

Intro:

Two Sacraments. READ WLC Q&A 164 (WLC 163: Christ's own appointment). Not seven (RCC).

Two parts: READ WLC Q&A 163. They are effectual means of grace to preserve you to end.

Main Point of Text: Christ uses the sacraments to safely bring saints patiently through the wicked world and unto glory.

Sermon Point: *The Sacraments Save Us from this World*

1 Peter 3:18-21:

- Context of book/chapter: enduring suffering for doing right for Christ, trusting in His reward.
- First Motivating Illustration: Vs 18: Jesus patiently suffered death for unjust men. Spirit raised.
- Second Motivating Illustration: Vss. 19-20:
 - Jesus preached by the same Holy Spirit to pre-Flood people through Noah: 2 Pet. 2:5:
 - Gen. 6:3-13: God was more than ready to destroy humanity; patiently waited with Noah.
 - Noah built the Ark and preached for nearly a century, surely to ridicule and little repentance by the “disobedient spirits” “in prison” (“spirits” connects w/ “eight souls”. Also, Acts 26:18 speaks of preaching to deliver people from Satan’s power; see also 2 Tim. 2:26).
 - Noah/family (Church) yet were “brought safely through” (lit. Greek for “saved”) by the waters.
- Application of the Illustrations: Vs. 21
 - “like figure”: “corresponds”. Both waters divinely appointed/delivered from wicked world.
 - Like the waters of the Flood, the waters of Baptism are the symbolic demarcation line of destruction of world and deliverance of Church (See also 1 Cor. 10:1-2).

Peter qualifies he is speaking figuratively of baptism, vs. 21. WCF 27:2: *There is, in every sacrament, a spiritual relation, or sacramental union, between the sign [WLC 163: an outward and sensible sign] and the thing signified [WLC 163: the other an inward and spiritual grace thereby signified]: whence it comes to pass, that the names and effects of the one are attributed to the other.* Sacraments “see you through”.

Be sustained unto heaven as you keep partaking together.

The Sacraments Save Us from this World