

The Office of the Keys vis a vis Congregational and Synodical Polity (Governance)

August 2, 2015

I. The Essence of the Church; Christ's Office of the Keys and his Institutions and It's New Creation

B. Salvation totally earned; Gift given through the Means of Grace.

1. Institution; command and promise; Violations: occasions for Confession; separation.

Status of confession: The lie requires separation, condemnation and confession

B. 2. Rites and traditions; good or ill?

Status of confession in terms of adiaphora (things neither commanded nor forbidden):

Good things are kept insofar as they express Biblical principles/truth in the congregation's context.

1. Sunday worship in freedom (why do we do it; why change it?).
2. Ordination; confirmation (why do we do it; why change it?).
3. The form of confession of sins – individual vs. corporate.
4. Communion frequency (why do we do it; why change it?).
5. Use of liturgy/contemporary worship (why do we do it; why change it?).
6. Sign of the cross; candles in (daytime) worship; kneeling for confession; reciting the creed.
7. Rejection of receiving the bread with the hand; of using red communion wine.
8. Rejection of the common cup.