

What are the ordinances a local church is to observe?

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit (NASB; Matthew 28:19).

I Corinthians 11:23-26

The ordinances a local church is to observe are baptism and the Lord's table.

An ordinance is a practice ordained by Jesus Christ in which His people are to use physical actions (immersion, eating, and drinking) and materials (water, bread, and the fruit of the vine) both to signify and to identify themselves with the spiritual realities of His redemptive work on their behalf.





What is the ordinance of baptism?

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit (NASB; Matthew 28:19).

But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, men and women alike (NASB; Acts 8:12).

As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him (NASB; Acts 8:36, 38).

"Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we *did*, can he?" And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ (NASB; Acts 10:47-48a).

The ordinance of baptism is the immersion in water of a new Christian, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.





What does baptism signify?

Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? 4Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. 5For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection (NASB; Romans 6:3-5).

Having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead (NASB; Colossians 2:12).

Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (NASB; Acts 2:38).

Baptism signifies our spiritual union with our Savior in His death, burial, and resurrection for the forgiveness of our sins.





What is the ordinance of the Lord's Table?

While they were eating, Jesus took *some* bread, and after a blessing, He broke *it* and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." ²⁷ And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave *it* to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; ²⁸ for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins (NASB; Matthew 26:26-28).

Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ (NASB; I Cor. 10:16)?

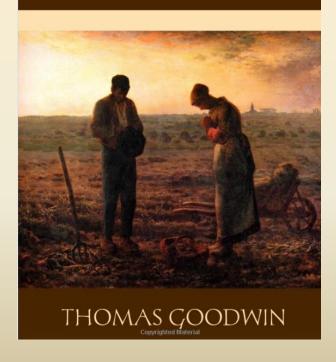
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes (NASB; I Cor. 11:26).

The ordinance of the Lord's Table is our eating and drinking of bread and the fruit of the vine in fellowship together, in order to proclaim the Lord's death, and to testify to our own individual partaking of all its saving benefits.



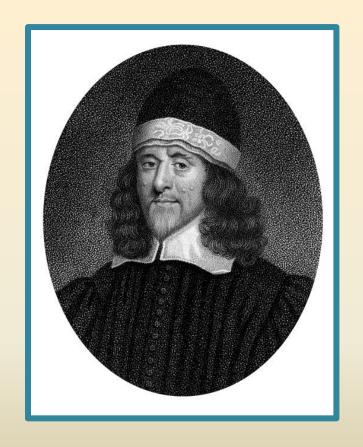
THE RETURN OF PRAYERS

SOWING SEEDS OF PRAYER AND WAITING ON GOD FOR A HARVEST OF ANSWERS



Psalm 85:8

I will hear what God the LORD will say. . .



Thomas Goodwin (1600-1679)



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THERETVRNE OF PRAYERS.

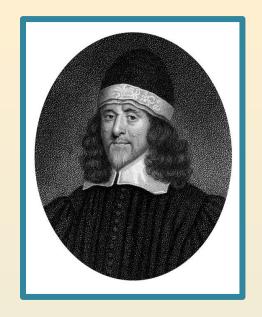
I will heare what God the Lordwill speake: for He wil speak peace unto His people, and to his Saints: but let them not turne againe to folly.

The Coherence of the words.

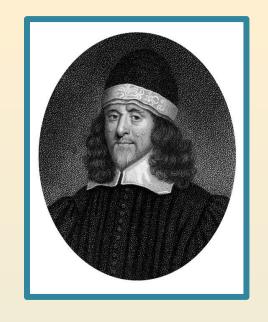
His P's A L M E was penned, in the name and for the comfort of the whole Church of the Jews, both as a Prophecy of, and a Prayer for their returne out of the Babylonish Captivity, and the slowing in agains of that ancient glory, peace, administration of Justice, liberty of Gods Ordinances, plenty

and increase, which formerly they enjoyed, but had

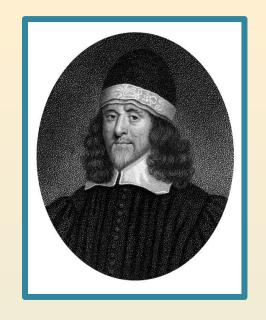




I. IF IT COMES TO PASS. . .

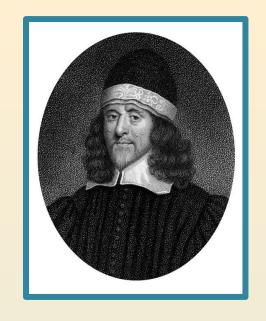


1 In ways in which His hand is unusually displayed.



1 In ways in which His hand is unusually displayed.

2 At a certain time.



1 In ways in which His hand is unusually displayed.

2 At a certain time.

3 In proportion to two things.

According to your walk with God.

According to your walk with God.

Psalm 18:20-24

We believe that, If I regard iniquity in my heart the LORD will not. . . (Ps. 66:18).

We believe that, If I regard iniquity in my heart the LORD will not. . . (Ps. 66:18).

Do we also believe that, If I do as God commands, the LORD will. . . ?

What about. . .?

"If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people, and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and

and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land. II Chron. 7:13-14

2 Kings 10:30 The LORD said to Jehu, "Because you have done well in executing what is right in My eyes, and have done to the house of Ahab according to all that was in My heart, your sons of the fourth generation shall sit on the throne of Israel."

According to your walk with God. According to your praying.

2 Kings 19:20 Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah saying, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Because you have prayed to Me about Sennacherib king of Assyria, I have heard you."

Matthew 7:7

Matthew 7:7

Matthew 15:21-28

It is good, I find, to persevere in attempts to pray, if I cannot pray with perseverance; that is, continue long in my addresses.

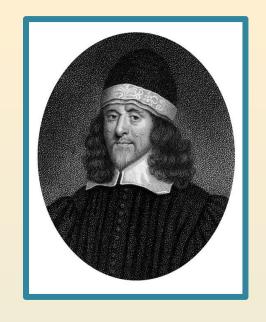
David Brainerd

So it came about when Moses held his hand up, that Israel prevailed,

Exodus 17:11

So it came about when Moses held his hand up, that Israel prevailed, and when he let his hand down, Amalek prevailed.

Exodus 17:11



1 In ways in which His hand is unusually displayed.

2 At a certain time.

3 In proportion to two things.

According to your walk with God. According to your praying.



I Kings 3:11 God said to him, "Because you have asked this thing and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself discernment to understand justice,

1 Kings 3:12 behold, I have done according to your words. Behold, I have given you a wise and discerning heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, nor shall one like you arise after you.

1 Kings 3:13 "I have also given you what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that there will not be any among the kings like you all your days."