

Christ Presbyterian Church

Officer's Training

Lesson #10

AN OUTLINE OF THE WESTMINSTER CONFSSION OF FAITH

Lesson #10

Chapter XXIV: Of Marriage and Divorce

XXIV: i, ii, iii

Marriage as ordained by God

- A. God ordained monogamous marriage
(*Genesis 1:24; I Corinthians 7:2; Ephesians 5:22-31*)
- B. Marriage serves several purposes
- C. Christians are to marry only in the Lord
(*I Corinthians 7:39*)
- D. Reformed Christians are not to marry unbelievers, the wicked, or heretics.
(*II Corinthians 6:14-18*)

XXIV: iv, v, vi

Incest and Divorce

- A. Close relatives are never to marry
(*Leviticus 18:6-23; 20:10-21; I Corinthians 5:1*)
- B. Only two grounds for divorce
 - 1. Unfaithfulness
(*Matthew 5:31, 32; 19:8, 9*)
 - 2. Desertion
(*I Corinthians 7:15*)
- C. No other grounds of divorce are to be allowed by Church or State

Lesson #10

Chapter XXV: Of the Church

XXV: i

The Invisible Church (The Church from God's point of view) (*Ephesians 4:4,5; 5:23*)

- A. Universal
- B. The entire number of the elect
- C. Belongs to Jesus Christ, the head

XXV: ii, iii

The Visible Church (The Church from man's point of view. These are not two Churches, but two ways of looking at the one Church.)

- A. Universal (*I Corinthians 1:2; 12:12, 13*)
- B. All who profess Christ, and their children (*Acts 2:39; I Corinthians 7:14; Mark 10:13-16*)
- C. The Kingdom of Christ (*Colossians 1:13*)
- D. The family through which men are born again and grow in grace (*Ephesians 2:9; Acts 2:38; I Corinthians 12:13*)
- E. Christ gave to the Church (*Isaiah 59:21; Ephesians 4:11-13*)
 - 1. The Ministry
 - 2. Oracles (Bible)
 - 3. Ordinances (Sacraments)
- F. By Christ's Spirit makes these gifts work

XXV: iv, v, vi

The Purity of the Visible Church

- A. The Church has been more or less visible (*Romans 11:3, 4*)
- B. The Church has been more or less pure. (*I Corinthians 5:6, 7*)
- C. The purest Church has impurity. (*Matthew 13:24-30, 47, 48*)
- D. There shall always be a Church on earth (*Matthew 16:18; 28:19, 20*)
- E. Christ is only head of Church, no one is to take His place (*Colossians 1:18*)

Lesson #10

Chapter XXVI: Of the Communion of the Saints

XXVI: i, ii, iii

Union and Communion

- A. Believers are united to Christ and fellowship with Him
(*I John 1:3; Philippians 3:10*)
- B. Believers are united to one another because they are united to Christ
(*Ephesians 4:15, 16; I John 1:7*)
- C. This Communion requires mutual duties (*Galatians 6:10; Hebrews 10:24, 25*)
 - 1. Must keep the fellowship
 - 2. Helping others in difficulty (*I Thessalonians 5:11, 14*)
 - 3. Extend the fellowship to include all Christians everywhere (*Acts 11:29, 30*)
- D. Two negatives
 - 1. This communion does not make us divine
 - 2. Nor does it destroy the right of private property

Lesson #10

ASSIGNMENT:

1. The Westminster Confession of Faith
Read: Chapters XXIV, XXV, XXVI
Read: G. I. Williamson, pages 180-199
2. The Book of Church Order of the P.C.A.
Read: Chapters 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. Marriage which is to be between one man and one woman was ordained for what purposes? (WCF, XXIV/II) (1) _____
(2) _____
(3) _____
(4) _____
2. Since it is the duty of Christians to marry only in the Lord, whom should those professing the true reformed religion not marry? (WCF, XXIV/III) (1) _____
(2) _____ (3) _____
(4) _____ (5) _____
3. For what cause may a marriage contract be dissolved before marriage? (WCF, XXIV/V)

4. What are the two grounds that may give sufficient cause to dissolve the bond of marriage? (WCF, XXIV/VI) (1) _____ (2) _____
5. After the divorce, may the innocent party lawfully marry again? (WCF, XXIV/V) Yes No
6. Of whom does the catholic or universal church consist? (WCF, XXV/I) _____

7. Who are members of the visible church? (WCF, XXV/II) (1) _____

(2) _____
8. Are these two different churches? (GIW, pg 187) Yes No

Lesson #10, Questions continued:

9. What has Christ given the visible church for gathering and perfecting (maturing) of the saints in this life to the end of the world? (WCF, XXV/III) (1) _____
(2) _____ (3) _____
10. What signs or marks help us identify how pure a particular church may be? (WCF, XXV/IV)
(1) _____
(2) _____
(3) _____
11. Is the purest church subject to mixture and error? (WCF, XXV/V) Yes No
12. What does Williamson consider to be the conditions necessary to stay in a denomination with uncompromised obedience to Christ? (GIW, pg 191)
(1) _____
(2) _____
(3) _____
13. Can anyone other than the Lord Jesus Christ be head of the church? (WCF, XXV/VI)
 Yes No
14. Are all saints (Christians) united to Christ and have fellowship with Him in His graces, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory? (WCF, XXVI/I) Yes No
15. Are Christians united to one another in gifts and graces and obliged to do what is for their mutual good both inward and outward? (WCF, XXVI/I) Yes No
16. Does the communion of saints with Christ make them a part of His Godhead? (WCF, XXVI/III)
 Yes No
17. Does the communion of saints with one another take away or infringe the right of private ownership of property? (WCF, XXVI/III) Yes No
18. Do the saints (Christians) need each other and feel compelled to faithfully gather with their fellow Christians at the stated times of worship, not forsaking the assembling of themselves together, as is the custom of some? (GIW, pg 198; Hebrews 10:25) Yes No
19. Does the Session have power to grant a request from a communing member of the church that his name be transferred to the roll of noncommuning members? (BCO, 38-2) Yes No

Lesson #10, Questions continued:

20. Does a higher court have general review and control over the court next below? (BCO, 40)

Yes No

21. Who only are entitled to an appeal? (BCO, 42-2) _____

22. What is a complaint? (BCO, 43-1) _____

23. What is a protest? (BCO, 45-2) _____

24. What is to be done by the Session after that member has been advised when a member who has moved away shall neglect for twelve months to have his membership transferred? (BCO, 46-2)

25. After 27-5 has been followed, what is the Session to do when a member has willfully neglected the church for a period of one year? (BCO, 46-5)
