

OBEYING AND DISPLAYING CHRIST

Pastor Matt Jones

I. Introduction

A. What are ordinances?

B. What has Christ done?

II. Obeying and Displaying Christ through Ordinances

A. The ordinance of _____¹

B. The ordinance of _____²

¹ Exodus 12:21-28 (cf. 1 Corinthians 5:7-8); Matthew 26:26-28, Mark 14:22-24, Luke 22:19-20, John 6:53-54, 1 Corinthians 10:16-21, 11:23-31, Acts 2:42, 20:7.

² Matthew 3:5-7, 3:11-14, 16, 21:25; Mark 1:4-5, 8-10, 10:38-39, 11:30, 16:16; Luke 3:3, 7, 16, 21-22, 7:29-30, 12:50, 20:4; John 1:24-26, 33, 3:22, 4:1-3; Acts 1:5, 22, 2:37-39, 41, 8:12-13, 16, 36-38, 9:18, 10:37, 47-48, 11:16, 13:24, 16:15, 18:8, 25, 19:3-6, 22:16; Romans 6:3-4: 1 Corinthians 1:13-17, 10:1-3, 12:13, 15:29; Gal. 3:26-28, Eph. 4:4-6, Col. 2:12, 1 Peter 3:20-22.

III. Conclusion

A. We are a gospel people, walking in obedience to Christ.

B. The ordinances display the message of the gospel.

C. Where the gospel spreads, the ordinances are celebrated and lived.

HOME FELLOWSHIP QUESTIONS

Icebreaker: What was the most challenging order your parents gave you as a child or teen that you honored and obeyed even when you did not want to?

1. On Sunday we discussed the ordinances, those 2 unique orders or commands that Jesus gave to us. Have you personally or are you currently wrestling with honoring Jesus in this area, that is, do you irregularly take communion or have you avoided being baptized as a believer? If so, why is it a struggle? What excuses do you give you? (“I don’t have time to take communion more often”, “I was baptized as a baby, so I’m fine,” etc.).

2. The early Christian movement would not allow non-baptized Christians to take communion, because baptism was the sign of one’s salvation and refusal to receive the sign was a great offense. The ordinances were viewed together to be indispensable marks of true Christian faith. Today in our modern churches, we have abandoned this historic position. What are the pros and cons of this historic view?

3. Read 1 Corinthians 11 together and discuss the Corinthians misunderstanding and even abuse of communion. What do we learn from this passage about God’s thoughts on communion and our response to Him in this ordinance?

4. What did you enjoy the most or identify with the most with during the baptismal testimonies?

5. Share about your baptism (of course, assuming you have been baptized as a believer). What was the day like? How did the ceremony go? How did it impact your life? How did it display your salvation in Christ?