

# The Matthew 16:18 Group



March 15, 2007

## The Holy Eucharist: Profound Intimacy and the Sacramental Power

### I. Framework: Understanding of Sacraments

- A. Historical catholic thinking-from the material to the spiritual ( example John 1:14)
- B. Modern protestant thinking- from the spiritual to the material ( example Romans 8:9-10)
- C. The discourse with Nicodemus in John 3:1-6 seen through catholic and protestant eyes.

### II. Sacraments 7 and 2

#### A. Protestant- multiple meanings

1. Something actually happens( efficacious) in Baptism and Communion
2. Ordinance of obedience
3. Symbol of remembrance
4. Impact depends on the condition of the heart and internal belief

#### B. Catholic one universal meaning

1. Confer the grace they signify. They are *efficacious* because Christ himself is at work in them.
2. As fire transform everything it touches, so the Holy Spirit transforms all that it touches.
3. The sacraments act by the very fact of the action performed ( ex opera operato) not by the righteousness of you or I or of the priest, but by the power of God
4. Fruits of the sacraments also depend on the cooperation of the one that receives them
5. Sacraments of the New Covenant are necessary for salvation

#### D. An Old Testament Example:

1. Leviticus 6:17-20

### II. The Foreshadow Of The Eucharist In The Old Testament

#### A. Murder over the offerings Genesis 4: 1 – 7

- B. The first wine and bread immediately before the Old covenant with Abram. Genesis 14: 17-20 and Chapter 15.

- C. The Passover Ritual Exodus 12: 5-14 – the blood alone is not enough!
- D. Complaints about bread- The Quail and The Manna from heaven: Exodus 16:3-12  
“ So that you will know that I am the Lord”
- E. Leviticus- the absolute requirement of God directed worship. Sprinkling of blood.

### III. The Bread of Life Discourse: John 6

- A. Biblical consistency-
  - 1. Take the literal meaning. The word of the Lord is true and the burden of proving otherwise is on the one urging the non- literal interpretation.
  - 2. Unless the clear context calls for a non-literal interpretation ( cut off your hand and eye)
- B. Multiplication of the loaves v 1-15
  - 1. Did Jesus transform the material substance of bread?
  - 2. Took, broke and gave
  - 3. More than they could eat
  - 4. 12 Baskets left over – 12 apostles
  - 5. People’s response
- C. Teaching in the Synagogue in Capernaum John 6: 22- 45 Jesus is the Manna! Murmur
- D. v 45- 52 Jesus is living bread to eat! Quarreling!
- E. V. 53-66 Linked to salvation. Schism and departure.
- F. Words of Eternal life

### IV. The New Covenant Instituted: Luke 22:14 -19

### V. The Last Cup---The Passover transformed and the Hyssop Branch

### VI. Emmaus Road Luke 24: 13-32 They Recognize him in the breaking of the bread.

### VII. Guilty of the Body and Blood 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 11: 23-32