

Week 5 Sacraments and Ecclesiology

1. Overview

- 1) This lecture explores the nature and mission of the Church and the theological meaning of the sacraments (Baptism and the Lord's Supper).
 - 2) It aims to understand how the Church and sacraments are connected within the gospel.
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2. Learning Objectives

- 1) Define the nature of the Church
 - 2) Understand the meaning and purpose of sacraments
 - 3) Distinguish between Baptism and the Lord's Supper
 - 4) Explain the relationship between the Church and sacraments in Pauline theology
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3. Key Topics

1) Ecclesiology

- (1) Definition: The community called by God
- (2) Visible vs Invisible Church
- (3) Christ as the Head of the Church
- (4) Mission of the Church:
- (5) Proclaim the gospel
- (6) Fellowship of believers
- (7) Worship of God

Scripture: Ephesians 1:22–23, 1 Corinthians 12:27

2) Definition of Sacraments

- (1) Visible signs of invisible grace
 - (2) Sacred practices within the Church
 - (3) Means to strengthen faith and proclaim the gospel
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3) Baptism

- (1) Meaning:
- (2) Forgiveness of sins
- (3) Union with Christ
- (4) Beginning of new life
- (5) Symbolism: Water → cleansing, death, and resurrection

Romans 6:3–4

4) Lord's Supper

(1) Meaning:

- ① Commemoration of Christ's death
- ② Spiritual participation by faith

(2) Elements: Bread and wine (1 Corinthians 11:23–26)

5) Relationship between Sacraments and the Church

(1) Sacraments as marks of the Church

(2) Properly administered within the Church community

(3) Visible proclamation of the gospel

4. Discussion Questions

- 1) Is the Church a building or a community?
 - 2) Is Baptism a requirement for salvation or a sign?
 - 3) Is the Lord's Supper symbolic or a means of grace?
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5. Application

- 1) Establish identity as a member of the Church
 - 2) Participate in sacraments with proper understanding
 - 3) Practice community-centered faith
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6. Assignment

- 1) Write an essay (1–2 pages): “The Nature of the Church and the Meaning of Sacraments”
- 2) Reflect on Romans 6 and 1 Corinthians 11