

Augsburg Confession

Fall 2025

Session 9 – Article XIII – The Use of Sacraments

Article IX - Baptism

Review

Catholic Church taught that monastic vows were equal to baptism. A monastic life merited Forgiveness and justification.

They claim that monasticism is a lifestyle instituted to merit Grace and righteousness

- ❖ Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 3:20 Grace is a gift of God, not works (Ephesians 2:9). No work of man can justify him in God's sight (Romans 3:20).
- ❖ 1 Corinthians 6:11 – In Christ, the Christian is sanctified (holy) and justified in Christ. This is not because of man's vocation or works, but solely the work of Jesus.
- ❖ 1 Peter 2:9 - In Christ, Christians are chosen by God.
- ❖ 2 Corinthians 5:17 - In Christ, the Christian is a new creation. Man's good works in his daily vocation(s) are not to become a new creation but because, through Christ, he is a new creation.

Read Article XIII – The Use of the Sacraments (pg. 15)

Question 1 - *What is a sacrament?*

Question 2 – *What does the Bible say about ordaining Sacraments?*

Matthew 28:19-20 -

Acts 2:38 -

1 Corinthians 10:16 -

1 Corinthians 1:28 –

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 -

Question 3 - *What are the great things God gives in us Holy Baptism?*

Acts 22:16 -

Galatians 3:27 -

1 Peter 3:21 -

Read Article IX Baptism

True or False

- God gives the Sacraments to His people for the forgiveness of sins, new life in Christ, and eternal salvation.
- Sacraments are meritorious works performed by the priests.
- Priests sacrifice Christ again and again on behalf of the living and the dead.
- God attaches His Word of promise to the element of the Sacrament and gives and strengthens the faith of those who receive it.

The origin of the Mennonite bodies is traced back to the Anabaptist fanatics, who at the time of Luther, under the leadership of Muenzer, boasted of celestial revelations. They rejected infant Baptism, subverted the existing forms of government, and caused general confusion for a number of years in Germany and other countries in Europe. Under the leadership of Menno Simmons, the Anabaptists abandoned the earlier violence but retained many of the earlier radical beliefs. General (English) Baptists are also the spiritual descendants of the Anabaptists.

Question 4 - *What do Lutherans believe, teach, and confess concerning Baptism?*

Mark 16:16 -

Titus 3:4-7 -

Acts 2:38-39 -

- ❖ Pelagianism is the belief that original sin did not fully affect human nature and that man's will is still capable of choosing good or evil without God's aid.
- ❖ Pelagianism views humanity as basically good and morally unaffected by the fall. It denies the imputation of Adam's sin, original sin, total depravity, and the need for substitutionary atonement.
- ❖ It also views man as fundamentally good.

Question 5 – *What does Ephesians 2:3 say?*

Look at John 3:5-6 and Luke 18:15-17 –

Review the following Scenario

John and Jenny were high school sweethearts. They fell in love and got married. John went to St. Martin's Lutheran Church, and Jenny went to First Baptist Church. They decided they would each keep their own church membership and take turns worshipping at each other's churches. John and Jenny are now expecting their first child. About two months before their baby is due, John tells Jenny they should start thinking about the Baptism of the baby. Jenny becomes indignant and says the child will not be baptized

until she is twelve years old and can answer for herself. John deeply believes their baby is in need of Baptism, but Jenny believes they can have a dedication of the child to God when the baby is born and then see her baptized later.

Question 6 - *Why do Lutherans believe in infant Baptism (Acts 2:38-39; Psalm 51:5)?*

Question 7 - *What is the spiritual distinction between what John believes and what Jenny believes?*

Question 8 - *Does it really matter if the baby is baptized or dedicated as long as everyone involved believes in Jesus?*

Question 9 - Is John's understanding of Baptism based on Law or Gospel? What is the significance of this question?

References

Lutheran Doctrine and Practice Today, A Study Based on Scripture and the Augsburg Confession, Rev. Dr. James A Baneck, North Dakota District President. 2015. CPH.

The Augsburg Confession, <https://www.lutheranchurchcanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Augsburg-Confession-Study-Guide.pdf>

Book of Concord Online, The Original Home of the Book of Concord, <https://bookofconcord.org/augsburg-confession/>