

Heidelberg Catechism

LORD'S DAY 29

Question 78. Do then the bread and wine become the very body and blood of Christ?

Answer. Not at all: [a] but as the water in baptism is not changed into the blood of Christ, neither is the washing away of sin itself, being only the sign and confirmation thereof appointed of God; so the bread in the Lord's supper is not changed into the very [b] body of Christ; though agreeable to the [c] nature and properties of sacraments, it is called the body of Christ Jesus.

Question 79. Why then doth Christ call the bread his body, and the cup his blood, or the new covenant in his blood; and Paul the "communion of the body and blood of Christ"?

Answer. Christ speaks thus, not without great reason, namely, not only thereby to teach us, that as bread and wine support this temporal life, so his crucified body and shed blood are the true meat and drink, whereby our souls are [d] fed to eternal life; but more especially by these visible signs and pledges to assure us, that we are as really partakers of his true body and blood (by the operation of the Holy Ghost) as we [e] receive by the mouths of our bodies these holy signs in remembrance of him; and that all his sufferings [f] and obedience are as certainly ours, as if we had in our own persons suffered and made satisfaction for our sins to God.

[a]: 1Cor. 10:1,2,3,4; 1Pet. 3:21; John 6:35,62,63

[b]: 1Cor. 10:16ff; 1Cor. 11:20ff

[c]: Gen. 17:10,11,14; Ex. 12:26,27,43,48; Acts 7:8; Mat. 26:26; Mark 14:24

[d]: John 6:51,55,56

[e]: 1Cor. 10:16,17; 1Cor 11:26,27,28; Eph. 5:30

[f]: Rom. 5:9,18,19; Rom. 8:4

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Vocabulary

Please define the following words/terms in the context of the Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 29:

Confirmation : _____

Blood of Christ : _____

Very Body : _____

Become : _____

Changed : _____

Holy signs : _____

Temporal life : _____

Name : _____

True : _____

Meat : _____

Souls : _____

Pledges : _____

Assure : _____

Communion : _____

Operation : _____

Own persons : _____

Satisfaction : _____

Partakers : _____

Name : _____

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Scripture Reading/Comprehension

Please read the following Bible passages and answer the questions:

1. 1Pet. 3:21

Does the external cleansing through baptism actually wash away our sins?

2. Ex. 12:26,27,43,48

As we see in this passage, specific instructions were given to Jewish parents on how to teach their children the significance of the Passover. Assuming you were a parent now, please describe how you will explain to your children the meaning and significance of the Lord's Supper.

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3. John 6:51,55,56 and 1Cor. 10:16

If we are not partaking in the actual fleshly body and blood of Jesus Christ, what does it mean to participate in the blood of Christ? Please explain.

4. 1Cor 11:26,27,28

In what manner are you to approach the Lord's Supper? Why do you think this is? Please explain.

Name : _____
