

**Lent Sermon Series: Baptized into His Death—Lord of Life Lutheran, Westfield, IN—4/13/2006**

**Title: “Baptized Communion”**

**Text: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-17**

**Intro: Ills.: Misunderstood object lesson**

**Theme:** Tonight, we take advantage of a means of grace in the Lord’s Supper that is wonderfully connected to our baptism and the relationship which we have with Jesus through his suffering, death, and resurrection.

***United with Christ by our participation in baptism (Print and read vs. 1-4)***

- United in a trusting bond between us and the One who leads us
  1. Paul uses the example of Moses and the people of Israel’s walk through the desert of absolute trust
    - a. **Ills.: video clip from *The 10 Commandments—Moses leading the people through the Red Sea***
    - b. *Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Heb. 11: 1*
    - c. Paul says they were “*baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea.*” vs. 2—alliance of protection/obedience
  2. In our baptism we placed under Redemption and Lordship of Jesus and asked to trust
    - a. He became one with us and bound up in our preservation and salvation
    - b. We became one with him and now follow his lead as disciples – *followers*
- A relationship such as this does not come without its hiccups which threaten to break up the alliance (**Print vs 5-10**)
  1. Israel often tested their relationship with Moses and God and needed to come back in repentance
  2. Many of the same sins of ancient Israel are those which we struggle with today
    - a. ***Craving evil*** — caught up in the glitter and gold of this world we are quick to compromise our walk with Jesus
    - b. ***Idolaters*** — grades and paychecks, ipods and houses, relationships and careers become more important than Jesus
    - c. ***Act immorally*** – often it was the toleration of immoral acts both then and now that enrage God
    - d. ***Try the Lord/grumble*** – in our extravagant affluence of God’s provision we still find cause to grumble
  3. Preparation for the Lord’s Supper crucial so that we are not destroyed
    - a. *But a man must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly. 1 Cor. 11: 28-29*
- These Old Testament/contemporary examples come with warning and promise (**Print and read vs. 11-13**)
  1. **The Warning:** If you think you haven’t or you won’t sin like this, ***THINK AGAIN!*** (vs. 12)
    - a. Preparation for the Lord’s Supper is getting rid of every judgmental attitude toward the sin of others
    - b. Preparation for the Lord’s Supper is about coming with a humble/non-self-righteous attitude
    - c. **Ills.: A Poem about Human Nature**
  2. **The Promise:** You have not faced any temptation for which God either has the strength or the escape hatch (vs. 13)

***United with Christ and His Church by our participation in the Lord’s Supper (Print and read vs. 14-17)***

- Placed under the leadership/allegiance to Christ to be nourished for the fight ahead
  1. Through Moses the O.T. people were actually following Christ
    - a. *“The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, you shall listen to him. Deut 18: 15*
    - b. **Ills.: *The Jewish rumor of the living rock that followed Israel all over the desert***
    - c. Israel drank and ate the nourishment of Christ in the manna from heaven and the water from the Rock
  2. Jesus becomes our “bread from heaven” and substitutes the Lord’s Supper for our nourishment
    - a. *This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever. John 6: 58*
- Placed under the leader/allegiance to Christ, to connect with his body and blood and his Body
  1. Receiving fellowship with Jesus’ true body and his true blood so that we might live
    - a. *I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh. John 6: 51*
  2. Having true *koinonia/fellowship* in the Lord’s Supper with fellow believers ()
    - a. Avoiding fellowship and relationships which pull us away from Christ
    - b. Seeking to “*do it often*” (1 Cor. 11: 25)

### Misunderstood Object lesson

Each Sunday our minister presents a "children's sermon" to all the young children. Recently a bright-eyed three-year-old girl listened intently as he explained that God wanted them all to get along and love each other. "God wants us all to be one," he said. To which the little girl replied, "But I don't want to be one. I want to be four!" **Marilyn McCoy, Chester, Vermont. Christian Reader, "Kids of the Kingdom."**

### Poem about Human Nature

In a poem entitled, "Autobiography in Five Short Chapters," Portia Nelson writes these words:

**Chapter I:** I walk down the street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I fall in. I am lost ... I am helpless. It isn't my fault. It takes forever to find a way out.

**Chapter II:** I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I pretend I don't see it. I fall in again. I can't believe I am in the same place, but it isn't my fault.

**Chapter III:** I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I see it is there. I still fall in ... it's a habit. My eyes are open. I know where I am. It is my fault. I get out immediately.

**Chapter IV:** I walk down the same street. There is a deep hole in the sidewalk. I walk around it.

**Chapter V:** I walk down another street.

**J.R. Love, from his sermon on 1st Corinthians (11-6-05)**

### **1 Cor. 10:1-17**

<sup>1</sup>For I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea; <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea; <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food; <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a spiritual rock which followed them; and the rock was Christ.

<sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, with most of them God was not well-pleased; for they were laid low in the wilderness. <sup>6</sup>Now these things happened as examples for us, so that we would not crave evil things as they also craved. <sup>7</sup>Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and stood up to play." <sup>8</sup>Nor let us act immorally, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day. <sup>9</sup>Nor let us try the Lord, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the serpents. <sup>10</sup>Nor grumble, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer.

<sup>11</sup>Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup>Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall. <sup>13</sup>No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. <sup>15</sup>I speak as to wise men; you judge what I say. <sup>16</sup>Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a participation in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a participation in the body of Christ? <sup>17</sup>Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread.