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Doctrinal Theology.

BIBLIOLOGY.

(Continued.)

The Author of the Bible is God; not man under God; not man and God; but simply God. The Old Testament Scriptures are "the oracles of *God*."¹⁾ What Moses said in the Pentateuch was "the word of *God*."²⁾ The words of the Psalmist are words which "the *Holy Ghost* saith."³⁾ By that which is written in Jeremiah, the Prophet, "the *Holy Ghost* is a witness to us."⁴⁾ The things that Paul, the Apostle, writes to the Corinthians, "are the commandments of the *Lord*,"⁵⁾ even as what Isaiah wrote was spoken *by* the prophet, but "*of the Lord*,"⁶⁾ and *by* the mouth of His servant David, the *Lord God* said what we read in the Psalm.⁷⁾ In short, every part of Scripture is the *word of God* and can not be broken;⁸⁾ and "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God,"⁹⁾ not certain parts of Scripture, of

1) Rom. 3, 2.

2) Mark 7, 10, 13.

3) Heb. 3, 7. coll. Ps. 95, 7, 8.

4) Heb. 10, 15, 16. Cf. Jer. 31, 33. f.

5) 1 Cor. 14, 37.

6) Matt. 1, 22: τὸ ἠηθὲν ἐπὶ κυρίου διὰ τοῦ προφήτου. Cf. Is. 7, 14.

7) Acts 4, 24 f. coll. Ps. 2, 1, 2.

8) John 10, 34, 35. coll. Ps. 82, 6.

9) 2 Tim. 3, 16.

All matters coming under the head of new business shall be placed before the congregation by a seconded motion, and it shall rest with the congregation to decide whether and in what order any matter shall be taken up for discussion and action.—All rulings of the chair shall, also, be subject to appeal to and decision by the congregation.—Whenever the votes shall be equally divided, the chairman shall cast the deciding vote.—

§ 7.

The congregation shall have a stated Secretary, elected by the congregation. The Secretary shall keep a record of the transactions of all meetings of the congregation and enter such records in a book provided for the purpose after their approval by the congregation. In the absence of the stated Secretary, or when it may be deemed expedient, the congregation shall appoint a Secretary *pro tempore* for one meeting or a part thereof.—

§ 8.

The congregation shall elect a general Treasurer, and such assistant treasurers as it may deem proper for the administration of special treasuries. All moneys and commercial papers of the congregation as such and not entrusted to assistant treasurers shall be kept and disbursed by the general Treasurer. Each Treasurer shall keep a written account of all amounts by him received and disbursed and enter such accounts in books which shall be and remain the property of the congregation. All these books together with the proper vouchers shall be revised at least once a year by a committee to be appointed by the congregation, and a report of such revision shall be submitted to the congregation at a regular meeting. During a serious illness of any treasurer of the congregation, the books and papers and other valuable articles in his keeping

and belonging to the congregation shall be taken into custody by any person whom the Board of Wardens may appoint for this purpose.

§ 9.

To alter or repeal any paragraph in these By-Laws it shall be requisite that in two consecutive constitutional meetings of the congregation two thirds of all the voting members present cast their votes in favor of such alteration or repeal.

A FORM OF BAPTISM

to be used in the presence of such as are not of the Lutheran faith and cannot, therefore, be recognized as sponsors proper, but only as witnesses to the administration of the Sacrament.

BAPTISM OF INFANTS.

We hear every day from the Word of God, perceive it, also, by our own experience in life and death, that we from Adam's fall are all conceived and born in sins, wherein we would necessarily be condemned and lost forever under the wrath of God, had we not been delivered therefrom by the only begotten Son of God, our dear Lord Jesus Christ.

This present child, also, is in its nature poisoned and polluted with the same sin as we, whence it also would necessarily be and remain subject to eternal death and damnation. But God, the Father of all grace and mercy, has promised and sent His Son Christ to the whole world, and, therefore, no less to little children than to the grown. Moreover, our Lord Jesus Christ has borne the sins of the whole world, and has redeemed and saved from sin, death, and damnation poor little children no less than the grown, and has commanded to bring them to Him, to be blessed. He also most graciously receives them, and promises them the kingdom of heaven.

And since in baptism there is Christ, our Lord's, will and command which He has given to His beloved disciples, when He says in the last chapter of Matthew: Go ye and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; and also His comforting promise which He added thereto in the last chapter of Mark: He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not, shall be damned: for these two reasons, God's command and promise, it is meet and right that this little child be brought hither to this blessed baptism that it may be baptized in the name of God.

Receive the sign of the holy cross both on forehead † and breast †.

Almighty and eternal God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, I call upon Thee for this N.,¹⁾ Thy servant, who asks for the gift of Thy baptism and desires Thy everlasting grace through spiritual regeneration. Receive him (her) (them), O Lord, and as Thou hast said: Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: so give now the good thing unto him (her) who asks (them that ask), and open the gate unto him (her) who knocks (them that knock), that he (she) (they) may obtain the eternal blessing of this heavenly washing and receive the promised kingdom of Thy giving, through Christ. Amen.

Almighty and eternal God, who according to Thy strict justice didst condemn the unbelieving world by the flood, and according to Thy great mercy didst save faithful Noah and seven others with him; who didst drown obdurate Pharaoh with all his host in the Red Sea and didst lead Israel, Thy people, through it on dry ground, thereby signifying and prefiguring this washing of Thy holy baptism; who also by the baptism of Thy well beloved child, our Lord

1) Here the full given name of the child is stated, and if there be several children, the full given name of each, putting "and" between.

Jesus Christ, didst sanctify and ordain Jordan and all waters for a saving flood and an abundant washing away of sin:

I beseech Thee through this Thy infinite mercy, that Thou wilt graciously look upon this N. (and N.) and bless him (her) (them) with true faith in the Spirit, so that both all that he (she) has (they have) of Adam by birth and himself (herself) (themselves) added thereto, may by this saving flood be drowned in him (her) (them) and perish, and being separated from the number of the unbelieving, he (she) (they) may be kept dry and safe in the holy ark of the Christian Church, may ever serve Thy name fervent in spirit, joyful in hope, that together with all believers he (she) (they) may become worthy of Thy promise of obtaining eternal life, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Thus we read in the holy Gospel of St. Mark:

And they brought young children to Jesus, that He should touch them; and His disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was much displeased, and said unto them: Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you: Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

¹⁾Our Father who art in heaven; Hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth and even † for evermore. Amen.

You will now in the name and as from the soul of this child answer the following questions which I shall direct to the child here brought unto holy baptism.

1) Here the minister shall lay his hand upon the child.

N. Dost thou renounce the devil?

Answer: "I do."

And all his works?

Answer: "I do."

And all his pomp?

Answer: "I do."

N. Dost thou believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth?

Answer: "I do."

N. Dost thou believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead?

Answer: "I do."

N. Dost thou believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting?

Answer: "I do."

N. Wilt thou be baptized?

Answer: "I will."

Here the minister three times pours a handful of water on the child, while he says the following words:

N. I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. † Amen.

[Hereupon the chrisom-cloth is spread over the child, and the minister, with laying on of hands, says:]

The Almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has regenerated thee by the water and the Holy Ghost and has forgiven thee all thy sins, strengthen thee with His grace unto everlasting life. Amen.

Peace be with thee. † Amen.