

**WHAT WE BELIEVE, PART 26**  
**June 7, 2023**  
**Ecclesiology, Part 3; and Eschatology, Part 1**

**The Ordinances of the Church**

• **The ordinance of the Lord's Supper**

- Common errors:
  - Transubstantiation
    - The Catholic doctrine that the elements become the \_\_\_\_\_ body and blood of Christ when consecrated.
  - Consubstantiation
    - The Lutheran doctrine that the literal body and blood of Christ are transmitted mystically along with the elements.
    - Correct understanding = Christ is present spiritually in the midst, but the elements are \_\_\_\_\_, nothing more.
  - Using \_\_\_\_\_ wine
    - Five reasons we may be confident that the cup of the Last Supper did not contain \_\_\_\_\_ wine:
      - Textual: The word \_\_\_\_\_ is never used to refer to the Last Supper or communion.
      - Historical: People had several methods for preserving \_\_\_\_\_ wine in ancient times.
      - Theological: Fermentation is a leavening process, and leaven was \_\_\_\_\_ at the Passover meal.
      - Typological: Leaven is a symbol of sin, and corrupt wine would not present the proper picture of Christ's \_\_\_\_\_ blood.
      - Prophetical: \_\_\_\_\_ wine will not be served in the kingdom of God, which the Lord's Supper anticipates.

**The Government of the Church**

• **Three common types of church government**

- \_\_\_\_\_ or ecclesiastical
  - Ultimate authority is vested in various hierarchies of church \_\_\_\_\_: priests, bishops, arch-bishops, etc.
  - Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican
- \_\_\_\_\_
  - Ultimate authority is vested in the \_\_\_\_\_ convening in sessions,

presbyteries, synods, and general assemblies.

- A distinction is made between pastors and \_\_\_\_\_ elders.
- Reformed, Presbyterian
- Congregational
  - Ultimate authority is vested in the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Denominations or associations are advisory only.
  - Baptist, Congregational, Methodist
  - This approach is the most \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 18:17).
- **The best approach to congregational church government follows a two-step process:**
  - The leaders \_\_\_\_\_ God's will, and the congregation \_\_\_\_\_ God's will.
  - See Acts 15:6-29: \_\_\_\_\_
    - Peter and James, along with the other apostles and elders, \_\_\_\_\_ the decision-making process.
    - The decision was \_\_\_\_\_ by the entire church (vs. 22, 25).

### **Introduction to Eschatology**

#### • **Definitions:**

- Eschatos (Greek) = “\_\_\_\_\_”
- Logos (Greek) = “word, doctrine”
- Eschatology = “the doctrine of last things”

#### • **Discussion:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ eschatology
  - What happens to the \_\_\_\_\_ after death
    - For unbelievers
    - For believers
- \_\_\_\_\_ eschatology
  - What will happen in the future from the \_\_\_\_\_ to the inauguration of the new heavens and earth.

### **Personal Eschatology**

#### • **Three states of existence on the timeline:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ state = life on earth
- \_\_\_\_\_ state = the soul's existence apart from the body after death
- Final state = final disposition after soul and body are \_\_\_\_\_ at the first or second resurrection

### **The Eschatology of the Lost**

- **The first event on the timeline: physical \_\_\_\_\_**

- It is the separation of the \_\_\_\_\_ from the body.
- It ends the present state of a person's earthly existence.
- It is \_\_\_\_\_ for every person (Heb. 9:27).
- **The second event on the timeline:** \_\_\_\_\_
  - The timing of hell
    - \_\_\_\_\_ after physical death for the unsaved
      - Luke 16:22-23: "...the rich man also died, and was \_\_\_\_\_; And in hell he lift up his eyes..."
  - The reality of hell (Luke 16:23-28)
    - The lost will have \_\_\_\_\_ experience of torment.
    - The lost will experience several torments (vs. 23):
      - The torment of \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 24)
      - The torment of \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 24)
      - The torment of \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 25)
      - The torment of hopelessness (vs. 26)
      - The torment of worry (vs. 27-28)
  - The names for hell
    - Old Testament
      - \_\_\_\_\_
        - Translated "the pit, the grave, hell"
        - This is the Hebrew word for the destination of dead people after they die, sometimes with an emphasis on the body, but also frequently referring to the destination of the \_\_\_\_\_ (the "lowest hell").
        - Psalms 16:10: "*For thou wilt not leave my soul in \_\_\_\_\_; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.*"
      - The \_\_\_\_\_
      - The nether parts of the earth (Ezek. 32:18)
    - New Testament
      - \_\_\_\_\_ = "hell"
        - This is the Greek translation of Sheol.
        - The original Greek word referred to the \_\_\_\_\_ where the souls of the dead resided.
        - Acts 2:27: "*Because thou wilt not leave my \_\_\_\_\_ in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.*"

- Tartaros = “hell”
  - The original Greek word referred to the underworld \_\_\_\_\_ Hades where the Titans were confined.
  - Its one use in the New Testament refers to a compartment of hell where fallen \_\_\_\_\_ are imprisoned.
  - Tartarus is referred to as the “bottomless pit” in Revelation
- The location of hell
  - Somewhere below our feet, perhaps in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth.
- False views of hell or the intermediate state
  - \_\_\_\_\_ = the Catholic teaching that the souls of the impure dead go to a place of suffering and purging before they can enter heaven.
    - Not in Scripture.
  - Soul-sleep = the idea that the soul becomes \_\_\_\_\_ after death.
    - Contradicts clear Scriptural teaching regarding the soul’s consciousness during the intermediate state
    - Confuses the “sleep” of the believer’s \_\_\_\_\_ with that of the soul.
  - Annihilationism = the souls of the unsaved cease to \_\_\_\_\_ after death.
    - No \_\_\_\_\_ punishment in hell, no \_\_\_\_\_ punishment in the lake of fire, or only brief punishment.
    - Contradicts clear Scriptural teaching about the nature of eternal punishment for the lost. (Matt. 25:46).
- **The third event on the timeline: the Great \_\_\_\_\_ Throne Judgment (Rev. 20:11-15)**
  - The timing of this Judgment
    - After the \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 1-5)
    - After the \_\_\_\_\_ resurrection (vs. 5).
      - John 5:28-29: *“Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of \_\_\_\_\_.”*
  - After the destruction of the present \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 11).
- The \_\_\_\_\_ over this Judgment (vs. 11)
  - “Him” = the Lord Jesus Christ (John 5:22, 24-27)

- The participants in this Judgment
  - All the \_\_\_\_\_ dead (vs. 12-13)
    - All those whose bodies reside in the earth or sea and whose souls reside in \_\_\_\_\_.
- The purpose of this Judgment (vs. 12)
  - Not to determine the eternal destination of those at this Judgment but their just \_\_\_\_\_ in the lake of fire based on their \_\_\_\_\_.
    - “According to their works”
    - “Out of those things...written in the books”
      - The books of \_\_\_\_\_
      - The book of the Law
      - The Book of \_\_\_\_\_
  - Matthew 12:36: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Luke 12:47-48: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Matthew 11:21-24: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Luke 11:31-32: \_\_\_\_\_
- The outcome of this Judgment (vs. 14-15)
  - Eternal punishment in the Lake of Fire
- **The fourth event on the timeline: the Lake of \_\_\_\_\_**
  - The descriptions of the Lake of Fire
    - \_\_\_\_\_ = the Valley of Hinnom
      - The location of human \_\_\_\_\_ outside Jerusalem, used in both Old and New Testaments as a picture of eternal hell fire.
      - Mark 9:43-44: “And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that \_\_\_\_\_ shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.”
      - Matthew 10:28: “And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and \_\_\_\_\_ in hell.”
    - Tophet = the place of sacrifice in the Valley of Hinnom, also used as a description of eternal hell.
      - Isaiah 30:33: “Tophet is \_\_\_\_\_ of old; yea, for the king it is prepared; he hath made it deep and large: the pile thereof is fire and much wood; the breath of the LORD, like a stream of brimstone, doth kindle it.”

- Everlasting \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Thess. 1:8-9)
- Everlasting \_\_\_\_\_ (Dan.12:2)
- A \_\_\_\_\_ of fire
  - Matthew 13:41-42: *“The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be \_\_\_\_\_ and gnashing of \_\_\_\_\_.”*
- Outer \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 8:12)
- The \_\_\_\_\_ Death (Rev. 20:14)
- The denizens of the Lake of Fire
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ and his angels (Matt. 25:41)
  - Unredeemed \_\_\_\_\_
    - Revelation 21:8: *“But the fearful, and \_\_\_\_\_, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all \_\_\_\_\_, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.”*
- The duration of the Lake of Fire = \_\_\_\_\_
  - Matthew 25:46: *“And these shall go away into \_\_\_\_\_ punishment: but the righteous into life \_\_\_\_\_.”*
  - Revelation 14:11: *“And the \_\_\_\_\_ of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.”*
  - Revelation 20:10: \_\_\_\_\_