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CH 651 The Sacraments in History

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ASBURY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

A Syllabus and General Guide for

CH 651

The Sacraments in History

Fall 2006

J. Steven O'Malley

CH 651 - The Sacraments in History

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A seminar treating Eastern, Western, and Post Reformation views about the nature and purpose of the sacraments, particularly Baptism and the Eucharistic Liturgy. Emphasis will also be given to the Pietist and Wesleyan traditions.

II. LEARNING GOALS

1. To acquaint the theological student with the major patterns of sacramental thought, in relation to Christology and church which emerged in the Christian tradition and to help him/her to attain an understanding of these doctrines that will possess clarity and faithfulness to the Christian tradition.
2. Identify the major persons and events in the development of the doctrine of the church and the sacraments, as delineated in class lectures and assigned readings.
3. Critically analyze and discuss the major themes, issues, problems, movements and trends in the development of the Christian doctrine of the church and sacraments.
4. Synthesize the materials covered in this class in a systematic and comprehensive manner.
5. Relate this study to the developments of the church and the sacraments to the development of the student's understanding of how the church and sacraments should function in the his/her pastoral ministry.

III. PREREQUISITES

CH501 is to be taken before this course. It is also important that the student who enters the course manifest an attitude of open inquiry under God's leading, recognizing that the mind of Christ can be more fully discerned by an awareness of the shaping of His Body in history.

IV. TOPIC LISTING AND SEQUENCE

READING

9/7

I. Introduction

Do You Have a Doctrine of the Church
and Sacraments?

II. The Early Christian Liturgy: Formative Images of the Sacraments

A. Worship in the Synagogue

Dix, Chs.1-3 (copies on
reserve)

- B. The Problem of the Last Supper
Was the Last Supper a Passover Meal?
Historic Solutions
The Kiddush Theory
The Chaburah Theory
- C. The Passover Theory
- D. Greek Influences on the Liturgy
Greek as the Language of the Liturgy
Fellowship Meals
The Mystery Religions

9/14	<p>The Primitive Christian Liturgy Baptism and The Lord's Supper in Primitive Christianity Worship in Ignatius and the Apostolic Fathers Exercise 1: The Didache; Pro _____/ Contra _____ Baptismal Instructions and the Eucharistic Prayers of the Didache (presentation modeled by JSO)</p> <p>Pliny's Letter to Trajan</p> <p>Exercise 2: Gnostics; Pro _____/ Contra: _____ Justin Martyr: I Apology Irenaeus vs the Gnostics</p> <p>Exercise 3: Healing; Pro _____/ Contra _____ Hippolytus: The Apostolic Tradition</p> <p>Exercise 4: Baptism; Pro _____/ Contra _____ The Plan of a Roman House</p> <p>Exercise 5: Lord's Supper; Pro _____/ Contra _____</p> <p>Exercise 6: Ministry; Pro _____/ Contra _____</p>	<p>Dix, Ch.4 Bettenson, pp.64-66;74-77 (fathers on the Eucharist)</p> <p>Bettenson, 3, Bainton, Dix, Chs.5-6, T, I</p> <p>Dix, Ch 7 pp.156-187), Ch.8 (pp.230-7), Ch.9 T, II</p> <p>Dix, Ch.10, (pp.303-360)</p> <p>Dix, Ch. 11 (pp.303-360)</p>
	<p>III. Orthodoxy: The Sacraments as Living Tradition</p> <p>A. Developments after Constantine</p>	
10/5	<p>Exercise 7: Liturgy & the Nicene Creed; Pro _____/Contra _____</p>	<p>Dix, Ch. 13, (pp. 434-452, & 473-495)</p>

	B.	The Christian Mysteries	Wybrew, Chs.1-4 (or)
	C.	Plan of a Greek Church	Ware, Chs on worship & the mysteries
	D.	Introduction to the Liturgy	
10/12		Guest Lecturer: Fr. Thomas Gallaway, St. Andrews Orthodox Church	The Orthodox Liturgy (39 pp. text), Wybrew, Chs.6 and 8.
		Issues from Dix: Language, Chart of the Eastern Liturgies Silent Recital The Epiclesis Style	
	E.	Assessment: Visit to St. Andrew Orthodox Church	Schmemmann, Chs 1,2 and 4.
10/19	IV.	Roman Catholicism: The Ascendant Church	Augustine, City of God, Bks 12 & 14
	A.	Foundations: Augustine: The City of God	
		Exercise 9: Augustine; Pro _____/ Contra _____	Bks 17 & 22
10/26	B.	The Shape of the Church in Normative Catholicism	
	C.	The Shape of the Sacraments in the Latin Rite	T.,III, pp. 27-53
		1. History of the Latin Rite in Outline	
		2. Characteristics of the Latin Liturgy	
		Liturgical Books and Types of Mass	
		Language, Style, and Influence of the Calendar	
		The People's Offertory and the Doctrine of Sacrifice	
		Exposition of Some Chief Features in the Service of the Sacraments	
		Exercise 10: The Mass; Pro ____ / Contra _____	T, III, pp.54-91 (note: only half is in English & is to be read)
11/2	D.	Assessment: Visit to Christ the King Cathedral	
	V.	The Reformation Heritage: The Church as the Community of Faith	Bettenson, pp.193-199
	A.	Foundational Principles of Reformation Sacramental Theology	
		1. The Authority of Holy Scripture	
		2. Preaching	
		3. Justification by Faith	
		4. The Priesthood of Believers	
	B.	Luther: Hidden and Revealed	
		1. The "Masks" of the Church	

VI Course Procedures:

A. Liturgical Notebook:

Three items are to be placed in this notebook: (a) notes from class lectures or their equivalent (i.e., independent reading on the topics covered by the lectures), (b) copies of documents, printed services, or illustrations which may be obtained during the course of our study,* and (c) a reading report, indicating the percentage of class readings completed and a bibliographic listing of additional readings completed (including pages read).

* You are asked to attend a service of worship in one of these traditions during the course (Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, Lutheran, Presbyterian, or Episcopal) and prepare a personal written response (2-3 pages) to the service, including theological and liturgical observations.

B. Select two exploratory questions and prepare a 4-5 page (double-spaced) position paper on each for presentation in class, using proper research style. Copy to be presented to instructor and class members by 12:00 noon on day preceding presentation (20 points for form and content; 10 points for presentation).

C. Develop one of the position papers (or another problem) into a 15-20 page research paper, which focuses upon one issue raised by your study of sacramental theology, that (1) interacts with one or more of the faith traditions found in our study, and (2) assists in clarifying the place and function of Christian worship in your ministry.

D. Attendance and participation in all class sessions is required to receive credit for this category, unless a bona fide excuse is accepted.

D. Evaluation:

Liturgical notebook:	30 pts.
Position Papers (30x2):	60 pts.
Research Paper	50 pts.
Attendance and participation	20pts

___Total: 160 points

144-160 A
128-143 B
112-127 C
96-111 D

VII. EXPLORATORY QUESTIONS - HISTORY OF THE SACRAMENTS

1. "The Didache offers evidence that early Christian worship was more interested in structure than in free, charismatic expression." Pro/contra
2. "Early Christian worship (as seen in Justin and the discussion of worship in Irenaeus) succeeded in avoiding influence from Gnosticism." Pro/contra
- 3.. "The decline of healing in the early Christian church was primarily due to the rise of dispensational thinking concerning history." Pro/contra
4. "The theology and practice of baptism in the early Christian church supports the doctrine of pedobaptism." Pro/contra
5. "The understanding of the Lord's Supper in the early Christian church, as reflected in Justin and Hippolytus, is uncomplicated by metaphysical concerns." Pro/contra
6. "The understanding of ordained and lay ministry in the early Christian liturgies (Ignatius, Hippolytus) did not accentuate the distinctions of clergy and laity" (pro/contra)
7. "The Nicene Creed posed more problems for defining the Christian creed, as confessed in worship, than it resolved." Explain with reference to the arguments between Arians, Athanasius, and the Semi-Arians. Pro/contra.
- 8.. [an introduction to the Eastern Rite, in comparison with the Western rite; presentation of Eastern rite led by Fr. Thomas Gallaway]
- . 9. "Augustine's understanding of 'sacrament' was related to an undue elevation of the notion of the church as an 'invisible' body of believers." Pro/contra
"The doctrine of the 'epiklesis' in the Eastern Rite provides a more adequate place for the work of the Holy Spirit in worship than was found in the Western Rite." Pro/contra
- 10.
11. "Luther provides the best defense of 'sola fide' in his understanding of the place of Christ in the Lord's Supper." Pro/Contra (Zwingli)/reply (Calvin)
12. "The more biblically accurate representation of baptism was provided by the Anabaptists." Pro/contra (Calvin)
13. "The Book of Common Prayer represents a developed pattern of worship that is grounded in the biblical message." Pro/contra (the Puritans' position)
14. "John Wesley was correct in regarding the Lord's Supper as a 'converting' ordinance." Pro/Contra (with reference to Otterbein's Reformed position)
15. supplemental question (if needed): John Calvin succeeded in reconnecting the apostolic linkage between sacraments and eschatology that had been severed in medieval Christianity. Pro/contra (2 pro positions possible: one featuring his treatment of baptism; the other, the Lord's Supper).

VIII. TERMINAL OBJECTIVES

The student should be able to:

Identify the major persons and events in the development of the doctrines of the church and the sacraments, as delineated in class lectures and assigned readings.

Critically analyze and discuss the major themes, issues, problems, movements and trends in the development of the Christian doctrines of the church and the sacraments.

Synthesize the materials covered in this class in a thematic and comprehensive fashion.

Relate this study of the church and sacraments to the development of one's understanding of how the church and sacraments should function in one's ministry.

IX. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Required text for purchase:

Bettenson, H., ed., Documents of the Christian Church (Oxford)

Course packet (contains the orthodox liturgy and four other texts)

Dix, Gregory, The Shape of the Liturgy (A & C Black)

Thompson, Bard, Liturgies of the Western Church (pap.) (Meridian-World Books).

Wybrew, Hugh, The Orthodox Liturgy

Recommended Books (on reserve: R):

Augustine, The City of God, edited by David Knowles (Doubleday-Image Books).R

Borgen, Ole, John Wesley on the Sacraments.

Fellowship of St. Alban and Sergius, The Orthodox Liturgy.R

Garrish, B.A., The Faith of Christendom

Hillerbrand, Hans, ed., The Protestant Reformation (Harper and Row) R

McDonnell, Kilian, John Calvin, The Church, and The Eucharist.

Preuss, R., Getting into the Theology of Concord (pap.) (Concordia).

Schmemmann, A., For the Life of the World. (in bookstore)

_____, Of Water and the Spirit, A Liturgical Study of Baptism R

X. ABBREVIATED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR CHURCH AND SACRAMENTS
(consult the complete bibliography for details)

The sacraments and liturgy in general:

Beasley, Baptism in the New Testament
Brilioth, Eucharistic Faith and Practice
Danielou, The Bible and the Liturgy
Dix, The Shape of the Liturgy
Minear, Images of the Church in the New Testament
Schmemmann, Introduction to Liturgical Theology
Von Allmen, Worship: Its Theology and Practice
White, Biblical Doctrine of Initiation

The Roman Church:

Congar, The Mystery of the Church
Diekmann, Come Let Us Worship
Jungmann, The Mass of the Roman Rite
King, Liturgy of the Roman Church
Kung, The Church
O'Shea, The Worship of the Church
Ranner, Church and Sacraments

Luther:

Althaus, The Theology of Martin Luther
Schlink, The Doctrine of Baptism
Vajta, Luther on Worship
Vajta, The Lutheran Church, Past and Present

Calvin:

Baillie, The Theology of the Sacraments
McDonnell, John Calvin, The Church, and the Eucharist
Nichols, Corporate Worship in the Reformed Tradition
Wallace, Calvin's Doctrine of the Word and Sacrament

Anabaptist:

Littell, The Origin of Sectarian Protestantism
Tonkin, The Church and the Secular Order in Reformation Thought
(also contains chapters on Luther and Calvin)

Puritan:

Davies, The Spirit, the Church, and the Eucharist
Davies, The Worship of the English Puritans

Anglican:

Brightman, The English Rite
Proctor and Frere, A New History of the Book of Common Prayer
Quick, O.C., The Christian Sacraments

Methodist:

Borgen, John Wesley and he Sacraments
Hardin, Quilliam and White, The Celebration of the Gospel: A Study in Christian Worship
Kirkpatrick, The Doctrine of he Church
Rattenbury, The Eucharistic Hymns of John and Charles Wesley
See Section K of the Bibliography; the books by Bishop, Bowmer, Harmon and Sanders are appropriate.

Contemporary Trends:

Barth, The Teaching of the Church Regarding Baptism
Bruner, The Doctrine and Exposition of the Holy Spirit in the Pentecostal Movement
Church of South India, The Book of Common Worship
Guzie, Jesus and the Eucharist (Roman)
Kerr, The Christian Sacraments
McDonnell, Charismatic Renewal and the Churches
Neill, The Church and Christian Union
Robinson, Liturgy Coming to Life
Second Vatican Council, Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy
Stott, Baptism and Fullness of the Holy Spirit
The Eucharistic Liturgy of Taize