



CUNNING

Week 6: The Battle revealed through Ordinances Wednesday Night Crew 2024 WINTER SERIES January – ???

1/3 rd – In the Beginning	2/14 th RCB -Ordinances
1/10 th – O.T. Pent.The Battle Begins: Part I	2/21 st O – Hist./Wis Lt.?
1/17 th RCB Prayer: Having the Conversation	2/28 th O
1/24 th – O.T. The Battle	3/6 th RCB
1/31 st – RCB Prophetic	3/13 th O
2/7 th – Water Baptism	3/20 th O - I AM NOT GONE!
	3/27 th O (Easter is 3/31 st)

WILL THIS SERIES GO UNTIL MAY?

- **Chew On This Podcast**-drops Thur pm/Fri am-moving to our radio station **WAJC 91.7/88.1 FM** in February-Thursdays @8:30-9:30am



CUNNING

The Spiritual Battle from Genesis to Revelation

I am sending you out like sheep amongst wolves...Matthew 10:16

so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. NRSV

Luke 10:3 *Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.*

Romans 16:19 *For your obedience is known to all; therefore, I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise in what is good and guileless in what is evil. NRSV*

Our Definition of CUNNING: ~~Having or showing skill in achieving one's ends by deceit or evasion.~~
Having or showing skill in achieving one's ends by:
Knowledge. Wisdom. Shrewdness. Skill. Resourcefulness. Cleverness. Practice.

Recap of Series-(Listen to Chew on This)

Week 6: The Battle revealed through Ordinances

- **STUDY NOTES:** Pr. Mike and Pr. Orleen's and Pr. Robin's sermon series and study notes.
- Kingdom Principles – Hayford, J. W. 1995. Hayford's Bible handbook. Thomas Nelson Publishers: Nashville
- **BOOK:** Cook, W. F., III, & Lawless, C. (2019). *Spiritual warfare in the storyline of scripture*. B&H Academic.
- **Handouts:** **Week 1:** Angelic Beings, H.O. of Week 1 Outline Notes. **Week 2:** H.O. of Week 2 Outline Notes.
- **Week 3:** Prayer reference; Sequence of Power **Week 5:** Daniel's Timeline

How is the spiritual battle revealed through the Ordinances of the church?

Both ordinances focus on the death, burial, resurrection of Jesus Christ and what it has permanently done to alter the spiritual state of the human race.

Pr. Orleen Haseltine

THE ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH

The Ordinances of the church-how exciting.

Exciting like how nice the plumbing is working and the car is running..? Always there, in the background, been around forever, something we just do, like someone making a phone call, not exciting. Normal. Maybe even ho-hum.

When God says do this... or “statutes forever,” or do this/celebrate this every year, or remember this—we need to pay close attention because He’s trying to communicate that something important.

Water Baptism & Communion-What’s important here? How does either of them relate to the spiritual battle we’ve been studying?

Water Baptism and Communion are personal opportunities for us to declare reality as God defines it to ourselves and our culture, which flies in the face of “reality” as culture tries to define it.

They are practical, simple, yet powerful statements.
[Declarations/Proclamations]

Let’s explore what that might be:

What statement[s] does Water Baptism make about the spiritual battle?

I. Water Baptism:

Matthew 28: Jesus speaking to the disciples

Establishes Water Baptism as an ongoing Ordinance of the Church:

*18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, **baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,** 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.*

- Go [in the authority that I extend to you-implied in the text.]
- Make Disciples
- [having done that, do this then with those disciples] Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, & the Holy Spirit [then]

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- Teach them to observe all the things that I have commanded you....[giving, fellowship with the church, forgiveness, Communion, etc.]
1. **Who gets Baptized?** [should all humans get baptized?]
 - a. We see from Acts that those who believed in Jesus Christ and repented of their sins were baptized immediately.
Acts 2:38, 41; 8:12-13, 36, 38; 9:189; 10:47-48; 11:16; 16:15, 33; 18:8; 22:16
 - i. One Baptism: Eph 4:4-6
4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.
 2. **Why do they get baptized?**
 - a. Baptism is linked with a whole complex of initiation events in Paul's writings. [being born again, confessing Christ as Lord, salvation, being justified, etc.]
 - i. **BAPTISM MAKES A PERSONAL STATEMENT**
 1. **I have been immersed in Christ**
 - a. **Clothed with Christ** Galatians 3:26-27
*26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have **put on Christ**.*
 - b. **My distinction is in Christ** Galatians 3:28
28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.
No other distinction I have comes before my identification with Christ-my ethnic background, my gender, my class in society
 - c. **I have been washed and am clean**
 1. 1 Cor 6:9-11
9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

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2. Eph 5:26

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

3. Titus 3:4-6

4 But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Though the word Baptism isn't specifically stated, washing & cleansing are references obvious to that practice.

4. Ezekiel 36:25-27 forecasts what the Messiah will do:

25 Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. 26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

29a I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses.

2. I have shared in His death

a. Romans 6:3-4

3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

b. Colossians 2:11-14

11 In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of

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Christ, 12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

“On the contrary, baptism is a portrayal of death since human beings will die if they are submerged under water long enough. **They have been overcome by the waters of death. Death is defeated, not by avoiding it but by being united with Christ in his death and resurrection.** It is at baptism that the old Adam died with Christ—‘our old self was crucified together with him,’ that is, with Christ (Rom 6:6).”

3. I have been raised to life in Him

- a. Col 2:12 above

Water Baptism is “a response to an already changed person.” Thomas Schreiner

Baptism makes the statement that this is whose I am now. I am not my own, I am a child of God, Jesus is my Lord, & I will live for Him.

ii. BAPTISM MAKES A STATEMENT TO THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH:

1. Signaled a rite of entrance to the Christian Church Community:
 - a. **UNITY:** “Water baptism signaled to all that one had joined the Christian church. Paul can appeal to baptism as a **mark of unity** in Ephesians 4:5 because it was a given that all his converts were baptized at conversion. **No one debated the necessity of baptism, for it was unheard of for any believer to refuse baptism.**” Paul, Apostle of God’s Glory in Christ: A Pauline Theology, Thomas R. Schreiner, 2006
 - b. **ADMISSION TO THE BODY:** By referring to one baptism he appeals to the initiation rite shared by all believers, the plunging under the water that was part of the **commencement of the Christian life.** Most scholars now agree that baptism by immersion was practiced in the New Testament. [same reference]
 - c. **SUBMISSION:**” in baptism a person was submitting to acceptance by the existing community of followers of Jesus. Thus, for Luke, baptism is necessary in that

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belonging to the group of followers of Jesus or Christians is fundamental to becoming and being a Christian.” Graham H. Twelftree, [*People of the Spirit: Exploring Luke’s View of the Church*](#)

d. Luke’s views can probably be summarized by saying that, whereas once the water baptism of John had been a symbol of a person’s repentance, since Pentecost the coming or baptism of the Holy Spirit is evidence of repentance and trust. In turn, water baptism in the name of Jesus symbolized both the repentance, as well as integration into the Church. [Twelftree]

iii. BAPTISM MAKES A STATEMENT TO THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE:

2 Corinthians 6: Be Holy

11 O Corinthians! We have spoken openly to you, our heart is wide open. 12 You are not restricted by us, but you are restricted by your own affections. 13 Now in return for the same (I speak as to children), you also be open.

14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever?

16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said:

“I will dwell in them
And walk among them.
I will be their God,
And they shall be My people.”

17 Therefore

**“Come out from among them
And be separate,** says the Lord.

Do not touch what is unclean,
And I will receive you.”

18 “I will be a Father to you,
And you shall be My sons and daughters,
Says the LORD Almighty.”

Witnessing water baptism says this to the community:

- God is real. There IS a God.
- He loves us & wants relationship with Him.
- He is Truth.

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- Humankind's disobedience from His truth [sin] has severed that relationship.
- Jesus came to restore that relationship and offers that restoration to ALL who will believe in Him, turn from their own way to His ways.
- WE [the church] have done that and you can too.

This makes us separate.

It makes us different.

It says that everyone needs Jesus to redeem to us.

Not better than or lesser than.

But it should not surprise us that separate & different could be received as off-putting to the other.

3. How is it done?

- a. The MANNER of Water Baptism is by immersion.
 - i. This is seen in the meaning of the Greek word **baptizo**, which clearly means to immerse, even by the admission of scholars whose churches sprinkle, and by the biblical description of the manner of Jesus' baptism in the river Jordan.
- b. The FORMULA for Water Baptism is clearly stated in "The Great Commission" as "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."
 - i. Statements about being baptized "in the name of Jesus" omit the longer formula, and emphasize the Christian baptism as distinct from John's baptism.
 - ii. The following from the Foursquare Declaration of Faith affirms belief in the doctrine of Water Baptism and explains the significance of the ordinance:

We believe that water baptism in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, according to the command of our Lord, is a blessed outward sign of an inward work, a beautiful and solemn emblem reminding us that even as our Lord died upon the cross of Calvary so we reckon ourselves now dead indeed unto sin, and the old nature nailed to the tree with Him; and that even as He was taken down from the tree and buried, so we are buried with Him by baptism into His death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we should walk in newness of life.

What statement[s] does Water Baptism make about the spiritual battle?

Water Baptism is a WITNESS

- that God is real,
- I have submitted to Him
- I have been embraced by the church-the family of God
- As a larger community, all humankind will have to reckon with Him one day.

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What statement[s] does Communion make about the spiritual battle?

II. Communion: 1 Cor 11:23-34

(Matt. 26:26–29; Mark 14:22–25; Luke 22:14–23)

23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” 25 In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.

27 Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood[fn] of the Lord. 28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner[fn] eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord’s[fn] body. 30 For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. 31 For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.

33 Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. 34 But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you come together for judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come.

A. A STATEMENT OF THE GOSPEL: For Paul the Lord’s Supper is a commemoration of the heart of the gospel.

that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat;

[take to yourself this truth]

this is My body which is broken for you;

[My broken body was the price for you]

Vs 24a do this in remembrance of Me.”

Vs 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.

[REMEMBER THE PRICE, THE VALUE GOD PLACES ON YOU & RELATIONSHIP WITH PEOPLE. NEVER FORGET WHAT I’VE DONE FOR PEOPLE.]

1. The bread represents Christ’s body, which was broken in death for sinners. We have already seen that the remembrance of such is not merely a mental act but that it involves the transformation of one’s life, for Paul links it with genuine concern for poorer members in the community. Those who have truly experienced God’s grace as it is mediated in Christ’s death long to bless others, just as they themselves have received the blessing of forgiveness through Christ’s self-giving on their behalf.

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- B. IT'S AN ACT OF OBEDIENCE TO THE LORD'S COMMAND.**
- C. IT'S A STATEMENT OF MEMORIAL OF CHRIST'S ATONING DEATH,** the blood He shed, His resurrection, & ascension to the right hand of the Father.
- D. IT'S A STATEMENT OF THE NEW COVENANT:** The cup represents **the inauguration of the new covenant** promised in Jeremiah (Jer 31:31–34).
- a. The shedding of Christ's blood inaugurates a new era when the new covenant becomes a reality.
 - b. The new covenant involves both forgiveness of sins and the indwelling Spirit (Ezek 11:19–20; 36:26–27), who enables the fulfillment of God's law.
- E. IT'S A STATEMENT OF ANTICIPATION:**
- a. **THE 2ND COMING OF JESUS:** Paul also adds a forward-looking word about the Lord's Supper: those who share in it proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes again (1 Cor 11:26). Perhaps Paul reflects here on Jesus' saying that he will eat the Passover meal again in the kingdom of God (Lk 22:16). The Lord's Supper also communicates the "already but not yet" character of Paul's theology. The new covenant has arrived but it is not yet completely fulfilled. It will reach its consummation when the Lord returns, when the kingdom is fulfilled.

What statement[s] does Communion make about the spiritual battle?

Communion keeps the main thing the main thing for each of us personally.

- It keeps the gospel before us. Mankind is sinful & needs a savior, Praise the Lord we have one!!
- The obedience helps us remember
 - Christ's atoning death
 - We have a new & better covenant. He fulfilled the Old and has given a New one.
 - He is returning. Let us be ready ourselves & let us be compelled by His love to share the hope we have in Him with others that they may decide for themselves.

Reference:

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