**Chapter 5**

Mount Zion and the Sacraments

(PP. 107–43)

1. Pastor Preus writes: The sacraments are not prescribed works of piety that Christians are to perform for God or two more commandments added to the second table of the Law. The sacraments are grace. The sacraments are the Gospel. The sacraments are forgiveness given, salvation, and life. They are not what we do for Jesus; they are what Jesus does for us. The sacraments bestow on those who receive them all the benefits Jesus earned in His life, death, and resurrection. The sacraments focus on Jesus Christ. (108) How are the Law and the Gospel confused when the sacraments are defined as human rituals?

2. Read **Matthew 28:18–20.** How are disciples made?

3. How is the denial of Baptism to infants related to a denial of original sin? See **Psalm 51:5;**

**John 3:6.**

4. Read **Acts 2:37–39.** How does this passage speak of the gifts bestowed in Baptism? Who

are these gifts for according to v. 39?

6. Read **1 Peter 3:21**. How does Baptism save us? See **Romans 6:3–4** and **Colossians 2:12**.

7. Pastor Preus notes that “when we understand that Jesus’ baptism was for us, it takes on a whole new meaning” (114). Read **Matthew 3:17.** How do these words originally spoken to Jesus now apply to us?

8. How is Jesus at the center of the Lord’s Supper? Pastor Preus states We cannot ascend into heaven and grasp God, but He comes to us in Jesus’ incarnation, He who truly was Immanuel—God with us. As true God and man, Jesus laid down His life and saved us through His death and resurrection. Now in the Lord’s Supper, He gives us everything His life, death, and resurrection accomplished. He brings heaven to earth. (121) How does Jesus bring heaven to earth in the Lord’s Supper?

9. What does Jesus say of the bread and the wine? See **Matthew 26:26–27**.

10. How did Huldrych Zwingli (123–24) interpret the words of Jesus? What is at the root of this erroneous interpretation?

11. What is the “cup of God’s wrath” in the Old Testament? See **Job 21:20; Psalm 75:8; Isaiah 51:7; Jeremiah 25:15–16**. What does Jesus do with this cup? See **Matthew 26:39** and **Matthew 27:46**. What cup does Jesus give us in place of the cup of wrath? See **Matthew 26:27–28**.

12. How did John Calvin (131) reverse the direction of the Lord’s Supper?

13. The Lord’s Supper is about more than Christ’s presence. In this Meal, Christ bestows the forgiveness of sins won by His atonement. How is the Sacrament of the Altar tied to the cross?

14. How does the story of Helen (135–37) illustrate the gift that we receive in the Lord’s Supper?

15. What are some of the central doctrines of the Bible that converge in the Lord’s Supper?

16. Read **1 Corinthians 11:28–29.** How are we to examine ourselves in preparation for the Sacrament? Why is “open communion” a denial of the Gospel?

17. How is “close(d) Communion” an expression of true unity in Christ’s teachings? See **1Corinthians 10:16.**