



Improving our Baptism

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

**SO TODAY AT CHURCH A GUY IN A
SUIT TRIED TO DROWN ME**

**AND I KID YOU NOT, MY FAMILY JUST
STOOD THERE TAKING PICTURES**

Learning Should Lead to Living

LEARNED

SAGE

FOOL

**ASTUTE
IGNORAMUS**

Where We
Have Been

MEANS OF GRACE

- ▶ **Improving our participation in the Lord's Supper**
 - ▶ possible to take in an unworthy manner
 - ▶ ready ourselves, receive, review
 - ▶ *1 Cor. 11:27-29*
- ▶ **Improving our participation in the Lord's Day**
 - ▶ possible to profane the Lord's day
 - ▶ ready ourselves, rest, revere
 - ▶ *Isaiah 58:13-14*

Why this
topic?

MEANS OF GRACE

- ▶ **Westminster Shorter Catechism**
 - ▶ **Q. 88.** *What are the outward and ordinary means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption?*
 - ▶ **A.** ...His ordinances, **especially the Word, sacraments, and prayer**; all of which are made effectual to the elect for salvation

Where We
Are Going

MEANS OF GRACE

- ▶ **Improving our Baptism??**
- ▶ **Westminster Larger Catechism**
 - ▶ Q. 167. How is our baptism to be improved by us?

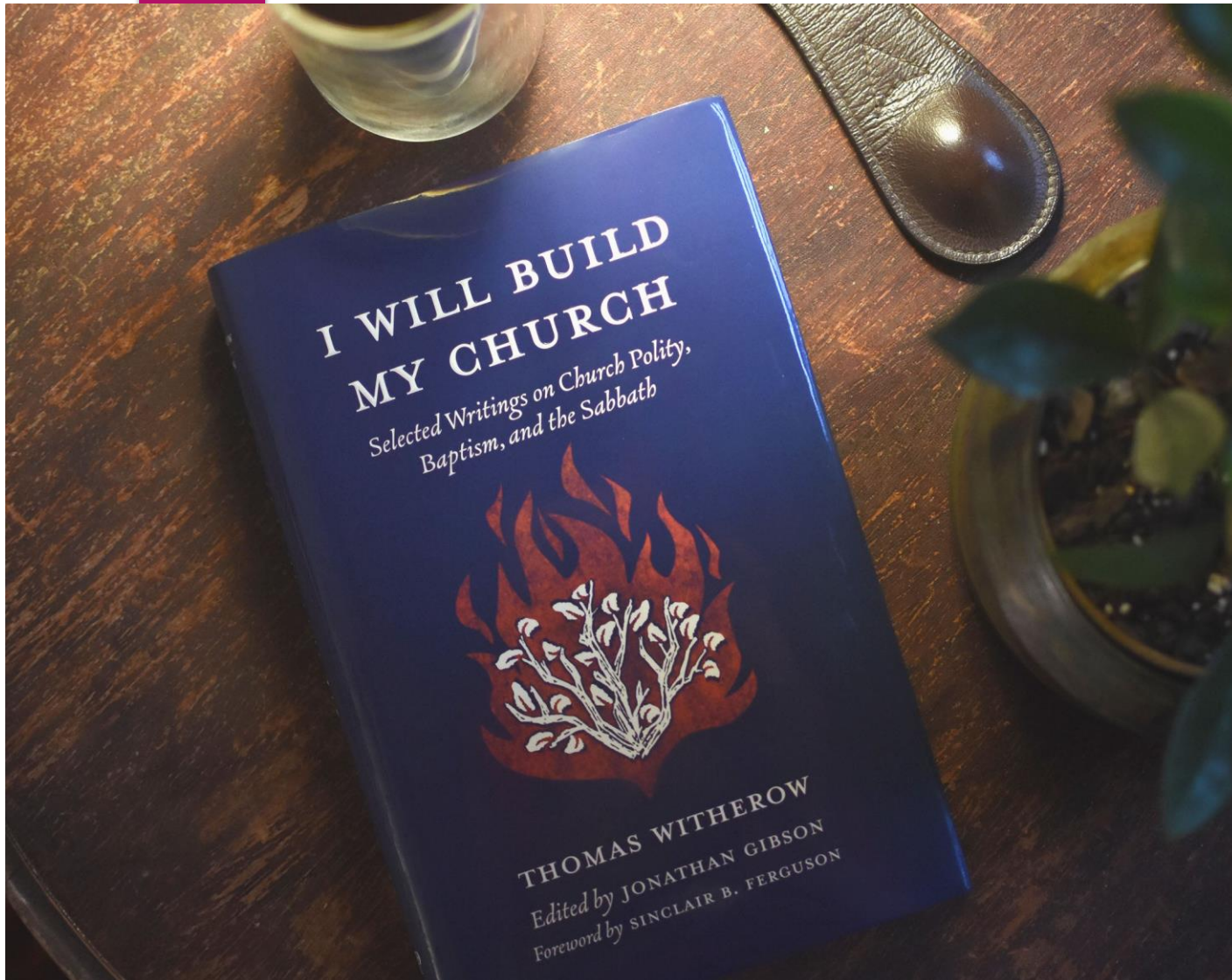


▶ **Confession of Faith**

- ▶ Sign and seal of the covenant of grace
- ▶ Represent Christ and His benefits
- ▶ Confirm interest in Him
- ▶ Visible difference
- ▶ Solemnly engaged to God

Sacraments

DEFINED



Sacraments

**BETTER
UNDERSTOOD**

Salvation from God

Executed by

Son

Spirit

Atonement

Regeneration

Justification

Sanctification

1 John 5:12

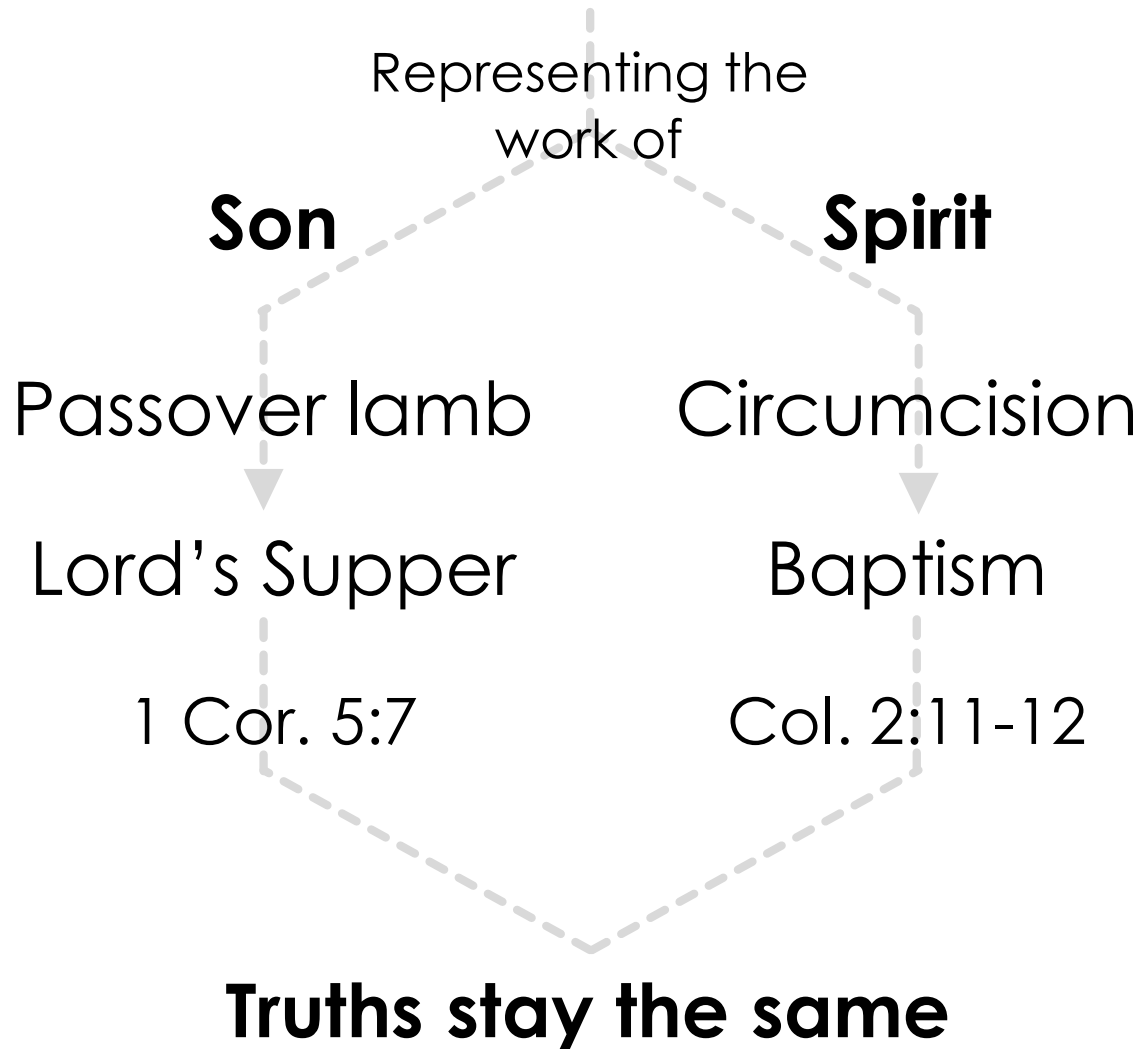
John 3:3

Equally necessary

Sacraments


**BETTER
UNDERSTOOD**

Ordinances from God



Sacraments

**BETTER
UNDERSTOOD**

- 
- ▶ **SIGN:** Washing with water
 - ▶ **SIGNIFIES:** We are
 - ▶ *engrafted into Christ,*
 - ▶ *cleansed from sin by His blood*
 - ▶ to walk in newness of life

Baptism

DEFINED



▶ Heidelberg Catechism

- ▶ Q. 69 How does baptism signify and seal to you benefits?
- ▶ Q. 70 What does it mean to be washed with Christ's blood and Spirit?

Baptism

**BETTER
UNDERSTOOD**

Baptism

IMPROVED

▶ **Westminster Larger
Catechism**

- ▶ Q. 167 How is our baptism to be improved by us?

Baptism

IMPROVED

▶ **WLC Q.&A. 167**

- ▶ Especially in time of temptation
- ▶ With serious & thankful consideration
 - ▶ Its nature and ends
 - ▶ Benefits sealed
 - ▶ Our solemn engagement
- ▶ Drawing strength for the mortifying of sin and quickening of grace