



THE ETERNAL KINGDOM

Lesson 49

3/4/20

In our last lesson we looked at the various sacraments that came into existence just a couple of centuries after the beginning of the Lord's church. For example we looked at baptism and the Lord's Supper. Both took on a different form and function just a couple hundred years when the NT was completed. If you would, turn in your books to page 158 and let's begin looking at the topic of "Increase of Sacraments."

INCREASE OF SACRAMENTS

- When the practice of infant baptism become a common occurrence?
- When children become old enough to understand the meaning of worship, the sacrament of "conformation" originated.
- Another sacrament was "Penance". The priesthood inserted itself as the one who would grant forgiveness of sins and required an act of mercy. Gregory the Great was the first to set forth penance.
- The priesthood gained a lot of power, even to the degree of anointing the sick with oil to gain God's grace, and anointing the baptized with oil before death so sins would be removed.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

- Early church leaders say nothing of instrumental music in worship; however, they do mention congregational singing.
- Basil, bishop of Caesarea (4th century) actually condemns the use of it.
- Congregational singing would give way to choirs, special singers, and yes, the use of instruments around the fourth and fifth century.

(Read bullets).

(Read church leaders opposed to it on pages 180-181 of “Why I’m a member of the church of Christ”).

MONASTICISM

- Monasticism was encouraged by individuals who sought to flee temptation.
- Who was known as “the star of the desert”?
- What did Pachomias form in the 4th century?
- What was an “anchorite”?
- According to author, the aim of extremist monks was to destroy themselves through suffering.
- Which monk lived on top of a stone column sixty feet high for thirty six years?
- What was different about Benedict's form of asceticism than extreme asceticism?

CONTROVERSY ON THE HUMAN WILL

- According to our author, what was the thing that began the controversy over the human will?
- T or F: Pelagius believed in a person's free will?
- (An Exercise): Beginning with what Pelagius believed, answer T or F after each sentence.
- Augustine believed when Adam was banished from the Garden of Eden, he was depraved and all human life after him was depraved.
- T or F: Augustine did not believe in God's grace?