

Academy: The Ordinances pt.7 notes

Historical Views of Baptism

1. Roman Catholic

a. Definition

- i. 1213 Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit (vitae spiritualis ianua),⁴ and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word."

b. Baptismal Regeneration

c. Exorcism

d. Manner of ritual

2. Lutheran

a. Definition

- i. "Lutheranism holds that baptism is a miraculous means of grace, through which God creates and/or strengthens the gift of faith in a person's heart..."
- ii. "Although we do not claim to understand fully how this happens, we believe that when an infant is baptized God creates faith in the heart of that infant. We believe this because the Bible says that infants can believe (Matt 18:6) and that new birth happens in Baptism (John 3:5-7; Titus 3:5-6)..."
- iii. "Lutherans do not believe that only those baptized as infants receive faith. Faith can also be created in a person's heart by the power of the Holy Spirit working through God's Word..."
- iv. "The LCMS does not believe that Baptism is ABSOLUTELY necessary for salvation." ~ LCMS Website.

3. Anabaptist

a. The sharp separation between the spiritual realities and their signs

b. Baptism is an obedient act and a dedication to Christ

4. Reformed Pedobaptist

a. Definition

- i. Baptism is a sacrament of the New Testament, ordained by Jesus Christ, not only for the solemn admission of the party baptized into the visible church, but also to be unto him a sign and seal of the covenant of grace, of his ingrafting into Christ, of regeneration, of remission of sins, and of his giving up unto God, through Jesus Christ, to walk in newness of life: which sacrament is, by Christ's own appointment, to be continued in His church until the end of the world.

b. Covenantal connection

- i. There are not, therefore, two covenants of grace differing in substance, but one and the same under various dispensations.
 - c. Scriptures
 - i. ““And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.” Genesis 17:7
 - ii. “And Peter said to them, ‘Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and **for all who are far off**, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.’” Acts 2:38-39
 - iii. “In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.” Colossians 2:11-12
- 5. Reformed Credobaptist
 - a. Definition
 - i. “Baptism is an ordinance of the New Testament, ordained by Jesus Christ, to be unto the party baptized, a sign of his fellowship with him, in his death and resurrection; of his being engrafted into him; of remission of sins; and of giving up into God, through Jesus Christ, to live and walk in newness of life.” ~ LBCF