

Hebr. 12, 22—24: But ye are come unto Mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus, the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

Tit. 2, 13: Looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ.

2 Pet. 1, 11: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Rev. 22, 3, 4: And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and His servants shall serve Him: and they shall see His face; and His name shall be in their foreheads.

## SOTERIOLOGY.

### DEFINITION.

§ 130. Soteriology is the doctrine of Holy Scripture concerning the application of the merits of Christ to the individual sinner,<sup>1</sup> whereby the sinner is led to the actual possession and enjoyment of the blessings which Christ has procured for all mankind.<sup>2</sup>

#### 1.

2 Cor. 5, 19, 20: God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now, then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, *Be ye reconciled to God!*

1 Cor. 1, 4—6: I thank my God always on your behalf for the grace of God which is *given you* by Jesus Christ, that in everything *ye are enriched* by Him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge, even as the *testimony of Christ was confirmed in you.*

#### 2.

John 1, 16: And of *His fullness* have all we received, and grace for grace.

1 Cor. 1, 7: So that ye come behind in no *gift*, waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Eph. 1, 7, 8, 11: In whom *we have* redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace, wherein He hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; (11) in whom also *we have obtained* an inheritance.

## PROMPTING CAUSE.

§ 131. The application of the merits and benefits of Christ to the individual sinner is the work of God alone,<sup>1</sup> who is moved thereto by the same universal grace<sup>2</sup> which moved Him to procure and work the redemption of mankind.<sup>3</sup>

## 1.

Eph. 2, 5, 8: Even when we were dead in sins, *hath quickened* us together with Christ (by grace ye are saved). (8) For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is *the gift of God*.

1 Cor. 12, 3: *No man* can say that Jesus is the Lord *but by the Holy Ghost*.

## 2.

Eph. 1, 7: In whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, *according to the riches of His grace*.

Eph. 2, 4—6: But God, who is *rich in mercy*, for *His great love* wherewith He loved us, even *when we were dead in sins*, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. (V. 8 sub 1.)

1 Tim. 2, 4: Who will have *all men* to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

2 Tim. 1, 9: Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but *according to His own purpose and grace*, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Col. 1, 23: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from *the hope of the Gospel*, which ye have heard, and *which was preached to every creature which is under heaven*, whereof I, Paul, am made a minister.

Matt. 11, 28: Come unto me, *all ye* that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Ezek. 18, 31, 32: Cast away from you all your transgressions whereby ye have transgressed, and make you a new heart and a new spirit; for why will ye die, O house of Israel? For *I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth*, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye!

## 3.

John 3, 16: For God *so loved the world* that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

1 John 4, 9, 10: In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent His only-begotten Son into *the world*, that we might live through Him. Herein is love, not that we loved God,

but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

2 Cor. 8, 9: For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through His poverty might be rich.

#### INSTRUMENTAL CAUSE.

§ 132. The means by which the benefits of Christ are offered and appropriated to the sinner,<sup>1</sup> and by which not only the capability of accepting what is offered, but also such acceptance itself is wrought in Him,<sup>2</sup> are the means of grace, the written and the spoken word of the Gospel<sup>3</sup> and the holy Sacraments.<sup>4</sup>

##### 1.

Gal. 3, 2. 18. 22: This only would I learn of you, *Received ye the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by the hearing of faith?* (18) For if the inheritance be of the Law, it is no more of promise: but *God gave it to Abraham by promise.* (22) But the Scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be *given to them that believe.*

John 14, 27: Peace I leave with you, *my peace I give unto you:* not as the world giveth, give I unto you. *Let not your heart be troubled,* neither let it be afraid.

Acts 2, 38: Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and *be baptized,* every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and *ye shall receive* the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Rom. 1, 16: For I am not ashamed of the *Gospel of Christ:* for it is the *power of God unto salvation*-to every one that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

2 Cor. 5, 19: To-wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself; . . . and hath committed unto us the *word of reconciliation.*

##### 2.

Rom. 10, 14. 17: How, then, shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? and *how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?* and how shall they hear without a preacher? (17) So then, *faith cometh by hearing,* and hearing by the Word of God.

John 17, 20: Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall *believe on me through their word.*

Acts 11, 14: Who shall tell thee *words whereby* thou and all thy house *shall be saved.*

James 1, 21: Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted *Word, which is able to save your souls.*

Col. 1, 28: Whom *we preach*, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man *perfect* in Christ Jesus.

## 3.

2 Tim. 3, 15—17: And that from a child thou hast known the *Holy Scriptures*, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is *profitable* for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

John 5, 39: Search the *Scriptures*; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

Col. 1, 28: Whom *we preach*, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man *perfect* in Christ Jesus.

1 Cor. 1, 21: For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God *by the foolishness of preaching* to save them that believe.

1 Cor. 15, 1. 2: Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the *Gospel* which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand, *by which also ye are saved*, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

Eph. 1, 7—9: In whom *we have redemption* through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace, wherein He hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence, *having made known unto us the mystery of His will*, according to His good pleasure which He hath purposed in Himself.

## 4.

Eph. 5, 26: That He might *sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word*.

Mark 16, 16: He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Tit. 3, 5: Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy *He saved us, by the washing of regeneration* and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

## THE GOSPEL.

§ 133. The Gospel, in the strict sense of the term,<sup>1</sup> is the divine doctrine<sup>2</sup> by which God announces to all mankind<sup>3</sup> His grace and mercy in Christ Jesus,<sup>4</sup> earnestly offers to all that hear it<sup>5</sup> forgiveness of sins and the righteousness which Christ has earned by His obedience unto death (*vis collativa*), and by the power inherent in such grace efficaciously operates<sup>6</sup> in their hearts toward the acceptance<sup>7</sup> of

His gracious gifts, and perseverance in faith<sup>8</sup> and in holiness of life,<sup>9</sup> and produces such effects wherever they are not frustrated by man's obstinate resistance<sup>10</sup> (*vis operativa seu effectiva*).

## 1.

Mark 1, 15: The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent ye, and *believe the Gospel!*

Rom. 1, 16: For I am not ashamed of the *Gospel of Christ*; for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

## 2.

Acts 14, 3: Long time therefore abode they, *speaking boldly in the Lord*, which gave testimony unto the *Word of His grace*, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

Gal. 1, 11, 12: But I certify you, brethren, that the *Gospel which was preached of me is not after man*. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but *by the revelation of Jesus Christ*.

Luke 10, 16: He that *heareth you heareth me*; and he that despiseth you despiseth me; and he that despiseth me despiseth Him that sent me.

1 Pet. 1, 25: But the *Word of the Lord* endureth forever. And this is the *Word which by the Gospel is preached* unto you.

1 Thess. 1, 8: For from you sounded out the *Word of the Lord* not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad, so that we need not to speak anything.

Acts 4, 29: And now, *Lord*, behold their threatenings, and grant unto Thy servants that with all boldness they may *speak Thy Word*.

Luke 1, 77: To *give knowledge* of salvation unto His people by the remission of their sins.

1 Cor. 2, 12, 13: That we might *know the things* that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the *words* which man's wisdom teacheth, but *which the Holy Ghost teacheth*.

1 Cor. 1, 5—7: In everything ye are enriched by Him in *all utterance* and in *all knowledge*, even as the *testimony of Christ* was confirmed in you, so that ye come behind in no gift.

## 3.

Mark 16, 15: And He said unto them, Go ye *into all the world*, and preach the *Gospel to every creature*.

Luke 24, 47: And that repentance and remission of sins should be *preached* in His name *among all nations*, beginning at Jerusalem.

Matt. 24, 14: And *this Gospel* of the kingdom shall be *preached in all the world* for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

Rom. 1, 5: By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the *faith among all nations*, for His name.

Rom. 10, 17. 18: So, then, *faith cometh by hearing*, and hearing by the Word of God. But I say, *Have they not heard?* Yes, verily; their sound went *into all the earth* and their words *unto the ends of the world*.

## 4.

Luke 1, 76. 77: And thou, child, shalt be called *the prophet of the Highest*; for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways, to give knowledge of *salvation* unto His people *by the remission of their sins*.

## 5.

Acts 13, 46: Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the *Word of God* should first have been spoken to you; but seeing *ye put it from you*, and *judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life*, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

Col. 1, 26: Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is *made manifest to His saints*.

2 Thess. 2, 10: And with all *deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish*, because *they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved*.

1 Thess. 2, 13: For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when *ye received the Word of God* which ye heard of us, *ye received it not as the word of men*, but as it is in truth, the Word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

## 6.

Rom. 15, 18: For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which *Christ hath not wrought by me*, to make the *Gentiles obedient, by word and deed*. Cf. 1 Thess. 2, 13, above sub 5: "*effectually worketh.*"

Rom. 1, 16: For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for it is the *power of God unto salvation* to every one that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

1 Cor. 3, 5: Who, then, is Paul, and who is Apollos, but *ministers by whom ye believed*, even as the Lord gave to every man?

1 Thess. 1, 5: For our *Gospel* came not unto you in word only, but also *in power*, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance, as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

Col. 1, 5. 6: For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the *Gospel*, which is come unto you, as it is in all the world, and *bringeth forth fruit*, as it doth also in you, since the day ye heard of it, and knew the *grace of God in truth*.

Hebr. 4, 12: For the Word of God is quick, and *powerful*, and sharper than any two-edged sword, *piercing* even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is *discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart*.

Acts 11, 21: And the *hand of the Lord* was with them; and *great number believed*, and turned unto the Lord.

Gal. 3, 5: He that ministereth to you the Spirit, and *worketh miracles among you*, doeth He it by the works of the Law, or *by the hearing of faith?*

James 1, 18: Of His own will *begat He us with the word of truth*, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His *creatures*.

1 Cor. 4, 15: For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers; for in Christ Jesus *I have begotten you through the Gospel*.

1 Pet. 1, 23: Being *born again*, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, *by the Word of God*, which liveth and abideth forever.

## 7.

Gal. 3, 2: This only would I learn of you, *Received ye the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by the hearing of faith?*

John 17, 20: Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall *believe on me through their word*.

Acts 26, 17, 18: Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, *to open their eyes*, and *to turn them from darkness to light*, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may *receive forgiveness of sins*, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

1 Cor. 15, 2: *By which also ye are saved*, if ye keep in memory *what I preached unto you*, unless ye have believed in vain.

Acts 11, 14: Who shall tell thee *words whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved*.

1 Cor. 1, 21: For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God *by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe*.

1 Pet. 3, 21: The like figure whereunto even *Baptism doth also now save us*, (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

## 8.

1 John 1, 4: And these things *write we unto you*, that *your joy may be full*.

1 John 2, 24: Let that therefore abide in you *which ye have heard from the beginning*. If *that which ye have heard from the beginning* shall remain in you, *ye also shall continue in the Son and in the Father*.

## 9.

John 17, 17: *Sanctify them through Thy truth*: Thy Word is truth.

Rom. 12, 1: I *beseech you* therefore, brethren, *by the mercies of God*, that ye *present your bodies a living sacrifice*, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

## 10.

Cf. §§ 138 and 141.

## THE SACRAMENTS IN GENERAL.

§ 134. The sacraments are sacred acts<sup>1</sup> of divine institution,<sup>2</sup> in which, wherever they are properly administered<sup>3</sup> by the use of the prescribed external elements<sup>4</sup> in conjunction with the divine words of institution,<sup>5</sup> God is, in a manner peculiar to each sacrament, present with the Word and elements,<sup>6</sup> earnestly offers to all who partake of the sacrament<sup>7</sup> forgiveness of sins<sup>8</sup> and eternal salvation,<sup>9</sup> and operates toward the acceptance of these blessings, or toward greater assurance of their possession.<sup>10</sup>

## 1.

1 Cor. 11, 24, 25: *This do in remembrance of me. . . . This do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.*

Matt. 28, 19: *Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.*

## 2.

Matt. 28, 19: *Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.*

1 Cor. 11, 23—25: *For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take, eat; this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.*

Matt. 26, 26—28: *And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; for this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*

Mark 14, 22—24: *And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them: and they all drank of it. And He said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many.*

Luke 22, 19, 20: *And He took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.*



## 3

See texts sub 2.

## 4.

Eph. 5, 27 That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of *water* by the Word.

John 3, 5. 23: Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of *water* and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. (23) And John also was baptizing in Aenon, near to Salim, because there was much *water* there: and they came, and were baptized.

1 Cor. 10, 16: The *cup* of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The *bread* which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

## 5.

Eph. 5, 26: That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of *water by the Word*.

1 Cor. 10, 16: The cup of blessing *which we bless*, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

1 Cor. 11, 24. 25: And when He had given thanks, He brake it, and *said*, Take, eat; this is my body, which is broken for you: *this do* in remembrance of me. After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, *saying*, This cup is the new testament in my blood: *this do ye*, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

## 6.

Matt. 3, 16. 17: And *Jesus*, when He was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and lo, the heavens were opened unto Him, and he saw the *Spirit of God* descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him: and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, *This is my beloved Son*, in whom *I* am well pleased.

John 3, 5: Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of *water* and of *the Spirit*, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

1 Cor. 11, 29: For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning *the Lord's body*.

## 7.

Luke 7, 30: But the *Pharisees and lawyers* rejected the counsel of *God* against themselves, *being not baptized* of him.

Luke 22, 19. 20: And He took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and *gave unto them*, saying, This is my body which is *given for you*: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is *shed for you*.

## 8.

Acts 21, 16: And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and *be baptized*, and *wash away thy sins*, calling on the name of the Lord.

Acts 2, 38: Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and *be baptized*, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Luke 3, 3: And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the *baptism* of repentance for the remission of sins.

Eph. 5, 26: That He might *sanctify* and *cleanse it* with the *washing of water by the Word*.

1 Pet. 3, 21: The like figure whereunto even *Baptism* doth also now *save us*, (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Gal. 3, 26, 27: For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been *baptized* into Christ have put on Christ.

Matt. 26, 28: For *this is my blood* of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

## 9.

1 Pet. 3, 21: The like figure whereunto even *Baptism* doth also now *save us*.

Tit. 3, 5: Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy *He saved us by the washing of regeneration* and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

## 10.

Tit. 3, 5: Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy *He saved us by the washing of regeneration* and *renewing of the Holy Ghost*.

John 3, 5: Jesus answered, *Verily, verily*, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

## THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

§ 135. The sacraments of the Christian Church are Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

## BAPTISM.

§ 136. The sacrament of Baptism is the act of sprinkling,<sup>1</sup> pouring,<sup>2</sup> or by immersion applying upon a living human person<sup>3</sup> water<sup>4</sup> in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost,<sup>5</sup> the Triune God, who is Himself present with the water connected with the sacra-

mental word,<sup>6</sup> and efficaciously offers the gifts of His grace,<sup>7</sup> and operates toward their acceptance, as in infants,<sup>8</sup> or toward perseverance in, and greater assurance of, their possession, as in adults who have been previously regenerated by the Word.<sup>9</sup>

## 1.

Hebr. 10, 22: Let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, having our hearts *sprinkled* from an evil conscience, and our bodies *washed with pure water*.

1 Cor. 10, 2: And were all *baptized* unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea.

Exod. 24, 6—8: And Moses took half of the blood, and put it in basins; and half of the blood he *sprinkled* on the altar. And he took the Book of the Covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the Lord hath said will we do and be obedient. And Moses took the blood, and *sprinkled* it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the *covenant*, which the Lord hath made with you concerning all these words.

Hebr. 9, 19, 20: For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the Law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and *sprinkled* both the book and all the people, saying, This is the blood of the *testament* which God hath enjoined unto you.

Numb. 8, 7: And thus shalt thou do unto them, to *cleanse them*: *Sprinkle* water of purifying upon them, and let them shave all their flesh, and let them wash their clothes, and so make themselves clean.

Numb. 19, 18, 19: And a clean person shall take hyssop, and dip it in the water, and *sprinkle it* upon the tent, and upon all the *vessels*, and upon the *persons* that were there, and upon him that touched a bone, or one slain, or one dead, or a grave: and the clean person shall *sprinkle* upon the unclean on the third day, and on the seventh day: and on the seventh day he shall *purify* himself, and wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and shall be clean at even.

Mark 7, 4: And when they come from the market, except they *wash*, they eat not. And many other things there be which they have received to hold, as the *washing* of cups, and pots, brazen *vessels*, and of tables.

Luke 5, 14: And He charged him to tell no man: but go, and show thyself to the priest, and offer *for thy cleansing*, according as Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

Ezek. 36, 25: Then will I *sprinkle* clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness and from all your idols *will I cleanse you*.

Hebr. 9, 10: Which stood only in meats and drinks, and *divers washings*, and carnal ordinances, imposed on them until the time of reformation.

Acts 2, 41: Then they that gladly received his word were *bap-*

*tized: and the same day* there were added unto them about *three thousand* souls.

Acts 10, 47: Can any man *forbid water*, that these should not be *baptized*?

## 2.

Matt. 3, 11: I indeed *baptize* you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall *baptize you with the Holy Ghost* and with fire.

Prov. 1, 23: Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will *pour out my Spirit* unto you, I will make known my words unto you.

Joel 2, 28: And it shall come to pass afterward that I will *pour out my Spirit* upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy; your old men shall dream dreams; your young men shall see visions. Cf. Acts 2, 16. 17.

## 3.

Matt. 28, 19: Go ye therefore, and teach all *nations*, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 8, 35—38: Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

John 3, 5. 6: Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except *a man* be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is *born of the flesh* is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Mark 10, 14: 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.

Acts 2, 39: For the promise is unto *you*, and to *your children*, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord, our God, shall call.

Acts 16, 15: And when *she* was baptized, and *her household*, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there.

Acts 16, 33: And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and *was baptized, he and all his*, straightway.

Col. 2, 11. 12: In whom also ye are *circumcised* with the *circumcision made without hands*, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the *circumcision of Christ*: buried with Him in *Baptism*, wherein also ye are risen with Him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised Him from the dead.

## 4.

John 1, 31: And I knew Him not: but that He should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing *with water*.

John 3, 5, 23: Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of *water* and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. (23) And John also was baptizing in Aenon, near to Salim, because there was much *water* there: and they came and were *baptized*.

Acts 10, 47: Can any man forbid *water*, that these should not be *baptized*, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

Acts 8, 38: And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the *water*, both Philip and the eunuch; and he *baptized* him.

## 5.

Matt. 28, 19: Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, *baptizing* them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

## 6.

Matt. 3, 16, 17: And Jesus, when He was *baptized*, went up straightway out of the water: and lo, the heavens were opened unto Him, and he saw the *Spirit of God* descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him: and lo, a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Matt. 28, 19: Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

John 3, 5: Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

1 John 5, 6: This is He that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.

Eph. 5, 26: That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word.

## 7.

Acts 22, 16: And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

Acts 2, 38: Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Luke 3, 3: And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.

Eph. 5, 26: That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word.

1 Pet. 3, 21: The like figure whereunto even Baptism doth also now save us, (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

## 8.

Gal. 3, 26, 27: For ye are all the *children of God by faith in Christ Jesus*. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Tit. 3, 5—7: Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy *He saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost*, which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ, our Savior, that, *being justified by His grace*, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Rom. 6, 3, 4: Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death, that, like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Cf. Col. 2, 11, 12. See above sub 4.

## 9.

Acts 8, 35—38: Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; *what doth hinder me to be baptized?* And Philip said, *If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest*. And he answered and said, *I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God*. And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

## THE LORD'S SUPPER.

§ 137. The sacrament of the Lord's Table,<sup>1</sup> or the Lord's Supper,<sup>2</sup> or the Eucharist,<sup>3</sup> is the divinely instituted act<sup>4</sup> of consecrating, by the word of institution,<sup>5</sup> the divinely prescribed visible elements, bread and wine,<sup>6</sup> of distributing<sup>7</sup> to the communicants<sup>8</sup> the consecrated elements, and of orally eating and drinking<sup>9</sup> in, with, and under the consecrated bread and wine the true body and blood of Christ,<sup>10</sup> who, being present in such act,<sup>11</sup> earnestly offers to all communicants<sup>12</sup> forgiveness of sins,<sup>13</sup> and efficaciously operates toward the acceptance of such gift,<sup>14</sup> and toward renewed assurance of its possession, and the effects of such assurance.<sup>15</sup>

## 1.

1 Cor. 10, 21: Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the *Lord's Table*, and of the table of devils.

## 2.

1 Cor. 11, 20: When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the *Lord's Supper*.

## 3.

Matt. 26, 26: And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and *blessed it*, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

1 Cor. 10, 16: The *cup of blessing which we bless*, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

## 4.

Matt. 26, 26—28: And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; for this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

1 Cor. 11, 24, 25: And when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take eat; this is my body, which is broken for you: *this* do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: *this* do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

## 5.

Mark 14, 22—24: And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, *and said*, Take, eat; this is my body. And He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them: and they all drank of it. And He *said* unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many.

Luke 22, 19, 20: And He took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and *gave unto them, saying*, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

1 Cor. 11, 23—25: For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus in the same night in which He was betrayed took bread: and when He had given thanks, He brake it, *and said*, Take, eat; this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, *saying*, This cup is the new testament in my blood: *this* do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

1 Cor. 10, 16: The *cup of blessing which we bless*, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

## 6.

Matt. 26, 26, 29: And as they were eating, Jesus took *bread*, and blessed it, and brake it, and *gave it* to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. (29) But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of *this fruit of the vine*, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

1 Cor. 11, 20, 21: When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's Supper. For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another *is drunken*. (Fermented wine.)

## 7.

Matt. 26, 26, 27: And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it.

## 8.

Matt. 26, 26, 27: And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and *brake it, and gave it to the disciples*, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and *gave it to them*, saying, Drink ye all of it.

1 Cor. 11, 28, 29: But let a man examine himself, and so let him *eat of that bread*, and drink of that cup. For *he that eateth and drinketh unworthily* eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

Luke 22, 21: But, behold, the hand of him that betrayeth me is with me on the table.

Matt. 26, 26, 27. See below.

## 9.

Matt. 26, 26, 27: And *as they were eating*, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it.

1 Cor. 11, 28: But let a man examine himself, and *so let him eat of that bread*, and drink of that cup.

## 10.

Matt. 26, 26—28: And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; *this is my body*. And He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; for this is *my blood* of the new testament, *which is shed* for many for the remission of sins.

1 Cor. 10, 16: The *cup of blessing* which we bless, is it not the *communion of the blood of Christ*? The *bread* which we break, is it not the *communion of the body of Christ*?

1 Cor. 11, 27—29: Wherefore, whosoever shall *eat this bread*, and *drink this cup* of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of *the body and blood of the Lord*. But let a man examine himself, and so let him *eat of that bread*, and *drink of that cup*. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, *not discerning the Lord's body*.

## 11.

Matt. 18, 20: For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.



1 Cor. 10, 16: The cup of blessing *which we bless*, is it not the *communion of the blood of Christ*? The bread *which we break*, is it not the *communion of the body of Christ*?

## 12.

1 Cor. 11, 27. 29: Wherefore, *whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.* (29) For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, *not discerning the Lord's body.*

Luke 22, 19—21: And He took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and *gave unto them*, saying, This is my body *which is given for you*: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, *which is shed for you.* But behold, the hand of *him that betrayeth me is with me on the table.*

## 13.

Matt. 26, 28: For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many *for the remission of sins.*

## 14.

1 Cor. 11, 25: After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is *the new testament* in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, *in remembrance of me.*

Luke 22, 20: Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is *the new testament* in my blood, *which is shed for you.*

## 15.

1 Cor. 11, 25. 26: This do ye, as oft as ye drink it, *in remembrance of me.* For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, *ye do show the Lord's death till He come.*

## EFFICACY AND RESISTIBILITY.

§ 138. The operations of God,<sup>1</sup> or, by appropriation, of the Holy Ghost,<sup>2</sup> performed through the means of grace,<sup>3</sup> though in all cases equally earnest and efficacious,<sup>4</sup> are in no case irresistible,<sup>5</sup> but the grace and power of God, as exerted through the means of grace, may be, and often actually is, frustrated by man's obstinate and continued resistance.<sup>5</sup>

## 1.

Phil. 2, 13: For it is *God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure.*

Col. 2, 13: And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath *He quickened together with Him*, having forgiven you all trespasses.

## 2.

1 Cor. 12, 3: Wherefore I give you to understand that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed, and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord *but by the Holy Ghost*.

## 3.

Rom. 10, 17: So, then, *faith cometh by hearing* and hearing by the Word of God.

James 1, 18: Of His own will *begat He us with the Word of Truth*, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

1 Pet. 1, 22: Seeing ye have purified your souls *in obeying the truth* through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.

Tit. 3, 5: Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy *He saved us by the washing of regeneration* and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

## 4.

Mark 16, 15: And He said unto them, Go ye into *all the world*, and preach the GOSPEL to *every creature*.

Rom. 1, 16: For I am not ashamed of the *Gospel* of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Luke 10, 16: He that *heareth you heareth me*, and he that *despiset me*; and he that despiset me *despiset Him that sent me*.

Rom. 10, 16, 21: But they have not all obeyed the *Gospel*. For Esaias saith, Lord, *who hath believed our report?* (21) But to Israel He saith, *All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people*.

Matt. 23, 37: O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that *killest the prophets*, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

Luke 19, 41, 42: And when He was come near, He beheld the city, and wept over it, saying, *If thou hadst known*, even thou, at least in this thy day, *the things which belong unto thy peace!* But now they are hid from thine eyes.

Acts 7, 51: Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always *resist the Holy Ghost*; as your fathers did, so do ye.

Rom. 2, 4: Or *despiset thou the riches of His goodness* and forbearance and longsuffering, not knowing that *the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?*

Is. 55, 10, 11: For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and *maketh bring forth* and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, *so shall my Word be* that goeth forth out of my mouth: *shall not return unto me void*, but it shall accomplish that which I will, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

## 5.

Rom. 10, 21: But to Israel He saith, *All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient and gainsaying people.*

Matt. 23, 37: O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that *killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!*

Acts 7, 51: Ye *stiffnecked* and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do *always resist* the Holy Ghost; as your fathers did, so do ye.

Acts 13, 45. 46: But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were *filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.* Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the *Word of God* should first have been spoken to you; but seeing *ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life*, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

Rom. 2, 5: But *after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath* against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God.

John 3, 19—21: And this is the condemnation, that *light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light*, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil *hateth the light, neither cometh to the light*, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest that they are wrought in God.

John 1, 5. 11: The light shineth in darkness; and the darkness *comprehended it not.* (11) He came unto His own, and His own *received Him not.*

## OPERATIONS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

§ 139. The various operations of the Holy Spirit performed through the means of grace are the works of Vocation Regeneration or Conversion, Renovation or Sanctification and Preservation.

## VOCATION.

§ 140. Vocation<sup>1</sup> is the act of God by which He, through the means of grace,<sup>2</sup> earnestly offers<sup>3</sup> to all who hear or read the Gospel,<sup>4</sup> or to whom the sacraments are administered the benefits of Christ's redemption,<sup>5</sup> truly and earnestly invites and exhorts them to accept and enjoy what is thus offered,<sup>7</sup> and endeavors to move and lead them by the power inherent in the means of grace<sup>8</sup> to such acceptance and enjoyment of the benefits of the redemption.<sup>9</sup>

## 1.

2 Tim. 1, 9: Who hath saved us, and *called us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Matt. 11, 28: *Come unto me*, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Matt. 20, 16: So the last shall be first, and the first last; for *many be called*, but few chosen.

## 2.

2 Thess. 2, 14: Whereunto He *called you by our Gospel* to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## 3.

Luke 14, 17: And sent *his servant* at supper time to say to them that were bidden, *Come; for all things are now ready.*

Is. 55, 1: Ho, every one that thirsteth, *come ye* to the waters, and he that hath no money; *come ye*, buy, and eat; yea, *come, buy* wine and milk *without money and without price!*

## 4.

Acts 17, 30: And the times of this ignorance God winked at, but now commandeth *all men* everywhere to repent.

Matt. 22, 9, 10: Go ye therefore into the *highways*; and *as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.* So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together *all as many as they found*, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.

Col. 1, 28: Whom we preach, warning *every man*, and teaching *every man* in all wisdom, that we may present *every man* perfect in Christ Jesus.

Matt. 28, 19: Go ye therefore, and teach *all nations*, baptizing *them* in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Ezek. 2, 4, 5: For they are *impudent children* and *stiffhearted.* I do send thee *unto them*, and thou shalt say *unto them*, Thus saith the Lord God. And they, whether they will *hear*, or *whether they will forbear*, (for they are a *rebellious house*,) yet shall know that there hath been a *prophet among them.*

John 5, 39: Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have *eternal life*; and they are they which testify of me.

## 5.

Acts 2, 38, 41: Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be *baptized, every one of you*, in the name of Jesus Christ *for the remission of sins*, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (41) Then they that gladly received his word *were baptized*: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

## 6.

John 1, 16: And of *His fullness* have all we received, and grace for grace.

John 16, 15: All things that the Father hath are mine; therefore said I that *He shall take of mine*, and shall show it unto you.

1 Cor. 1, 9: God is faithful, by whom ye were *called unto the fellowship of His Son Jesus Christ*, our Lord.

Col. 1, 13, 14: Who hath *delivered* us from the power of darkness, and hath *translated* us into the kingdom of *His dear Son*, in whom we have *redemption* through His blood, even the *forgiveness of sins*.

1 Pet. 2, 9: But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people, that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath *called you out of darkness into His marvelous light*.

1 Pet. 3, 7: Knowing that ye are *thereunto called*, that ye should *inherit a blessing*.

Eph. 1, 18: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened, that ye may know what is the *hope of His calling*, and what the *riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints*.

Phil. 3, 14: I press toward the mark for the *prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus*.

1 Tim. 6, 12: Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on *eternal life, whereunto thou art also called*.

## 7.

Matt. 22, 4: Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, *Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fattings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage!*

## 8.

Rom. 1, 16: For I am not ashamed of the *Gospel of Christ*; for it is the *power of God* unto salvation to every one that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Hebr. 4, 12: For the *Word of God* is *quick and powerful*, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is *discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart*.

1 Pet. 1, 23: Being *born again*, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, *by the Word of God*, which *liveth and abideth forever*.

## 9.

2 Cor. 5, 19, 20: To-wit, that *God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself*, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the *word of reconciliation*. Now, then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, *Be ye reconciled to God!*

Luke 14, 21—23: So that servant came, and showed his lord these things. Then the master of the house, being angry, said

his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in *that my house may be filled.*

Acts 11, 14: Who shall tell thee *words whereby* thou and all thy house *shall be saved.*

## EFFECTS OF THE CALL.

§ 141. By the divine power residing in the means of grace, and working through the same,<sup>1</sup> the calling grace of God effects regeneration<sup>2</sup> or conversion.<sup>3</sup> Wherever these effects are not attained, this is due to obstinate resistance on the part of man.<sup>4</sup>

## 1.

Rom. 1, 16: For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for it is the *power of God unto salvation* to every one that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

1 Pet. 1, 3: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy *hath begotten us again* unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Cor. 1, 18: For the *preaching of the cross* is to them that perish foolishness, but *unto us which are saved it is the power of God.*

Hebr. 4, 12: For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

1 Pet. 1, 23: Being *born again*, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, *by the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.*

2 Thess. 2, 14: Whereunto He *called you by our Gospel to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Cor. 4, 15: In Christ Jesus I have *begotten you through the Gospel.*

## 2.

Cf. § 142.

## 3.

Cf. § 143.

## 4.

Luke 8, 5, 12: A sower went out to sow his seed: and as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was *trodden down*, and the fowls of the air *devoured it.* (12) Those by the wayside are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and *taketh away the Word* out of their hearts, *lest they should believe and be saved.*

Luke 14, 18—20. 24: And they all with one consent began to *make excuse*. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore *I cannot come*. (24) For I say unto you, That *none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper*.

Acts 26, 28: Then Agrippa said unto Paul, *Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian*.

Acts 24, 25: And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, *Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee*.

John 3, 19—21: And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and *men loved darkness rather than light*, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil *hateth the light*, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be re-proved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest that they are wrought in God.

#### REGENERATION.

§ 142. Regeneration<sup>1</sup> is the act of divine grace<sup>2</sup> and power<sup>3</sup> by which man, born of the flesh,<sup>4</sup> void of all power to think,<sup>5</sup> to will,<sup>6</sup> or to do,<sup>7</sup> any good thing, and dead in sin, is, through the means of grace,<sup>9</sup> raised from spiritual death, born into a new spiritual life,<sup>11</sup> and endowed with spiritual power to know and understand<sup>12</sup> spiritual truths, to will and to do<sup>13</sup> what is spiritually good, and, especially, made to accept and enjoy the benefits of the redemption which is in Christ Jesus, the Savior of mankind.<sup>14</sup>

##### 1.

Tit. 3, 5: Not by works of righteousness, which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us by the washing of *regeneration* and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

1 Pet. 1, 3: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath *begotten again* unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

##### 2.

2 Tim. 1, 9: Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own *purpose and grace*, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Eph. 2, 6, 7: And hath *raised us up together*, and made us together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, *that in the ages to come*

*He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.*

1 Pet. 1, 3: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Eph. 2, 4: But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us.

Tit. 3, 5: Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His *mercy* He *saved us* by the washing of *regeneration* and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

## 3.

John 1, 13: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, *but of God.*

1 John 3, 9: Whosoever is *born of God* doth not commit sin; for His seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

2 Cor. 5, 17: Therefore if any man be *in Christ*, he is a *new creature.*

Eph. 2, 5, 6: Even when we were dead in sins, hath *quickened us* together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Eph. 1, 19: And what is the exceeding greatness of *His power* to us-ward who believe, according to *the working of His mighty power.*

## 4.

John 3, 6: That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

## 5.

2 Cor. 3, 5: Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to *think anything as of ourselves*, but our sufficiency is of God.

1 Cor. 2, 14: But the natural man receiveth not the things of the spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him, *neither can he know them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

Eph. 4, 18: Having the *understanding darkened*, being alienated from the life of God through the *ignorance* that is in them, because the *blindness* of their heart.

Eph. 5, 8: For ye were sometimes *darkness*, but now are ye light the Lord.

## 6.

Gen. 6, 5: And God *saw* that the wickedness of man was great he earth, and that *every imagination* of the thoughts of his heart *only evil continually.*

Gen. 8, 21: The imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth.

Rom. 8, 7: Because the carnal mind is *enmity against God*; for not subject to the Law of God, *neither indeed can be.*



## 7.

John 15, 5: Without me ye can do nothing.

Phil. 1, 6: Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

Rom. 7, 14: For we know that the Law is spiritual; but *I am carnal*, sold under sin.

Eph. 2, 3: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, *fulfilling the desires of the flesh* and of the mind; and were *by nature* the children of wrath, even as others.

## 8.

Col. 2, 13: And you, being *dead in your sins* and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him.

Eph. 2, 1, 5: And you hath He quickened, *who were dead* in trespasses and sins. (5) Even when *we were dead* in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved).

## 9.

James 1, 18: Of His own will *begat* He us *with the Word of Truth*, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

1 Pet. 1, 23: Being *born again*, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, *by the Word of God*, which liveth and abideth forever.

Tit. 3, 5: Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us by the *washing of regeneration* and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

John 3, 5: Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be *born of water and of the Spirit*, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

1 Cor. 4, 15: For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have *begotten you through the Gospel*.

Gal. 4, 19: My little children, of whom *I travail in birth* again until *Christ be formed in you*.

## 10.

Eph. 2, 5, 6: Even when we were *dead* in sins, hath *quickened* us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath *raised us up* together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Col. 2, 13: And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, *hath He quickened* together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses.

## 11.

1 Pet. 1, 23: Being *born again*, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the Word of God, which *liveth and abideth forever*.

James 1, 18: Of His own will *begat He us* with the Word Truth, that we should be a kind of *firstfruits of His creatures*.

## 12.

2 Cor. 3, 5: Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to *think* anything as of ourselves, but *our sufficiency is of God*.

Acts 26, 18: To *open their eyes*, and to turn them *from darkness light*, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are justified by faith that is in me.

## 13.

Phil. 2, 13: For it is *God* which *worketh* in you both *to will* and *to do* of His good pleasure.

## 14.

1 Pet. 1, 3: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath *begotten us again* unto a *lively hope* by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Gal. 3, 26: For ye are all the *children of God by faith* in Christ Jesus.

Is. 53, 10: When Thou shalt make His soul an offering for sin, He shall *see His seed*, He shall prolong His days, *and the pleasure of His Lord shall prosper in His hand*.

## CONVERSION.

§ 143. Conversion<sup>1</sup> in a stricter sense of the term is the work of God<sup>2</sup> by which man is, through the Gospel, transferred<sup>3</sup> from a state of sin and wrath and spiritual death, in which by nature all men are,<sup>4</sup> into a state of spiritual life and faith and grace<sup>5</sup> in which alone the sinner can enjoy the benefits of Christ's redemption.<sup>6</sup>—Conversion in a larger sense<sup>7</sup> is the process whereby man, being by the grace and power of God transferred from his carnal state of sin and wrath into a spiritual state of faith and grace, enters, and, under the continued influence of the Holy Spirit, comes in, a state of faith and spiritual life.<sup>8</sup>

## 1.

Pet. 2, 25: For ye were as sheep going astray, but are now *re-*turned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

Is. 31, 19: Surely, after that I was *turned*, I repented.

Is. 26, 18: To *turn* them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God.

Is. 26, 20: That they should repent and turn to God.

## 2.

Is. 31, 18: *Turn Thou me*, and I shall be turned; *for Thou art my God*.

Ps. 12, 18: Giving thanks unto *the Father*, which hath made

*us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son.*

Acts 5, 31: *Him hath God exalted with His right hand to be a Prince and a Savior, for to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.*

John 6, 29: Jesus answered and said unto them, *This is the work of God, that ye believe on Him whom He hath sent.*

Col. 2, 12: Buried with Him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with Him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised Him from the dead.

## 3.

Col. 1, 12, 13: Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son.

Eph. 2, 6: And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

## 4.

Rom. 3, 9, 23: What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise; for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that *they are all under sin.* (23) *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*

Job 15, 14: What is *man*, that he should be *clean*? and he who is *born of a woman*, that he should be *righteous*?

Ps. 14, 3: They are ALL *gone aside*, they are all together become filthy: there is *none* that doeth good, no, *not one*.

Eph. 2, 3: Among whom also *we all* had our conversation times past in the *lusts of our flesh*, fulfilling the *desires of the flesh* and of the mind; and were *by nature* the children of wrath, *even as others*.

Col. 3, 5, 6: Mortify therefore your members which are upon earth: fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: for which things sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience.

1 Pet. 2, 10: Which in time past *were not a people*, but are the people of God; which *had not obtained mercy*, but now have obtained mercy.

Gal. 5, 24: And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

1 Pet. 2, 25: For ye *were as sheep going astray*, but are now turned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

Acts 26, 18: To open their eyes, and to turn them *from darkness* to light, and from the *power of Satan* unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

Ezek. 18, 32: For I have no pleasure in the *death* of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live.

Ezek. 33, 11: Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

## 5.

Gal. 4, 5: To redeem them that were under the Law, that we might receive *the adoption of sons*.

Acts 11, 21: And the hand of the Lord was with them; and a great number believed, and turned *unto the Lord*.

Acts 20, 21: Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance *toward God* and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom. 6, 14: For sin shall not have dominion over you; for ye are not under the Law, but *under grace*.

1 Pet. 2, 10: Which in time past were not a people, but *are now the people of God*; which had not obtained mercy, but *now have obtained mercy*.

1 Pet. 2, 25: For ye were as sheep going astray, but *are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls*.

John 1, 12: But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to *become the sons of God*, even to them that *believe on His name*.

Ezek. 11, 19: And I will give them one heart, and I will put a *new spirit* within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will *give them an heart of flesh*.

## 6.

Gal. 4, 5: To redeem them that were under the Law, *that we might receive the adoption of sons*.

1 Pet. 2, 10: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but *now have obtained mercy*.

Acts 26, 18: To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, *that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me*.

## 7.

Jer. 31, 18, 19: *Turn Thou me, and I shall be turned*; for Thou art the Lord, my God. Surely, after that I was turned, *I repented*.

Acts 26, 20: But showed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should *repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance*.

## 8.

Acts 26, 20: But showed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

Jer. 31, 19: Surely, after that I was turned, I repented; and after that I was instructed, I smote upon my thigh. I was ashamed, yea, even confounded, because I did bear the reproach of my youth.

Deut. 30, 2: And shalt *return* unto the Lord, thy God, *and shalt obey His voice according to all that I command thee* this day, thou and thy children, *with all thine heart and with all thy soul.*

Rom. 12, 2: And be not conformed to this world, *but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind*, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.

Rom. 6, 17: But God be thanked that ye *were* the servants of sin, *but ye have obeyed from the heart* that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

Eph. 4, 13: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, *unto a perfect man*, unto the measure of the stature of the *fullness* of Christ.

Ps. 51, 12: Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free Spirit.

#### CONVERSION AND PREPARATORY OPERATIONS.

§ 144. Regeneration or Conversion in the stricter sense, being essentially the procreation of true and saving faith,<sup>1</sup> is an instantaneous act or process,<sup>2</sup> but is in adults preceded by preparatory operations, whereby the sinner is convicted of his sinful state and helpless condition under divine wrath by means of the Law<sup>3</sup> and led to a logical or historical understanding of the contents of the Gospel,<sup>4</sup> and which, with the outward use of the means of grace, in a measure, lie within the power and reach of irregenerate man.<sup>5</sup>

##### 1.

John 1, 12, 13: But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them *that believe* on His name: *which were born*, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Gal. 3, 26: For ye are all the *children of God by faith* in Christ Jesus.

1 John 5, 1: Whosoever *believeth* that Jesus is the Christ is *born of God*: and every one that loveth Him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of Him.

John 6, 29: Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, *that ye believe* on Him whom He hath sent.

Col. 2, 12: Buried with Him in baptism, wherein also ye are *risen with Him through the faith of the operation of God*, who hath raised Him from the dead.

2.

Eph. 2, 5, 6: Even when we were dead in sins, hath *quickened* us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) and hath *raised us up* together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

3.

Rom. 5, 13: For until the *Law* sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

Rom. 3, 20: Therefore by the deeds of the Law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight: for *by the Law is the knowledge of sin*.

Jer. 13, 18: Say unto the king and to the queen, Humble yourselves, sit down: for your principalities shall come down, even the crown of your glory.

4.

Matt. 13, 23: But he that received seed into the good ground is he that *heareth the Word, and understandeth it*; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

John 4, 39: And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on Him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did.

5.

James 2, 19: Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

Acts 24, 25: And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.

Luke 4, 16, 22: And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up: and as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read. (22) And all bare Him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, Is not this Joseph's son?

Acts 13, 44: And the next Sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the Word of God.

Acts 26, 26 ff.: For the king knoweth of these things, before whom also I speak freely; for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him, for this thing was not done in a corner, etc.

CONVERSION PURELY THE WORK OF GOD.

§ 145. Inasmuch as regeneration or conversion is essentially the bestowal of faith,<sup>1</sup> it is wholly and exclusively a work of God,<sup>2</sup> wherein the person being regenerated or converted can in no wise or respect concur, but is merely the passive subject,<sup>3</sup> in which as in a rational being<sup>4</sup> the

salutary internal change is wrought by the grace and power of God<sup>5</sup> through the means of grace.<sup>6</sup>

## 1.

John 1, 12, 13: But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that *believe* on His name: *which were born*, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

1 John 5, 1: Whosoever *believeth* that Jesus is the Christ is *born of God*.

Gal. 3, 26: For ye are all the *children of God by faith* in Christ Jesus.

## 2.

John 6, 29: Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the *work of God that ye believe* on Him whom He hath sent.

Col. 2, 12: Buried with Him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with Him through the *faith of the operation of God*, who hath raised Him from the dead.

Hebr. 12, 2: Looking unto Jesus, the *Author and Finisher of our faith*, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

1 Pet. 1, 21: Who *by Him do believe* in God, that raised Him up from the dead, and gave Him glory, that your faith and hope might be in God.

Eph. 6, 23: Peace be to the brethren, and love with *faith, from God* the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

John 14, 6: Jesus saith unto him, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: *no man cometh unto the Father but by me*.

Acts 11, 17, 18: Forasmuch, then, as *God gave them the like gift* as He did unto us, *who believed* on the Lord Jesus Christ, what was I that I could withstand God? When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath *God* also to the Gentiles *granted repentance* unto life.

Hos. 13, 9: O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself; but *in me is thine help*.

## 3.

Eph. 2, 1, 5: And you hath He quickened, who *were dead* in trespasses and sins. (5) *Even when we were dead* in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved).

Col. 2, 12: And you *being dead* in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses.

Rom. 8, 7: Because the *carnal mind is enmity against God*; for it is not subject to the Law of God, *neither indeed can be*.

Gal. 5, 17: For the flesh lusteth *against* the Spirit, and the Spirit *against* the flesh; and these are *contrary* the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

John 3, 6: That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Phil. 1, 29: For unto you it *is given* in the behalf of Christ not only to *believe* on Him, but also to suffer for His sake.

1 Cor. 2, 5: That your *faith* should not stand in the wisdom of men, but *in the power of God*.

## 4.

1 Cor. 12, 3: Wherefore I give you to understand that no man *speaking* by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed, and that no man can *say* that Jesus is the Lord but by the Holy Ghost.

1 Cor. 1, 4—7: I thank my God always on your behalf for the grace of God which is *given you* by Jesus Christ, that in everything ye are *enriched* by Him, in all *utterance* and in all *knowledge*, even as the *testimony of Christ was confirmed in you*, so that ye come behind in no gift, waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom. 10, 14: How, then, shall they *call on Him* in whom they have not *believed*? and how shall they *believe* in Him of *whom they have not heard*? and how shall they *hear* without a *preacher*?

John 17, 8: For I have *given* unto them the *words* which Thou gavest me; and they have *received* them, and have *known* surely that I came out from Thee, and they have *believed* that Thou didst send me.

John 6, 44. 45: No man can *come to me*, except the *Father* which hath sent me *draw him*: and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all *taught* of God. Every man therefore that hath *heard*, and hath *learned* of the Father, cometh unto me.

## 5.

Eph. 1, 19: And what is the exceeding greatness of His *power* to us-ward who believe, according to the *working of His mighty power*. See also texts sub 2.

## 6.

4 Rom. 10, 17: So, then, faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the *Word of God*.

John 17, 20: Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me *through their word*.

1 Cor. 1, 21: For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God *by the foolishness of preaching* to save them that believe.

2 Cor. 4, 6: For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath *shined in our hearts*, to *give the light of the knowledge* of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Tit. 3, 5: Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us by the *washing of regeneration* and renewing of the Holy Ghost.

1 Cor. 8, 5: Who, then, is Paul, and who is Apollos, but *ministers by whom ye believed*, even as the Lord gave to every man?



## ACT OF FAITH.

§ 146. The act of saving faith is the acceptance<sup>1</sup> of the benefits of Christ offered through the means of grace<sup>2</sup> by knowledge of, assent to, and reliance on, the teachings and promises of the Gospel<sup>3</sup> and, especially, confidence in Christ.<sup>4</sup>

## 1.

John 1, 12, 16: But as many as *received* Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that *believe* on His name. (16) And of His fullness have all we *received*, and grace for grace.

John 17, 8: For I have *given* unto them the words which Thou gavest me; and they have *received* them, and have *known* surely that I came out from Thee, and they have *believed* that Thou didst send me.

Acts 10, 43: To Him give all the prophets witness, that through His name, whosoever *believeth* in Him, shall *receive* remission of sins.

Acts 26, 18: To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may *receive* forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them, which are sanctified by *faith* that is in me.

Col. 2, 6: As ye have therefore *received* Christ Jesus, the Lord, so walk ye in Him. Cf. §§ 122. 123.

## 2.

John 4, 39—42: And many of the Samaritans of that city *believed* on Him for the *saying* of the woman, which *testified*, He told me all that ever I did. So when the Samaritans were come unto Him, they besought Him that He would tarry with them: and He abode there two days. And many more *believed* because of His own word, and said unto the woman, Now *we believe*, not because of thy saying; for we *have heard Him ourselves*, and *know* that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world.

## 3.

Luke 1, 77: To give *knowledge of salvation* unto His people by the remission of their sins.

Is. 53, 11: He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied; *by His knowledge* shall my righteous Servant *justify many*; for He shall bear their iniquities.

John 17, 3: And this *is life eternal*, that they might *know Thee* the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent.

2 Pet. 1, 3: According as His divine power hath *given unto us all things* that pertain unto life and godliness, *through the knowledge of Him* that hath called us to glory and virtue.

Rom. 4, 20—22: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being

fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He was able also to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.

John 17, 8: For I have given unto them the *words* which Thou gavest me; and they have *received* them, and have known surely that I came out from Thee, and they have *believed* that Thou didst send me.

Luke 8, 13: They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, *receive the Word with joy*; and these have no root, which for a while *believe*, and in time of temptation fall away.

Acts 8, 14: Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had *received the Word* of God, they sent unto them Peter and John.

James 1, 21: Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and *receive with meekness* the engrafted *Word*, which is able to save your souls.

John 2, 22: When therefore He was risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that *He had said* this unto them; and *they believed the Scripture*, and the word which Jesus had said.

Phil. 1, 27: Only let your conversation be as it becometh the Gospel of Christ, that, whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the *faith of the Gospel*.

Mark 1, 15: And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent ye, and *believe the Gospel*!

John 20, 29. 31: Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed. Blessed are they that have *not seen*, and *yet have believed*. (31) But these are *written, that ye might believe* that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye might have life through His name.

2 Cor. 3, 4: And such *trust* have we through Christ to God-ward.

2 Tim. 1, 12: For the which cause I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have *believed*, and *am persuaded* that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day.

Mark 4, 40: And He said unto them, *Why are ye so fearful?* How is it that ye *have no faith?*

#### 4.

Gal. 2, 16—20: Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the Law, but by the *faith of Jesus Christ*, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the *faith of Christ*, and not by the works of the Law; for by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is therefore Christ the minister of sin? God forbid! For if I build again the things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the Law am dead to the Law, that I might live unto God. I am crucified with Christ: never-

theless, I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the *faith of the Son of God*, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.

Phil. 1, 29: For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to *believe on Him*, but also to suffer for His sake.

1 Tim. 1, 16: Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first *Jesus Christ* might show forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter *believe on Him* to life everlasting.

Rom. 9, 33: As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumbling-stone and rock of offense: and whosoever *believeth on Him* shall not be ashamed.

Acts 16, 31: And they said, *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ*, and thou shalt be saved and thy house.

Rom. 3, 25: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through *faith in His blood*, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.

John 20, 31: But these are written, that ye might *believe that Jesus is the Christ*, the Son of God, and that believing ye might have life through His name.

John 1, 12: But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that *believe on His name*.

#### STATE OF FAITH.

§ 147. The state of saving faith<sup>1</sup> is the continued possession<sup>2</sup> of the benefits of Christ's sacrifice through an enduring confidence in Christ the Savior and the promises of the Gospel.<sup>3</sup>

##### 1.

Luke 22, 32: But I have prayed for thee that *thy faith fail not*.

2 Cor. 13, 5: Examine yourselves, whether ye *be* in the faith.

1 Cor. 16, 13: Watch ye, *stand fast in the faith*, quit you like men, be strong!

Gal. 2, 20: I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh *I live by the faith* of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.

Acts 16, 5: And so were the churches *established in the faith*, and increased in number daily.

Col. 2, 7: Rooted and built up in Him, and *established in the faith*, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

1 Tim. 2, 15: Notwithstanding she shall be saved in child-bearing, if they *continue in faith* and charity and holiness with sobriety.

2 Tim. 4, 7: I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have *kept the faith*.

2 Cor. 10, 15: Not boasting of things without our measure, that is, of other men's labors, but having hope, when your *faith is increased*, that we shall be enlarged by you according to our rule abundantly.

1 Pet. 1, 7: That the *trial of your faith*, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

## 2.

Eph. 3, 12: In whom we *have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of Him*.

1 Pet. 1, 9: *Receiving the end of your faith*, even the salvation of your souls.

2 Tim. 1, 12: For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless, *I am not ashamed*; for I know whom I have *believed*, and *am persuaded* that *He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him* against that day.

Gal. 5, 4, 5: Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the Law; *ye are fallen from grace*. For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

1 Pet. 1, 5: Who are *kept* by the power of God *through faith unto salvation* ready to be revealed in the last time.

## 3.

2 Tim. 3, 14, 15: But *continue thou* in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; and that from a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee *wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus*.

John 6, 68, 69: Then Simon Peter answered Him, Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. And we *believe and are sure* that Thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

## JUSTIFICATION.

§ 148. The chief benefit of Christ's vicarious obedience is the perfect righteousness obtained by Christ for all mankind,<sup>1</sup> the acquisition of which God accepted as a reconciliation of the world to Himself,<sup>2</sup> imputing to mankind the merit of the Mediator<sup>3</sup>—general or objective justification—; and inasmuch as faith is the actual acceptance<sup>4</sup> of this imputation announced in the Gospel,<sup>5</sup> or of the righteousness imputed<sup>6</sup> and offered in the Gospel,<sup>5</sup> it is justifying faith,<sup>7</sup> and God in His judgment<sup>8</sup> graciously<sup>9</sup> and for Christ's sake<sup>10</sup> holds and pronounces<sup>8</sup> the believer<sup>11</sup> actually and by

personal application fully absolved<sup>12</sup> from all guilt<sup>13</sup> and punishment<sup>14</sup> while in the state of faith<sup>15</sup>—individual or subjective justification.

## 1.

Cf. Christology, § 123.

## 2.

Cf. Christology, §§ 118. 123.

## 3.

2 Cor. 5, 19: To-wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, *not imputing their trespasses unto them*; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

Rom. 5, 18. 19: Therefore as by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation, even so by the righteousness of One the free gift came *upon all men unto justification of life*. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of One shall *many be made righteous*.

Is. 53, 11: He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied: by His knowledge shall my righteous servant *justify many*; *for He shall bear their iniquities*.

Rom. 4, 25: Who was delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification.

1 Cor. 15, 17: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.

## 4.

Cf. §§ 146. 147.

## 5.

Cf. §§ 132. 133.

Rom. 5, 19: For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of One shall many be made righteous.

Rom. 3, 25: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.

1 Cor. 1, 30: But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.

Jer. 23, 6: In His days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely. And this is His name whereby He shall be called, *The Lord, Our Righteousness*.

2 Cor. 5, 18. 21: And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the *ministry of reconciliation*. (21) For He hath made Him to be sin for us who knew no sin, that *we might be made the righteousness of God in Him*.

John 15, 3: Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

John 20, 23: Whosoever *sins ye remit*, they are *remitted* unto them, and whosoever *sins ye retain*, they are *retained*.

Luke 24, 47: And that *repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name* among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Gal. 3, 26: For ye are all the *children of God by faith in Christ Jesus*.

## 6.

Rom. 4, 3: For what saith the Scripture? Abraham *believed* God, and it was *counted unto him for righteousness*.

Rom. 4, 5. 6. 8—11. 22—24: But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, *his faith is counted for righteousness*. Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man unto whom *God imputeth righteousness* without works. (8—11) Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will *not impute sin*. Cometh this blessedness, then, upon the circumcision only, or upon the uncircumcision also? for we say that *faith was reckoned to Abraham for righteousness*. How was it then reckoned? when he was in circumcision, or in uncircumcision? Not in circumcision, but in uncircumcision. And he received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised, that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised, that *righteousness might be imputed* unto them also. (22—24) And therefore it was *imputed to him for righteousness*. Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was *imputed to him*, but for *us also*, to whom *it shall be imputed*, if we believe on Him that raised up Jesus, our Lord, from the dead.

Gal. 3, 6: Even as Abraham *believed* God, and it was *accounted to him for righteousness*.

## 7.

Rom. 3, 28: Therefore we conclude that a man is *justified by faith*, without the deeds of the Law.

Is. 53, 11: *By His knowledge* shall my righteous Servant *justify* many.

Rom. 4, 16: Therefore *it is of faith*, that it might be by grace, to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed, not to that only which is of the Law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all.

Rom. 5, 1: Therefore being *justified by faith*, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gal. 2, 16: Knowing that a man is not *justified* by the works of the Law, but *by the faith of Jesus Christ*, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might *be justified by the faith of Christ*, and not by the works of the Law; for by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified.

Gal. 3, 24: Wherefore the Law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be *justified by faith*.

## 8.

Rom. 8, 33. 34: Who shall *lay anything to the charge* of God's elect? It is *God that justifieth*. Who is he that *condemneth*? It is Christ that died, yea, rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Matt. 12, 37: For by thy words thou shalt be *justified*, and by thy words thou shalt be *condemned*.

Rom. 5, 16: And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the *judgment* was by one *to condemnation*, but the free gift is of many offenses unto *justification*.

John 3, 18: He that *believeth* on Him is *not condemned*; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only-begotten Son of God.

John 5, 24: Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and *believeth* on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall *not come into condemnation*, but is passed from death unto life.

## 9.

Rom. 3, 23. 24. 28: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God, being *justified freely by His grace*, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. (28) Therefore we conclude that a man is *justified by faith, without the deeds of the Law*.

Rom. 11, 6: And if *by grace*, then is it *no more of works*; otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace; otherwise work is no more work.

Rom. 4, 16: Therefore it is of faith, that it might be *by grace*.

## 10.

Jer. 23, 6: This is His name whereby He shall be called, *The Lord, Our Righteousness*.

Is. 53, 11: By His knowledge shall my righteous Servant *justify* many; *for He shall bear their iniquities*.

Rom. 5, 19: So by the obedience of *One* shall many be made righteous.

Rom. 8, 34: *Who is he that condemneth?* It is *Christ that died*.

Rom. 3, 24: Being *justified freely by His grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus*.

## 11.

Rom. 10, 10. 11: For with the heart man *believeth unto righteousness*, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture saith, Whosoever *believeth* on Him *shall not be ashamed*.

Rom. 3, 22. 26. 30: Even the *righteousness of God* which is by *faith* of Jesus Christ *unto all and upon all* them that *believe*; for there is no difference. (26) To declare, I say, at this time His righteousness, that He might be just, and the *Justifier of him which believeth in Jesus*. (30) Seeing it is one God, which shall *justify* the circumcision *by faith*, and uncircumcision *through faith*.

Rom. 4, 5, 6: But to him that worketh not, *but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.* Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works.

Acts 10, 43: To Him give all the prophets witness, that through His name *whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins.*

## 12.

Col. 2, 13: And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having *forgiven you all trespasses.*

Rom. 4, 7, 8: Saying, Blessed are they whose *iniquities are forgiven* and whose *sins are covered.* Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will *not impute sin.*

Acts 10, 43: To Him give all the prophets witness, that through His name *whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins.*

1 John 1, 7: The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, *cleanseth us from all sin.*

Micah 7, 18, 19: Who is a God like unto Thee, that *pardoneth iniquity*, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retaineth not His anger forever, because He delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, He will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities; and Thou wilt *cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.*

Psa. 25, 18: Look upon mine affliction and my pain, and *forgive all my sins.*

Is. 38, 17: Behold, for peace I had great bitterness; but Thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption, for Thou hast *cast ALL my sins behind Thy back.*

Psa. 85, 3, 4: Thou hast taken away all Thy wrath: Thou hast turned Thyself from the fierceness of Thine anger. Turn us, O God of our salvation, and cause Thine anger toward us to cease!

Psa. 103, 3: Who *forgiveth all thine iniquities*; who healeth all thy diseases.

## 13.

Rom. 8, 1: There is therefore now *no condemnation* to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Rom. 8, 31, 32, 34: What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not His own son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also *freely give us all things?* (34) *Who is He that condemneth?* It is Christ that died, yea, rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Matt. 18, 27, 32: Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and *forgave him the debt.* (32) Then his lord, after he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, *I forgave thee all that debt*, because thou desiredst me.

Matt. 6, 12: And *forgive us our debts*, as we forgive our debtors.



## 14.

Is. 53, 5: But He was *wounded* for our transgressions, He was *bruised* for our iniquities: the *chastisement* of our peace was upon Him, and with His *stripes* we are *healed*.

Matt. 18, 27: Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and *loosed him*, and forgave him the debt.

## 15.

Rom. 5, 1: Therefore, being justified by *faith*, we *have peace* with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom. 10, 10. 11: For with the heart man *believeth unto righteousness*, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on Him shall not be ashamed.

Rom. 3, 26. 30: To declare, I say, at this time His righteousness, that He might be just, and the justifier of him *which believeth in Jesus*. (30) Seeing it is one God, which shall justify the circumcision *by faith*, and uncircumcision *through faith*.

Rom. 4, 5. 6: But to him that worketh not, but *believeth* on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness. Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works.

Rom. 3, 28: Therefore we conclude that a man is justified *by faith*.

## CONSEQUENCES OF JUSTIFICATION.

§ 149. The consequences of justification are peace with God,<sup>1</sup> a good conscience,<sup>2</sup> comfort and consolation under the cross,<sup>3</sup> and hope of life everlasting.<sup>4</sup>

## 1.

Is. 59, 2: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear.

Rom. 5, 1. 2: Therefore being *justified* by faith, we *have peace with God* through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

## 2.

Rom. 8, 15: For ye have *not* received the spirit of bondage *again to fear*, but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry *Abba, Father!*

Eph. 3, 12: In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of Him.

Rom. 5, 11: And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement

## 3.

Rom. 5, 3—5: And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope: and hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

## 4.

Tit. 3, 7: That, being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Rom. 5, 2, 21: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. (21) That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Rom. 8, 30: Moreover, whom He did predestinate, them He also called: and whom He called, them He also justified: and whom He justified, them He also glorified.

## ACTIVITY OF FAITH.

§ 150. From the moment when justifying faith has been wrought by the Holy Spirit in the act of regeneration or conversion, the same Spirit of God also actuates such living faith in the divine work of renovation or sanctification.

1 Cor. 1, 30: But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and *righteousness*, and *sanctification*, and redemption.

1 Pet. 1, 22: Seeing ye have *purified* your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye love one another* with a pure heart fervently.

Eph. 4, 22—24: That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be *renewed* in the Spirit of your mind; and that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Col. 3, 10: And have put on the new man, which is *renewed* in knowledge after the image of Him that created him.

2 Tim. 2, 21: If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

1 John 3, 3: And every man that hath this hope in Him purifieth himself, even as He is pure.

2 Cor. 7, 1: *Having* therefore *these promises*, dearly beloved, *let us cleanse ourselves* from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Acts 15, 9: And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.

Gal. 5, 6: For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but *faith which worketh by love*.

2 Pet. 1, 5: And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue.

Eph. 3, 20: Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.

Col. 1, 29: Whereunto *I also labor, striving according to His working, which worketh in me mightily*.

James 5, 16: Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

#### RENOVATION OR SANCTIFICATION.

§ 151. Renovation,<sup>1</sup> or sanctification,<sup>2</sup> is the restitution of the divine image<sup>3</sup> in the regenerate<sup>4</sup> by the operation of the Holy Spirit,<sup>5</sup> through the means of grace,<sup>6</sup> and in the exertion of the spiritual energies<sup>7</sup> engendered in the act of regeneration<sup>8</sup> and sustained, strengthened, and actuated by the power of God.<sup>9</sup>

##### 1.

Eph. 4, 23: And *be renewed* in the spirit of your mind.

##### 2.

1 Cor. 1, 30: But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and *sanctification*, and redemption.

1 Thess. 4, 3: For this is the will of God, even your *sanctification*, that ye should abstain from fornication.

##### 3.

Col. 3, 10: And have put on the new man, which is *renewed* in knowledge *after the image of Him that created him*.

Eph. 4, 24: And that ye put on the *new man*, which *after God is created* in righteousness and true holiness.

1 Pet. 1, 15: But *as He which hath called you* is holy, *so be ye holy* in all manner of conversation.

##### 4.

Col. 2, 6: As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus, the Lord, so walk ye in Him.

Eph. 5, 8: Now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light!

Rom. 6, 22: Now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness.

1 Thess. 5, 23: And the very *God of peace sanctify you wholly*;

and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Cor. 7, 1: *Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.*

See also texts below sub 8.

### 5.

1 Thess. 5, 23: And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom. 8, 14: For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

### 6.

Tit. 3, 5: Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us by the *washing* of regeneration and *renewing of the Holy Ghost*.

John 17, 17: *Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy Word is the truth.*

2 Tim. 3, 16, 17: All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for *instruction in righteousness*, that the man of God may be perfect, *thoroughly furnished unto all good works*.

Rom. 12, 1: *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

### 7.

Gal. 5, 6: For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but *faith which worketh* by love.

Gal. 5, 16: This I say, then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Gal. 5, 25: If we *live* in the Spirit, let us also *walk* in the Spirit.

Eph. 5, 8, 9: For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye *light* in the Lord: *walk as children of light!* (For the *fruit of the Spirit* is in all goodness and righteousness and truth.)

2 Pet. 1, 5: And beside this, *giving all diligence*, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue, knowledge.

### 8.

1 John 3, 9: Whosoever is *born of God* doth not commit sin; for *His seed remaineth in him*: and he cannot sin, because he is *born of God*.

Rom. 6, 2: God forbid! How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

Eph. 2, 10: For we are His workmanship, *created* in Christ Jesus *unto good works*, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

1 John 5, 4. 5: For whatsoever is *born of God* *overcometh the world*: and this is the victory that *overcometh the world, even our faith*. Who is he that *overcometh the world*, but he that *believeth that Jesus is the Son of God*?

See also texts above sub 4.

## 9.

2 Cor. 9, 8: And *God is able* to make all *grace* abound toward you, that ye, always having all *sufficiency* in all things, *may abound to every good work*.

2 Cor. 12, 9: And He said unto me, *My grace is sufficient* for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Phil. 4, 13: I can *do all things through Christ* which *strengtheneth* me.

John 15, 5: I am the Vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing.

## MODE OF SANCTIFICATION.

§ 152. The restitution of the image of God is effected in the putting off of the old man<sup>1</sup> with his evil propensities and works, of which a Christian must ever anew be reminded by the mirror of the Law,<sup>2</sup> and in the putting on of the new man,<sup>3</sup> who walks before God in newness of life.<sup>4</sup>

## 1.

Col. 3, 9: Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have *put off the old man* with his deeds.

Eph. 4, 22. 25: That ye *put off* concerning the former conversation *the old man*, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts. (25) Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor; for we are members one of another.

## 2.

Rom. 3, 20: Therefore by the deeds of the Law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight; for *by the Law is the knowledge of sin*.

Rom. 7, 7: What shall we say, then? Is the Law sin? God forbid! Nay, *I had not known sin but by the Law*; for I had not known lust, except the Law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

## 3.

Col. 3, 10: And have *put on the new man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of Him that created him.

Eph. 4, 24: And that ye *put on the new man*, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

## 4.

Rom. 6, 4, 11: Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death, that, like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should *walk in newness of life*.  
 (11) Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be *dead indeed unto sin*, but *alive unto God* through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## PROGRESSIVE SANCTIFICATION.

§ 153. The development and growth of the new man consists in the progressive enlightenment of the understanding<sup>1</sup> toward a more extensive and intensive knowledge of divine truth,<sup>2</sup> a continued renewal of the will toward its original rectitude and energy for good,<sup>3</sup> and an increasing sanctification of the appetites and affections toward their primeval purity.<sup>4</sup>

## 1.

Eph. 1, 17, 18: That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the *Spirit of wisdom* and revelation in the *knowledge* of Him, the *eyes of your understanding being enlightened*, that ye may *know* what is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.

Col. 1, 9, 11: For this cause we also, *since the day* we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire *that ye might be filled with the knowledge* of His will in *all wisdom* and spiritual understanding.  
 (11) *Strengthened* with all might, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness.

2 Pet. 3, 18: But *grow* in grace, and *in the knowledge* of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

## 2.

1 Cor. 1, 5: That in everything ye are enriched by Him, in all utterance, and in *all knowledge*.

Eph. 4, 13, 14: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the *knowledge of the Son of God*, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, that we henceforth *be no more children*, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of *doctrine*, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.

Hebr. 5, 12—14: For when for the time ye *ought to be teachers*, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness; for he is a babe. But *strong meat* belongeth to them that are of *full age*, even those who by reason of use have *their senses exercised* to discern both good and evil.

Rom. 12, 2: And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.

Phil. 1, 9: And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in *knowledge* and in all judgment.

Eph. 1, 17: That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the *knowledge* of Him.

## 3.

Phil. 2, 13: For it is God which worketh in you both *to will* and to do of His good pleasure.

Rom. 7, 15. 16. 18. 19. 21. 22. 25: For that which I do I allow not; for what I would, that do I not, but what I hate, that do I. If, then, I do that which I would not, I consent unto the Law that it is good. (18. 19) For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing; for to will is present with me, but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not, but the evil which I would not, that I do. (21. 22) I find, then, a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the Law of God after the inward man. (25) I thank God through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So, then, with the mind I myself serve the Law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

Gal. 5, 17: For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

Rom. 6, 12—14: Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin; but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have dominion over you; for ye are not under the Law, but under grace.

## 4.

1 Pet. 2, 11: Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul.

2 Tim. 2, 22: Flee also youthful lusts; but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Gal. 5, 16. 24: This I say, then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. (24) And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

Acts 17, 16: Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his *spirit* was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.

Phil. 4, 4: *Rejoice in the Lord* alway: and again I say, *Rejoice!*

Ps. 119, 162: *I rejoice at Thy Word*, as one that findeth great spoil.

John 15, 10, 11: If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love, even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in His love. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and *that your joy might be full.*

Luke 6, 36: Be ye therefore *merciful*, as your *Father* also is merciful.

## GOOD WORKS.

§ 154. The restitution of the image of God in the regenerate is necessarily<sup>1</sup> productive of good works<sup>2</sup> in accordance with the will of God<sup>3</sup> expressed in His commandments,<sup>4</sup> the rule of Christian life, and in the imitation of the example of Christ.<sup>5</sup>

## 1.

Matt. 7, 17, 18: Even so *every* good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree *cannot* bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

Matt. 12, 35: A *good* man out of the *good* treasure of the *heart* bringeth forth *good* things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

Rom. 6, 2—12: God forbid! *How shall we*, that are *dead* to sin, *live* any longer therein? Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death, that, like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should *walk in newness of life*. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His *death*, we shall be also in the likeness of His *resurrection*, knowing this, that our *old man* is *crucified* with Him, that the *body of sin* might be *destroyed*, that henceforth we should *not serve sin*. For he that is *dead* is *freed* from sin. Now if we be *dead* with Christ, we believe that we shall also *live with Him*, knowing that Christ, being raised from the dead, dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over Him. For in that He died, He died unto sin once; but in that He liveth, He liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be *dead* indeed unto *sin*, but *alive* unto *God* through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

## 2.

Eph. 2, 10: For we are His workmanship, *created* in Christ Jesus unto *good works*, which God hath before *ordained* that we should *walk in them*.

Col. 1, 10: That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being *fruitful* in *every good work*, and increasing in the knowledge of God.



Tit. 2, 14: Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, *zealous of good works.*

## 3.

Rom. 12, 2: And be not conformed to this world; but be ye *transformed* by the *renewing* of your mind, that ye may prove what is *that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.*

Eph. 5, 10: Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.

1 Thess. 4, 3: For this is the *will of God*, even your *sanctification*, that ye should abstain from fornication.

Ps. 119, 32: I will run the way of Thy commandments, when *Thou shalt enlarge my heart.*

## 4.

John 14, 15: If ye love me, *keep my commandments.*

Ps. 119, 32: I will run *the way of Thy commandments*, when Thou shalt enlarge my heart.

John 15, 10: If ye *keep my commandments*, ye shall abide in my love, even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in His love.

Rom. 13, 9, 10: For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and *if there be any other commandment*, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbor; therefore *love is the fulfilling of the Law.*

Eph. 6, 1, 2: Children, obey your parents in the Lord; for this is right. Honor thy father and mother, which is the first *commandment* with promise.

1 John 2, 3, 4: And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we *keep His commandments.* He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His *commandments*, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

1 John 3, 24: And he that *keepeth His commandments* dwelleth in Him, and He in him. And hereby we know that He abideth in us, by the Spirit which He hath given us.

1 John 5, 3: For this is the love of God, that we *keep His commandments*: and His commandments are not grievous.

## 5.

1 John 2, 6: He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to *walk, even as He walked.*

John 13, 34: A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; *as I have loved you*, that ye *also love* one another.

John 15, 12: This is my commandment, That ye love one another, *as I have loved you.*

Phil. 2, 5: Let *this mind* be in you, which was *also in Christ Jesus.*

John 13, 15: For I have given you an *example*, that ye should *do as I have done to you.*

## IMPUTED AND INHERENT RIGHTEOUSNESS COMPARED.

§ 155. While Christ's vicarious obedience constitutes the righteousness imputed to us<sup>1</sup> and accepted by our faith,<sup>2</sup> and is a necessary cause of our salvation,<sup>3</sup> our own obedience constitutes a righteousness inherent in us,<sup>4</sup> and is a necessary fruit<sup>5</sup> and evidence<sup>6</sup> of our faith, but in no wise a cause of, or necessary for, our salvation.<sup>7</sup>

## 1.

Cf. § 148.

## 2.

Cf. §§ 146. 147.

## 3.

Acts 4, 12: Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.

Cf. Christology, § 124, g.

## 4.

Rom. 6, 22: But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have *your fruit* unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

Eph. 4, 22. 23: That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be *renewed in the spirit of your mind*.

## 5.

Tit. 3, 8. 14: This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men. (14) And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful.

Matt. 7, 17. 18: Even so *every* good tree *bringeth forth good fruit*; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

Matt. 12, 35: A *good* man out of the *good* treasure of the heart bringeth forth *good* things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

## 6.

James 2, 18: Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: *show me thy faith* without thy works, and I *will show thee my faith by my works*.

Gal. 5, 6: For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but faith which worketh by love.

John 13, 35: *By this* shall all men *know* that ye are my disciples, if ye have *love* one to another.

## 7.

Tit. 3, 5: *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.*

Eph. 2, 8, 9: *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast.*

Rom. 3, 28: *Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith, without the deeds of the Law.*

## SANCTIFICATION IMPERFECT IN THIS LIFE.

§ 156. While Christ's obedience imputed to us constitutes a perfect<sup>1</sup> righteousness in the sight of God, our own obedience, or the righteousness inherent in us, must, on account of the residue of sinful flesh still active within us,<sup>2</sup> remain imperfect in this life<sup>3</sup>—*justitia inchoata*—, the beginning only<sup>4</sup> of the restitution of the divine image in the regenerate being made in this temporal life.<sup>5</sup>

## 1.

Cf. § 148, 12. 13. 14.

## 2.

Rom. 7, 18: *For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing; for to will is present with me, but how to perform that which is good I find not.*

Hebr. 12, 1: *Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.*

Rom. 7, 21. 23—25: *I find, then, a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. (23—25) But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So, then, with the mind I myself serve the Law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.*

Gal. 5, 16, 17: *This I say, then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.*

1 John 1, 8: *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*

Matt. 6, 12: *And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*

James 3, 2: *For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.*

Rom. 6, 12, 14: Let not *sin* therefore *reign* in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in *the lusts thereof*. (14) For sin shall not have *dominion* over you; for ye are not under the Law, but under grace.

Is. 64, 6: But *we are all as an unclean thing*, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and *our iniquities*, like the wind, have taken us away.

## 3.

Is. 64, 6: But we are all as an unclean thing, and all *our righteousnesses* are as *filthy rags*; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Matt. 6, 12: And forgive us *our debts*, as we forgive our debtors.

1 John 1, 8: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

## 4.

Phil. 1, 6: Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath *begun* a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.

Phil. 3, 12: Not as though I had *already attained*, either were *already perfect*, but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

Eph. 4, 13: Till *we all come* in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, *unto a perfect man*, unto the measure of the stature of the *fullness* of Christ.

2 Cor. 4, 16: For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is *renewed day by day*.

2 Cor. 7, 1: Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us *cleanse ourselves* from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, *perfecting holiness* in the fear of God.

## 5.

1 John 3, 2, 3: Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth *not yet appear what we shall be*; but we know that, when He shall appear, *we shall be like Him*; for we shall see Him as He is. And every man that hath this *hope* in Him *purifieth himself*, even as He is pure.

## INVISIBLE CHURCH.

§ 157. The community of the regenerate, or of all those who believe in Christ and are justified by faith,<sup>1</sup> is the invisible<sup>2</sup> Church of Christ on earth, the one holy catholic church,<sup>3</sup> in the proper sense of the word, the spiritual body of Christ,<sup>4</sup> of which Christ is the only spiritual Head,<sup>5</sup> the spiritual house and temple of God,<sup>6</sup> of which Christ is the sole Foundation;<sup>7</sup> and this is the Church which is to endure forever and against which the gates of hell shall not prevail.

## 1.

Eph. 2, 19—22: Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but *fellow-citizens with the saints*, and of the *household of God*; and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner-stone; in whom all the building fitly *framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord*; in whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

Eph. 5, 25—27: Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved *the Church*, and gave Himself for it, that He might *sanctify and cleanse it* with the washing of water by the Word, that He might present it to Himself a glorious *Church*, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing, but that it should be *holy and without blemish*.

1 Pet. 2, 9: But ye are a *chosen generation*, a *royal priesthood*, a *holy nation*; a *peculiar people*, that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath *called you out of darkness into His marvelous light*.

Eph. 1, 1: Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the *saints which are at Ephesus*, and to the *faithful in Christ Jesus*.

Phil. 1, 1: Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to *all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi*, with the bishops and deacons.

Col. 1, 2: To the *saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse*: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God, our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

John 10, 26, 27: But ye believe not, because ye are not of *my sheep*, as I said unto you. *My sheep hear my voice*, and I know them, and *they follow me*.

## 2.

Hebr. 11, 1: Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2 Tim. 2, 19: Nevertheless, the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, *The Lord knoweth them that are His*. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Luke 17, 20, 21: And when He was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, He answered them and said, *The kingdom of God cometh not with observation*; neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! For, behold, the kingdom of God is *within you*.

1 Kings 19, 14, 18: And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Thy covenant, thrown down Thine altars, and slain Thy prophets with the sword; and I, even *I only, am left*; and they seek my life, to take it away. (18) Yet, *I have left me seven thousand in Israel*, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

## 3.

Eph. 4, 3—6: Endeavoring to keep the *unity* of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is *one body*, and *one Spirit*, even as ye are

called in one hope of your calling; *one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

1 Cor. 12, 13: For by *one Spirit* are we *all* baptized into *one body*, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into *one Spirit*.

Rom. 12, 4. 5. 12: For as we have *many members in one body*, and all members have not the same office, so *we, being many, are one body in Christ*, and every one members one of another. (12) Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer.

John 10, 16: And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall *hear my voice*; and there shall be *one fold*, and one Shepherd.

Rev. 5, 9. 10: And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof; for Thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by Thy blood *out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation*, and hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

## 4.

Eph. 1, 23: Which is *His body*, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all.

Rom. 12, 4. 5: For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office, so *we, being many, are one body in Christ*, and every one members one of another.

Eph. 4, 12: For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of *the body of Christ*.

## 5.

Eph. 1, 22: And hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the *Head over all things to the Church*.

Eph. 4, 15: But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is *the Head, even Christ*.

Eph. 5, 23: For the husband is the head of the wife, even as *Christ is the Head of the Church*: and He is the Savior of the body.

Col. 1, 18: And *He is the Head of the body, the Church*: who is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that in all things He might have the preeminence.

## 6.

Eph. 2, 21. 22: In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto *an holy temple in the Lord*, in whom *ye are also builded together* for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

2 Cor. 6, 16: And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? *For ye are the temple of the living God*, as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

## 7.

Eph. 2, 20: And we are built upon *the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner-stone.*

1 Cor. 3, 11: For other *foundation* can no man lay than that is laid, which is *Jesus Christ.*

1 Pet. 2, 6: Wherefore also it is contained in the Scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a *chief corner-stone*, elect, precious: and he that believeth on Him shall not be confounded.

## 8.

Matt. 16, 18: And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build *my Church*; and *the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*

John 10, 27. 28: My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall *never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.*

## VISIBLE CHURCHES.

§ 158. In a tropical sense all those who have and hear the Gospel and profess the Christian religion, true believers and hypocrites together,<sup>1</sup> are called the visible church, and in the same synecdochical sense every particular community or local congregation gathered about the means of grace and professing the Christian faith is termed a visible Christian church,<sup>2</sup> since, wherever the Gospel of Christ is preached and His sacraments are administered, the Holy Spirit is active, works regeneration, builds and preserves the invisible Church of God.<sup>3</sup>

## 1.

Matt. 13, 47. 48: Again, the *kingdom of heaven* is like unto a net that was cast into the sea and gathered of *every kind*, which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the *good* into vessels, but cast the *bad* away

Matt. 25, 1. 2: Then shall the *kingdom of heaven* be likened unto *ten virgins*, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And *five* of them were *wise*, and *five* were *foolish*.

Matt. 22, 2. 11: The *kingdom of heaven* is like unto a certain king which made a marriage for his son. (11) And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man *which had not on a wedding garment.*

## 2.

Gal. 1, 2: And all the brethren which are with me, unto the *churches of Galatia.*

Matt. 18, 17: And if he shall neglect to hear them, *tell it unto*

*the church*; but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

3 John 9. 10: I wrote unto *the church*; but Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, receiveth us not. Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither doth he himself receive the brethren, and forbiddeth them that would, and casteth them out of *the church*.

Rev. 3, 13—18: He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto *the churches*. And unto the angel of the church of *the Laodiceans* write: These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the beginning of the creation of God: I know thy works, that thou art *neither cold nor hot*: I would thou wert cold or hot. So, then, because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing, and *knowest not that thou art wretched*, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the *shame of thy nakedness* do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

### 3.

Is. 55, 10. 11: For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall *my Word* be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall *not return unto me void*, but it shall *accomplish* that which I please, and it shall *prosper* in the thing whereto I sent it.

Luke 8, 11—15: Now the parable is this: The seed is the Word of God. Those by the wayside are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the Word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the Word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection. But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the Word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

### MARKS OF THE CHURCH.

§ 159. Since, wherever the Gospel is preached and the sacraments are administered,<sup>1</sup> the invisible Church of Christ is sure to be,<sup>2</sup> the preaching of the Gospel and the administra-



tion of the sacraments are the unfailing marks of the existence of the invisible Church.

## 1.

Acts 2, 42: And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

## 2.

Is. 55, 10. 11: For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall *my Word* be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall *not return unto me void*, but it shall *accomplish* that which I please, and it shall *prosper* in the thing whereto I sent it.

Mark 16, 15. 16: And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and *preach the Gospel* to every creature. He that believeth and is *baptized* shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

## ORTHODOX CHURCH.

§ 160. The preaching, teaching, and profession, of divine truth in all its purity, and the administration of the sacraments in full accordance with their divine institution, are the criteria of the true or orthodox visible church of Christ on earth.

John 8, 31. 32: Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, *If ye continue in my Word*, then are ye *my disciples indeed*; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Matt. 28, 20: *Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever* I have commanded you: and, lo, *I am with you* alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

## RIGHTS OF THE CHURCH WHERE VESTED.

§ 161. The invisible Church of Christ is endowed with certain spiritual rights, privileges, and powers,<sup>1</sup> all of which are vested in every local congregation of believers.<sup>2</sup>

## 1.

Matt. 16, 15—19: He saith unto *them*, But whom say *ye* that I am? And *Simon Peter answered* and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona; for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build

my Church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the *keys of the kingdom of heaven*: and whatsoever thou shalt *bind* on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt *loose* on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matt. 18, 15—18: Moreover, if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the *church*, but if he neglect to hear the *church*, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican. Verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever *ye shall bind* on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever *ye shall loose* on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

John 20, 22, 23: And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, *Receive ye the Holy Ghost*: whosoever sins *ye remit*, they are remitted unto them, and whosoever sins *ye retain*, they are retained.

1 Cor. 3, 21—23: Therefore let no man glory in men; for *all things are yours*: whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; *all are yours*; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

1 Pet. 2, 9: But *ye* are a *chosen generation*, a *royal priesthood*, an holy nation, a peculiar people, that *ye should show forth* the praises of Him who hath *called you* out of darkness into His marvelous light.

## 2.

Matt. 18, 17, 18: And if he shall neglect to hear them, *tell it unto the church*; but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican. Verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever *ye shall bind* on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatsoever *ye shall loose* on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matt. 16, 19, 20: And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

1 Cor. 1, 2: Unto the *church of God* which is at *Corinth*, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in *every place* call upon the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, both theirs and ours.

Gal. 1, 2: And all the brethren which are with me, unto the *churches of Galatia*.

1 Thess. 1, 1: Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, unto the *church of the Thessalonians* which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God, our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

## RIGHTS AND POWERS OF THE CHURCH.

§ 162. The rights and powers of the Church of Christ and of every local congregation are those of preaching the Gospel, the administration of the sacraments, especially the application of the keys of heaven, by loosing and binding in the name of God.

Matt. 16, 19: And I will give unto thee the *keys of the kingdom of heaven*: and whatsoever thou shalt *bind* on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt *loose* on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matt. 18, 15—18: Moreover, if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it *unto the church*; but if he neglect to *hear the church*, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican. Verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever *ye shall bind* on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever *ye shall loose* on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Mark 16, 15. 16: And He said unto them, *Go ye* into all the world, and *preach the Gospel* to every creature. He that believeth and is *baptized* shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

John 20, 22. 23: And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, *Receive ye the Holy Ghost*: whosoever sins *ye remit*, they are remitted unto them, and whosoever sins *ye retain*, they are retained.

1 Cor. 5, 13: But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.

See § 128 and texts.

## MINISTERIAL OFFICE.

§ 163. For the public performance of the privileges and duties of the Church in preaching the Gospel and administering the sacraments Christ has instituted the ministerial office in the Church.

1 Cor. 12, 29: Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers?

Rom. 10, 15: And how shall they *preach*, except they *be sent*? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

2 Cor. 5, 18: And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath *given to us the ministry of reconciliation*.

Matt. 28, 19, 20: *Go ye* therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, *teaching them* to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even *unto the end of the world*.

Eph. 4, 11: And *He gave* some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers.

Acts 20, 28: Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which *the Holy Ghost* hath made you *overseers*, to feed the Church of God.

John 20, 21, 23: Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you! As my Father hath sent me, even so *send I you*. (23) Whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained.

1 Pet. 5, 2: *Feed the flock of God* which is among you, *taking the oversight thereof*, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind.

#### MINISTRY HOW CONFERRED.

§ 164. The ministerial office<sup>1</sup> is conferred upon its incumbents by God,<sup>2</sup> by the Holy Spirit,<sup>3</sup> by Christ,<sup>4</sup> the Head and Archbishop of His Church,<sup>5</sup> through the congregations,<sup>6</sup> which, by the call extended through them,<sup>7</sup> delegate or transfer upon the men<sup>8</sup> thus called the public exercise of those functions of the priesthood of all believers<sup>9</sup> which, by virtue of such call, the ministers of Christ<sup>10</sup> and of the Church<sup>11</sup> perform in the name of the congregation and of Christ, who mediately called them through the congregation.

##### 1.

1 Cor. 3, 5: Who, then, is Paul, and who is Apollos, but *ministers* by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?

1 Cor. 4, 1: Let a man so account of us as of the *ministers of Christ* and stewards of the mysteries of God.

##### 2.

1 Cor. 12, 28: And *God hath set* some in the Church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly *teachers*, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

##### 3.

Acts 20, 17, 28: And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church. (28) Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the *Holy Ghost* hath made you

overseers, to feed the Church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood.

Acts 13, 2: As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the *Holy Ghost* said, *Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.*

## 4.

Eph. 4, 11: And *He* gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, *pastors and teachers.*

1 Pet. 5, 1. 2. 4: The *elders* which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: *Feed the flock of God which is among you*, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind. (4) And when the *Chief Shepherd* shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

## 5.

1 Pet. 5, 4: And when the *Chief Shepherd* shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

1 Pet. 2, 25: For ye were as sheep going astray, but are now returned unto the *Shepherd and Bishop* of your souls.

Hebr. 13, 20: Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, *that great Shepherd of the sheep*, through the blood of the everlasting covenant.

Eph. 4, 15: But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the *Head, even Christ.*

Is. 40, 11: *He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.*

## 6.

Acts 6, 1—6: And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. Then the twelve called the *multitude of the disciples* unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the Word of God and serve tables. Wherefore, brethren, *look ye out* among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word. And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and *they chose* Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte of Antioch: whom *they set* before the apostles. And when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

Acts 14, 23: And when they had ordained them *elders* in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

## 7.

Acts 13, 2, 4: As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, *Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.* (4) So they, *being sent forth by the Holy Ghost*, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

## 8.

1 Cor. 14, 34: Let your women keep silence in the churches; for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the Law.

1 Tim. 2, 12: But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

## 9.

1 Pet. 2, 9: But ye are a chosen generation, *a royal priesthood*, an holy nation, a peculiar people, that *ye should show forth* the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Matt. 18, 17—20: And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it *unto the church*; but if he neglect to hear *the church*, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican. Verily, I say unto you, *Whatsoever ye shall bind* on earth shall be bound in heaven: and *whatsoever ye shall loose* on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. *For where two or three are gathered together in my name*, there am I in the midst of them.

## 10.

1 Cor. 4, 1: Let a man so account of us as of the *ministers of Christ* and stewards of the mysteries of God.

Rom. 1, 1: Paul, *a servant of Jesus Christ*, called to be an apostle, *separated unto the Gospel of God.*

Gal. 1, 1: Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither *by man*, but *by Jesus Christ*, and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead).

## 11.

2 Cor. 4, 5: For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves *your servants* for Jesus' sake.

1 Cor. 3, 21—23: Therefore let no man glory in men; for *all things are yours*, whether *Paul*, or *Apollos*, or *Cephas*, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come: *all are yours*; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

## ORDINATION.

§ 165. The ministerial office being conferred through the call of the congregation, the ecclesiastical rite of ordination

is but a public acknowledgment of that call and of its acceptance, and of the fitness of the person called for the proper performance of the duties of the office conferred upon him.

Acts 13, 3: And when they had fasted and prayed, and *laid their hands on them*, they sent them away.

Acts 6, 6: Whom they set before the *apostles*: and when they had prayed, they *laid their hands* on them.

1 Tim. 5, 22: *Lay hands* suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins. Keep thyself pure!

1 Tim. 4, 14: Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with *the laying on of the hands* of the *presbytery*.

2 Tim. 1, 6: Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God which is in thee by *the putting on of my hands*.

#### QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE MINISTRY.

§ 166. The qualifications prescribed by the Head of the Church for those men<sup>1</sup> who are to be called to the ministerial office are soundness of doctrine, aptness to teach, blamelessness of life, and a good and honest report of them that are without.<sup>2</sup>

##### 1.

1 Cor. 14, 34: Let your women keep silence in the churches; for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the Law.

1 Tim. 2, 12: But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.

##### 2.

1 Tim. 3, 2, 3: A bishop, then, must be *blameless*, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behavior, given to hospitality, *apt to teach*; not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous.

1 Tim. 3, 4—7: One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity: (for if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the Church of God?) not a novice, lest, being lifted up with pride, he fall into the condemnation of the devil. Moreover, he must have a *good report of them which are without*, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

Tit. 1, 6—9: If any be *blameless*, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly. For a bishop must be *blameless*, as the steward of God; not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; but a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate,

holding fast the faithful Word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by *sound doctrine* both to exhort and to convince the gain-sayers.

Acts 6, 3: Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of *honest report*, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

#### EQUALITY OF MINISTERS.

§ 167. The incumbents of the ministerial office, either in one congregation or in different congregations, are equal in rank among themselves, no degrees in the ministry having been established by the Head of the Church.

Matt. 23, 8: One is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren.

Acts 20, 17, 28: And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the *elders* of the church. (28) Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you *overseers*, to feed the Church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood.

Tit. 1, 5, 7: For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain *elders* in every city, as I had appointed thee. (7) *For a bishop* must be blameless, as the steward of God; not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre.

1 Pet. 5, 1—3: The *elders* which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the *oversight* thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; *neither as being lords* over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

#### ASSISTANT FUNCTIONARIES IN THE CHURCH.

§ 168. Though the ministerial office in the Church is but one, yet by the will of the congregations and with the consent of the incumbents of the whole ministerial office certain functions of this office may be delegated to assistant functionaries in the service of the congregations.

Acts 6, 2—6: Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the *Word of God*, and *serve tables*. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint *over this business*. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the *ministry of the Word*. And



the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte of Antioch: whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

1 Tim. 3, 8: Likewise must the *deacons* be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre.

1 Tim. 5, 17: Let the *elders* that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, *especially* they who *labor in the Word and doctrine*.

1 Cor. 12, 5, 29: And there are *differences of administrations*, but the same Lord. (29) Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of the miracles?

Rom. 12, 7, 8: Or ministry, let us wait on *our ministering*; or he that *teacheth*, on teaching; or he that *exhorteth*, on exhortation; he that *giveth*, let him do it with simplicity; he that *ruleth*, with diligence; he that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness.

#### VALIDITY OF MINISTERIAL FUNCTIONS.

§ 169. Inasmuch as all those to whom the ministerial office or certain functions thereof have been delegated or conferred are, in the performance of their official duties, servants of Christ<sup>1</sup> and functionaries of the invisible Church,<sup>2</sup> and since the means of grace administered by them have their efficacy in themselves,<sup>3</sup> the functions of the ministers of the Church are valid, and the means of grace administered by them are efficacious, irrespective of the faith or unbelief of the functionaries by whom the duties of the ministry are performed.<sup>4</sup>

##### 1.

1 Cor. 4, 1: Let a man so account of us as of the *ministers of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God*.

Rom. 1, 1: Paul, a *servant of Jesus Christ*, called to be an apostle, separated unto the Gospel of God.

##### 2.

2 Cor. 4, 5: For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves *your servants* for Jesus' sake.

1 Cor. 3, 21—23: Therefore let no man glory in men. For *all things are yours*: whether *Paul*, or *Apollos*, or *Cephas*, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; *all are yours*; and ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

1 Cor. 5, 4: In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, *when ye are gathered together*, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## 3.

Cf. §§ 133—137.

## 4.

2 Cor. 2, 10: To whom *ye forgive* anything, *I forgive* also; for if *I forgave* anything, to whom I forgave it, for *your sakes forgave I it* in the person of Christ.

Matt. 23, 2: Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees *sit in Moses' seat*.

1 Cor. 5, 3—5: For I verily, as absent in body, but *present in spirit*, have *judged* already, as *though I were present*, concerning him that hath so done this deed, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, *when ye are gathered together*, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, to deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

## ERRING CHURCHES.

§ 170. Since an erring church, or a church contaminated with erroneous doctrine, is still a church<sup>1</sup> as long as it has and sets into operation the essentials of the Gospel,<sup>2</sup> the ministers called by such church are still ministers of Christ and of the Church of God,<sup>3</sup> and their official acts are valid as far as their performance is an administration of the means of grace.<sup>4</sup>

## 1.

Gal. 1, 2: comp. with Gal. 3, 1; 4, 10. 11; 5, 4. 9:—

Gal. 1, 2: And all the brethren which are with me, unto the *churches of Galatia*.

Gal. 3, 1: O *foolish Galatians*, who hath *bewitched you*, that ye should *not obey the truth*, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?

Gal. 4, 10. 11: *Ye observe days*, and months, and times, and years. I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you *labor in vain*.

Gal. 5, 4. 9: Christ is become of *no effect unto you*, whosoever of you are justified by the Law; ye are *fallen from grace*. (9) A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.

## 2.

Cf. § 159.

## 3.

Rev. 3, 1—3: And unto the *angel of the church in Sardis* write: These things saith He that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars: I know thy works, that thou hast a name that *thou*

*livest, and art dead.* Be watchful, and *strengthen* the things which remain, that are *ready to die*; for I have not found thy works perfect before God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and *hold fast*, and *repent*. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

Rev. 3, 14—18: And unto the *angel of the church of the Laodiceans* write: These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the beginning of the creation of God: I know thy works, that *thou art neither cold nor hot*: I would thou wert cold or hot. So, then, because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou *sayest, I am rich*, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing, and knowest not that *thou art wretched*, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich, and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the *shame of thy nakedness* do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

4.

Cf. § 169.

## END AND AIM OF THE MINISTRY.

§ 171. The end and aim of the ministerial office and of the performance of its functions is the upbuilding and extension of the Church of God<sup>1</sup> by the regeneration and conversion of sinners,<sup>2</sup> an inward spiritual growth of all its members in faith and Christian graces,<sup>3</sup> and their preservation unto life everlasting.<sup>4</sup>

1.

Eph. 4, 11. 12: And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers, *for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.*

1 Cor. 9, 19—22: For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, *that I might gain the more.* And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might *gain the Jews*; to them that are under the Law, as under the Law, that I might *gain them that are under the Law*; to them that are without Law, as without Law, (being not without Law to God, but under the Law to Christ,) that I might *gain them that are without Law.* To the weak became I as weak, that I might *gain the weak.* I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means *save some.*

## 2.

1 Cor. 4, 15: For though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the Gospel.

Gal. 4, 19: My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you.

## 3.

Eph. 4, 13—16: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive, but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the Head, even Christ, from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

## 4.

1 Tim. 4, 16: Take heed unto thyself and unto the doctrine; continue in them; for in doing this thou shalt both *save thyself*, and *them that hear thee*.

1 Cor. 1, 21: For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God *by the foolishness of preaching* to save them that believe.

## CHURCH MILITANT AND TRIUMPHANT.

§ 172. Inasmuch as the ministers of the Church and all its members are enlisted in continual warfare against the devil,<sup>1</sup> the world,<sup>2</sup> and the flesh,<sup>3</sup> as against enemies ever bent upon frustrating the accomplishment of the ends and aims of the Gospel, the Church of Christ on earth is, and shall at all times remain, a church militant<sup>4</sup> until, with the consummation of all things, the entire Church will enter into her state of glory as the church triumphant.<sup>5</sup>

## 1.

Eph. 6, 10, 11: Finally, my brethren, *be strong* in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the *whole armor* of God, that ye may be able to *stand against* the wiles of the devil.

1 Pet. 5, 8, 9: Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

## 2.

1 John 5, 4: For whatsoever is born of God *overcometh the world*. and this is the victory that *overcometh the world*, even our faith.

James 4, 4: Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the *world* is enmity with God?

John 16, 33: These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In *the world* ye shall have *tribulation*; but be of good cheer; I have *overcome the world*.

John 15, 18—21: If the *world hate you*, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own; but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore *the world hateth you*. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they *will also persecute you*; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for my name's sake, because they know not Him that sent me.

## 3.

Rom. 7, 14—16: For we know that the Law is spiritual: but *I am carnal*, sold under sin. For that which I do I allow not; for what I would, that do I not, but what I hate, that do I. If, then, I do that which I would not, I consent unto the Law that it is good.

Gal. 5, 17—20: For *the flesh* lusteth against the *Spirit*, and the *Spirit* against the *flesh*: and these are contrary the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the Law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these, Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies.

## 4.

Cf. supra 1—3.

## 5.

Cf. Eschatology § 185.

## PREDESTINATION AND THE SALVATION OF THE ELECT.

§ 173. The entire work of leading those who shall constitute the church triumphant from a state of sin and wrath and spiritual death, through a state of faith and grace and spiritual life, to a state of glory and eternal life, is the divine execution of that eternal decree<sup>1</sup> whereby God, before the foundation of the world,<sup>2</sup> and prompted only by His grace<sup>3</sup> in Christ Jesus,<sup>4</sup> purposed to call,<sup>5</sup> enlighten, and sanctify,<sup>6</sup> keep and preserve,<sup>7</sup> by the means of grace,<sup>8</sup> according to the

counsel of His will,<sup>9</sup> all those<sup>10</sup> whom, by eternal election of grace in Christ,<sup>11</sup> the Redeemer of the world,<sup>12</sup> He had chosen from fallen mankind<sup>13</sup> and predestinated to eternal glory.<sup>14</sup>

1.

See § 51.

2.

2 Tim. 1, 9: According to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus *before the world began*.

Eph. 3, 11: According to the *eternal purpose* which He purposed in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

3.

2 Tim. 1, 9: Who hath saved us . . . *not according to our works*, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus *before the world began*.

Rom. 9, 11: That the *purpose of God* according to election might stand, *not of works*, but of Him that calleth.

Eph. 1, 5: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, *according to the good pleasure of His will*.

Jer. 31, 3: I have loved thee with an *everlasting love*; therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee.

Eph. 2, 5: By grace ye are saved.

4.

Eph. 3, 11: According to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

2 Tim. 1, 9: Who hath saved us . . . according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Eph. 1, 3, 4: Who hath blessed us with *all* spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ, according as He hath chosen us in Him.

5.

Rom. 9, 11: That the *purpose of God* according to election might stand, *not of works*, but of Him that calleth.

2 Tim. 1, 9: Who hath saved us, and called us with an *holy calling* . . . *according to His own purpose and grace*.

Rom. 8, 30: Whom He did predestinate, them He also called.

Rom. 8, 28: To them who are the *called according to His purpose*.

6.

Acts 13, 48: And as many as were ordained to everlasting life *believed*.

Eph. 1, 5: Having predestinated us *unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself*. Cf. Gal. 3, 26: Ye are all the *children of God by faith* in Christ Jesus.

Rom. 8, 30: Whom He did predestinate, them He also called: and whom He called, them He also *justified*. — Cf. Rom. 3, 26: . . . the Justifier of him which *believeth* in Jesus.

1 Pet. 1, 2: Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through *sanctification* of the Spirit, *unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ*.

Eph. 1, 4: According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be *holy and without blame* before Him.

## 7.

2 Thess. 2, 13: God hath from the beginning *chosen you to salvation*.

Acts 13, 48: As many as were *ordained to eternal life* believed.

Eph. 1, 11, 12: Being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who *worketh all things* after the counsel of His own will, *that we should be to the praise of His glory*, who first trusted in Christ.

2 Tim. 2, 10: Therefore I endure all things for *the elect's* sakes, that they may also obtain *the salvation* which is in Christ Jesus.

Rom. 8, 28: We know that *all things work together for good to them that love God*, to them who are the called according to His purpose.

Mark 13, 22: False Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall show signs and wonders, to seduce, *if it were possible*, even *the elect*.

## 8.

2 Thess. 2, 13, 14: God hath from the beginning *chosen you to salvation* through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of *the truth*, *whereunto He called you by our Gospel* to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Tit. 1, 1: Paul, a servant of God and an *apostle* of Jesus Christ, *according to the faith of God's elect*.

Eph. 1, 9: Having *made known unto us the mystery of His will*, according to His good pleasure which He hath *purposed in Himself*.

## 9.

Eph. 1, 11: In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being *predestinated* according to *the purpose* of Him who *worketh all things after the counsel of His own will*.

## 10.

Matt. 20, 16: *Many* be called, but *few* chosen. Cf. 22, 14.

John 13, 18: I know whom I have chosen.

1 Pet. 1, 2: Elect according to the *foreknowledge* of God.

Rom. 8, 29: For whom He *did foreknow* He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son.

Acts 13, 48: *As many* as were ordained to eternal life believed.

## 11.

Rom. 11, 5: Even so, then, at this present time also there is a remnant according to *the election of grace*.

Rom. 9, 11: That the purpose of God according to election might stand, *not of works*.

Eph. 1, 4: According as He hath chosen us *in Him* before the foundation of the world.

## 12.

Cf. §§ 50 and 123.

## 13.

John 15, 19: Ye are not of the world, but I have *chosen* you out of the world.

Eph. 1, 4: According as He hath *chosen* us in Him before the foundation of the world, *that we should be* holy and without blame before Him.

Rom. 9, 23. 24: That He might make known the riches of His glory on the *vessels of mercy*, which *He had afore prepared unto glory*, even us, whom He hath called, *not of the Jews only*, but also of the *Gentiles*.

Rom. 11, 7: The *election* hath obtained it, and the *rest* were blinded.

## 14.

Rom. 8, 29. 30: Whom He did foreknow He also did *predestinate* to be *conformed to the image of His Son*, that He might be the First-born among many brethren. Moreover, whom He did *predestinate*, them He also called: and whom He called, them He also justified: and whom He justified, them He also *glorified*. — Cf. 2 Tim. 2, 10: "*with eternal glory*."

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## ESCHATOLOGY.

### DEFINITION.

§ 174. Eschatology is the doctrine of Holy Scripture concerning the end of temporal life, the second advent of Christ, the resurrection of the dead, final judgment, the consummation of all things, the everlasting damnation of the wicked, and the eternal bliss of the just in the world to come.

### TEMPORAL DEATH.

§ 175. Temporal death is the termination of man's temporal life by the separation<sup>1</sup> of his immortal soul<sup>2</sup> from his mortal body.<sup>3</sup>