

Lesson C6 - The Sacrament of the Altar Part 2

What is the benefit of this eating the drinking? These words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

2. What is the benefit offered in this sacrament? (See point “e” for help.)

a. *Read Matt. 26:28, I Peter 1:18-19, and I John 1:7 what benefit is found in these passages?*

b. *Read Romans 8:31-32 and Romans 6:8-9, what benefit is found in these passages?*

c. *Read I Peter 2:24 and Romans 8:10, what benefit is found in these passages?*

d. *Read I Cor. 10:17, what benefit is found in this passage?*

Possible answers include-- Strength to live a new life
Forgiveness of sins
Life and Salvation Assurance of the oneness we have with Christ and other believers

f. Think about it: Can we be sure that we are forgiven even if we do not *feel* forgiven?

3. How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament. Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: “Forgiveness of sins.”

4. How can forgiveness, life and salvation be obtained through bodily eating and

drinking? Not simply eating and drinking, but the words of Christ together with his body and blood under the bread and wine are the way through which these blessings are given. Christ’s words of promise have put these gifts into the Sacrament, and the believer receives them there through faith.

NOTE: The Words of Christ + The visible elements + Faith = Blessings

5. Does everyone who eats and drinks the Sacrament also receive forgiveness, life and salvation?

a. Forgiveness, life, and salvation are truly offered to all who eat the Lord's body and blood in the Sacrament, but only through _____ can we receive the blessings offered here.

b. *1 Cor. 10:3-5—They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered over the desert.*

Same food, but some received _____ others _____

c. Forgiveness, life and salvation are offered to ALL. But only those who have faith truly receive these gifts.

How to receive this Sacrament worthily?

Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

Why is it important to receive the Sacrament worthily?

It is very important because St. Paul clearly teaches: "Whoever eats the bread and drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before He eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself." (1 Cor. 11:27-29)

When do we receive the Sacrament worthily? We receive it worthily when we

have _____ in Christ and His words, "Given and shed _____ for the forgiveness of sin."

When is a person unworthy and unprepared? A person is unworthy and unprepared

when he or she does not _____ or _____ Christ's words, since the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.

1. How are we to examine ourselves before receiving the Sacrament?

a. Do I believe I am a _____? Am I _____ for my sins?

2 Cor. 7:10-11—Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. See what this godly sorrow has produced in you.

b. Do I believe in _____ as my Savior and Lord? Do I believe that His

_____ and _____ are truly present in the Sacrament?

Luke 22:19-20—This is My body given for you....This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you.

2 Cor. 13:5—Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves.

c. Do I plan, with the help of the _____, to _____ my sinful

thoughts and actions to _____ Christ?

Eph. 4:22-24—Put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and ...put on the new man which was created according to God, in righteousness and true holiness.

2. According to Mark 9:24 and John 6:37, may those who are weak in faith come to the Lord's Table?

5. Who must not be given the Sacrament? The Sacrament must not be given to the following:

a. Those who are _____

I Cor. 10:20-21—The sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons.

I Cor. 5:11,13—You must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat..."Expel the wicked man from among you."

b. Those who are _____. They show thereby that they do not really believe that God forgives them either.

Matt. 6:15—If you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

c. Those who are unable to _____, such as infants, people who have not received proper instruction, or the unconscious.

I Cor. 11:28—A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.

6. What is Confirmation?

a. Confirmation is a _____ of the church preceded by a period of instruction designed to help baptized Christians identify with the life and mission of the Christian community.

b. Prior to admission to the Lord's Supper, it is necessary to be

_____ in the Christian faith. (I Cor. 11:28) The rite of confirmation provides an opportunity for the individual Christian, relying on God's promise given in Baptism, to make a personal public confession of the faith and a lifelong pledge of faithfulness to Christ.

Matt. 10:32-33—Whoever acknowledges Me before men, I will also acknowledge him before My Father in heaven. But whoever disowns Me before men, I will disown him before My Father in heaven.

Rev. 2:10—Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.