

Lord's Day 30

80. Q. What difference is there between the Lord's supper and the papal mass?

A. The Lord's supper testifies to us,
first,
that we have complete forgiveness of all our sins
through the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ,
which he himself accomplished on the cross
once for all;
and, second,
that through the Holy Spirit
we are grafted into Christ,
who with his true body is now in heaven
at the right hand of the Father,
and this is where he wants to be worshipped.

But the mass teaches,
first,
that the living and the dead
do not have forgiveness of sins
through the suffering of Christ
unless he is still offered for them daily
by the priests;
and, second,
that Christ is bodily present
in the form of bread and wine,
and there is to be worshipped.
Therefore the mass is basically
nothing but a denial
of the one sacrifice and suffering of Jesus Christ,
and an accursed idolatry.

1. Mt 26:28; Jn 19:30; Heb 7:27; 9:12, 25, 26; 10:10-18.
2. 1 Cor 6:17; 10:16, 17.
3. Jn 20:17; Acts 7:55, 56; Heb 1:3; 8:1.
4. Jn 4:21-24; Phil 3:20; Col 3:1; 1 Thess 1:10.

81. Q. Who are to come to the table of the Lord?

A. Those who are truly displeased with themselves
because of their sins
and yet trust that these are forgiven them
and that their remaining weakness is covered
by the suffering and death of Christ,
and who also desire more and more
to strengthen their faith
and amend their life.
But hypocrites and those who do not repent
eat and drink judgment upon themselves.

1. 1 Cor 10:19-22; 11:26-32.

82. Q. Are those also to be admitted to the Lord's supper who by their confession and life show that they are unbelieving and ungodly?

A. No, for then the covenant of God
would be profaned
and his wrath kindled
against the whole congregation.
Therefore,
according to the command of Christ and his apostles,
the Christian church is duty-bound
to exclude such persons
by the keys of the kingdom of heaven,
until they amend their lives.

1. Ps 50:16; Is 1:11-17; 1 Cor 11:17-34.

