANING (WHAT DOES COMMUNION MEAN?)

**The Baptist Faith & Message: “A symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.”**

**1 Corinthians 11:23-29:** it is a . . .

- A. Reminder of the past                      B. Symbol of the covenant                      C. Statement of faith about the future

2. SUBJECT (WHO SHOULD TAKE COMMUNION?): those that . . .

- A. View it as worthy                      B. Have examined                      C. Are discerning

3. MODE (HOW SHOULD ONE TAKE COMMUNION?)

**Acts 2:41-42; Acts 20:7:** In community

4. FORMULA (WHAT WORDS SHOULD BE SAID DURING COMMUNION?)

Every time Jesus is recorded doing it, His prayers are mentioned.

## OLD TESTAMENT HISTORY (FORESHADOWING COMMUNION)

1. \_\_\_\_\_: **Genesis 14:18-20**

This is the \_\_\_\_\_ time these elements are mentioned together

This is the \_\_\_\_\_ mention of a priest in the Bible

This interaction between Abram and Melchizedek occurred after \_\_\_\_\_ by Abram

**Psalm 110:1-4**: This is a prophecy about \_\_\_\_\_. Just as Melchizedek used bread and wine, so did Jesus.

2. \_\_\_\_\_: **Exodus 12**

3. \_\_\_\_\_: Compare **Exodus 16** with **John 6:48-51**

## CHURCH HISTORY

### EARLY CHURCH

**Acts 2:46**: implies that communion \_\_\_\_\_ have been practiced every day

**Acts 20:6-11**: implies that communion \_\_\_\_\_ have been practiced once a week

**Peg Bowman: Worship in the early church was divided into two parts: The first part was open to anyone, and included prayers, singing of psalms and songs, readings from scripture, and teaching. The second part was for baptized believers only—anyone not baptized had to \_\_\_\_\_ before the second half—and included . . . Communion.**

### CHURCH FATHERS

**Wikipedia: St. Justin Martyr (c. 150) wrote: “No one else is permitted to partake of it, except one who believes our teaching to be true”**

### MIDDLE AGES

**NewAdvent.org: The Fourth Lateran Council [\_\_\_\_\_] compelled the faithful, under pain of excommunication, to receive at least once a year.**

### REFORMATION

**Wikipedia: Some Protestant groups regard the Eucharist (also called the Lord's Supper or the Lord's Table) as a symbolic meal, a memorial of the Last Supper and the Passion in which nothing miraculous occurs. This view is known as the Zwinglian view, after Huldrych \_\_\_\_\_ [early 16<sup>th</sup> century], a Church leader in Zurich, Switzerland during the Reformation.**

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# OBSERVING THE ORDINANCES

## Week 6: Other Denominations: Baptism

### REVIEW

1. OBSERVING (to inspect; to celebrate)
2. THE (Baptist doctrine teaches there are two ordinances—baptism and communion)
3. ORDINANCES (something ordained; a practice)

<b>Ordinance or Sacrament?</b>
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Ordinance: a prescribed usage, practice, or ceremony. <i>Theological key: outward expression of _____</i>
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### OTHER DENOMINATIONS

#### 1. ROMAN CATHOLIC

**Catechism of the Catholic Church: The \_\_\_\_\_ of Baptism: Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit (*vitae spiritualis ianua*), and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from \_\_\_\_\_ and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission.**

#### 2. BAPTIST

#### 3. METHODIST

**United Methodist Baptismal Covenant: Through the \_\_\_\_\_ of Baptism, we are \_\_\_\_\_ into Christ's holy church.**

**John Wesley preached “\_\_\_\_\_ grace,” the grace that works in our lives before we are aware of it. . . . *A United Methodist Understanding of Baptism*, Mark C. Trotter**

#### 4. LUTHERAN

**In Holy Baptism the Triune God \_\_\_\_\_ us from the forces of evil, puts our sinful self to death, gives us \_\_\_\_\_ birth, adopts us as children, and makes us members of the body of Christ, the Church. Holy Baptism is received by faith alone. *Use of the Means of Grace*, # 14**

Ordered by # of Members	Denomination	Beliefs about Baptism	Type of Baptism?	Baptize Infants?	Baptism Regenerates, Gives Spiritual Life?	Standard?
1		"Necessary for salvation for those to whom the Gospel has been proclaimed and who have had the possibility of asking for this sacrament"	Usually by pouring in the West, by submersion or immersion in the East; sprinkling admitted only if the water then flows on the head.			Trinity
2		A divine ordinance, a symbolic ritual, a mechanism for publicly declaring one's faith, and a sign of having already been saved, but not necessary for salvation.	By submersion only.			Trinity
3		The Sacrament of initiation into Christ's holy church whereby one is incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the spirit. Baptism washes away sin and clothes one in the righteousness of Christ.	By sprinkling, pouring, immersion or submersion.			Trinity
4		Baptism is how God miraculously delivers a person from sin, death, and the devil; gives new life; and brings one into Christ's kingdom forever (Titus 3:5).	By sprinkling, pouring, immersion or submersion.			Trinity
5		A sacrament, a symbolic ritual, and a seal of the adult believer's present faith. It is an outward sign of an inward grace.	By sprinkling, pouring, immersion or submersion			Trinity
6a	Trinitarian Pentecostals and various "Holiness" groups, Christian Missionary Alliance, Assemblies of God	Water Baptism is an ordinance, a symbolic ritual used to witness to having accepted Christ as personal Savior.	By submersion. Also stress the necessity of a "second" Baptism of a special outpouring from the Holy Spirit.	No	Varies	Trinity
6b	Oneness Pentecostals	Necessary for Salvation	By submersion only	No	Yes	Jesus' name
7	Anglican	"Baptism is not only a sign of profession, and mark of difference, whereby Christian men are discerned from others that be not christened, but it is also a sign of Regeneration or New-Birth..."	By submersion, immersion, pouring, or sprinkling.	Yes	No	Trinity
8	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon)	An ordinance essential to enter the Celestial Kingdom of Heaven and preparatory for receiving the Gift of the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands.	By immersion performed by a person holding proper priesthood authority.	No (at least 8 years old)	Yes	Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost (The LDS church doesn't believe in the Nicene trinity)
9a	Churches of Christ	Baptism is a must for salvation as commanded by Jesus, Mark 16:16; Matt. 28:19. One receives forgiveness of sin, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and addition to God's church. Acts 2:38-41. This is done after one has expressed faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God and repented from sins.	Submersion only	No	Yes	Trinity
9b	United Church of Christ	One of two sacraments. Baptism is an outward sign of God's inward grace. It is not necessary for membership in a local congregation. However, it is a common practice for both infants and adults.	By sprinkling, pouring, immersion or submersion.	Yes, to indicate membership in the New Covenant.	No	Trinity
10	Jehovah's Witnesses	Baptism is necessary for salvation as part of the entire baptismal arrangement: as an expression of obedience to Jesus' command (Matthew 28:19-20), as a public symbol of the saving faith in the ransom sacrifice of Jesus Christ (Romans 10:10), and as an indication of repentance from dead works and the dedication of one's life to Jehovah. (1 Peter 2:21) However, baptism does not guarantee salvation.	By submersion only; typical candidates are baptized at district and circuit conventions.	No	Yes	Jesus

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# OBSERVING THE ORDINANCES

## Week 7: Other Denominations: Communion

### REVIEW

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#### **Ordinance or Sacrament?**

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### VIEWS OF COMMUNION

#### 1. OPEN VS. CLOSED COMMUNION

#### 2. INTERPRETATIONS OF COMMUNION (FROM WIKIPEDIA)

- \_\_\_\_\_: the substance (fundamental reality) of the bread and wine is transformed . . . into that of the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Christ, but the accidents (physical traits, including chemical properties) . . . remain
- \_\_\_\_\_: in the “use” of the sacrament, according to the words of Jesus Christ and by the power of his speaking of them once for all, the consecrated bread is united with his body and the consecrated wine with his blood
- **Objective \_\_\_\_\_, but pious \_\_\_\_\_ about technicalities:** [adherents] historically employed the “substance” and “accidents” terminology to explain what is changed in the transformation, usually avoid this terminology
- **Real \_\_\_\_\_ presence,** also called “pneumatic presence,” holds that not only the Spirit of Christ, but also the true body and blood of Jesus Christ (hence “real”), are received by the sovereign, mysterious, and miraculous power of the Holy Spirit (hence “spiritual”), but only by those partakers who have faith
- \_\_\_\_\_: the bread and wine are symbolic of the body and blood of Jesus Christ, and in partaking of the elements the believer commemorates the sacrificial death of Christ

# of Members	Denomination	Beliefs about Communion	View of Communion	Open or Closed?
1		The holy Eucharist completes Christian initiation. Those who have been raised to the dignity of the royal priesthood by Baptism and configured more deeply to Christ by Confirmation participate with the whole community in the Lord's own sacrifice by means of the Eucharist.		Closed
2		The Lord's Supper is a symbolic act of obedience whereby members of the church, through partaking of the bread and the fruit of the vine, memorialize the death of the Redeemer and anticipate His second coming.		Most Open
3		The Supper of the Lord is not only a sign of the love that Christians ought to have among themselves one to another, but rather is a sacrament of our redemption by Christ's death; insomuch that, to such as rightly, worthily, and with faith receive the same, the bread which we break is a partaking of the body of Christ; and likewise the cup of blessing is a partaking of the blood of Christ. . . . The body of Christ is given, taken, and eaten in the Supper, only after a heavenly and spiritual manner. And the means whereby the body of Christ is received and eaten in the Supper is faith.		Most Open
4		the integrity of the bread and wine remain though united with the body and the blood of Christ		Varies
5		It is the Lord's feast, hosted by the One who promises an ultimate continuous feast in the Kingdom of God. Under the enabling power of the Holy Spirit the divine host is made present so that a bond of unity can exist among those present and those unseen. . . . The Lord's Supper is a sacrament of continuous growth, nourishment and new life.		Open