

## **Series: Without Question, # 7**

### **Baptism and Communion – the Sacraments**

The sacraments (or ordinances) given by God and instituted by Christ – Baptism and Communion – are visible signs and seals that we are bound together as a community of faith by his death and resurrection.

#### **What is Baptism?**

Baptism is a willful declaration, in the presence of the Body of Christ, announcing that one is a believer, and choosing to publicly identify with the Lord Jesus in his death and resurrection, and declare our unwavering commitment to him.

#### **Is water baptism the washing away of sin itself?**

No, only the blood of Christ and the renewal of the Holy Spirit can cleanse us from sin.

#### **What is the Lord's Supper, or Communion?**

Jesus commanded all Christians to eat the bread and drink the cup in thankful remembrance of him and his death. It also anticipates the day in eternity when we will sit at the banquet in the Father's kingdom.

#### **Does the Lord's Supper add anything to Christ's atoning work?**

No, Christ died once for all. It is a covenant 'meal' celebrating the atonement.

Scriptures:

Romans 6:1-4

Luke 22:19-20

1 Cor. 11:23-26

Luke 3:16

**Prayer:** Giver of the Gospel, you have blessed us with signs of your grace that can be seen, felt and tasted. Help us to observe them according to your commands. May they turn our eyes away from ourselves and onto your saving work. Keep us from exalting the signs in any way that distracts from the Savior to which they point. Amen.