

Confirmation - Introduction



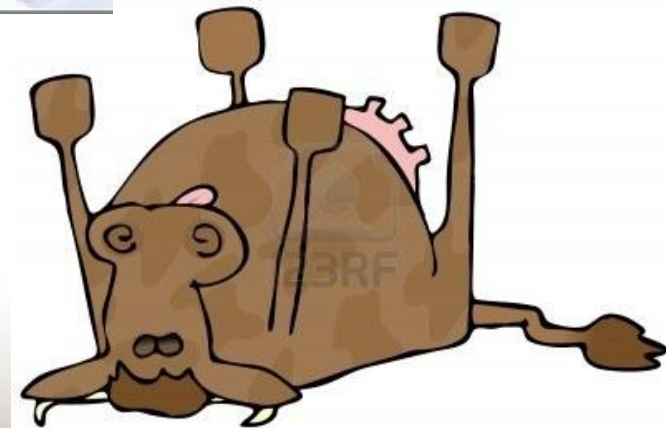


Deadguy

- Excerpts from Pastor Tim Pauls' book:
 - *You Ask About Faith – Questions Teens are Asking*









Yeah!!! Time to Get Started!





Confirmation Class

- Key to PowerPoint Slides:
 - Green Text is from Luther's Small (or Large) Catechism.
 - Black Text is typically taken from Terry K. Dittmer's book "Keeping the Faith," unless otherwise stated.
 - Red Text is God's Spoken Word from the Bible. Other text from the Bible will be black, but it will be clearly identified by Book, Chapter, and Verse(s).
 - Blue Text is ramblings of your poor, miserable, sinful teacher. Take it for what it is worth.



What the Bible Is

- The Bible is the Word of God.
 - *“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”* 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- The Bible is 100% authored by men, and 100% authored by the Holy Spirit.



What the Bible is Not

- It isn't about you. Don't read yourself into every story. The Bible is about Jesus, yes even the Old Testament.
 - Exegesis: Study the text to determine its true meaning.
 - Eisegesis: Start with your own beliefs and interpret the text in a manner that fits those beliefs.
- It isn't a self-help book. Being a faithful Christian doesn't assure you that your life will be without trouble.
- It isn't a step-by-step guide describing all of the works you need to do to be saved.



“[Jesus said] You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.” John 5:39-40



The Bible

- The Bible is divided into two parts
 - The Old Testament has 39 books
 - The New Testament has 27 books

OLD TESTAMENT - 39 Books			NEW TESTAMENT - 27 Books	
LAW - 5	POETRY - 5	MAJOR PROPHETS - 5	GOSPELS - 4	PAUL'S LETTERS TO FRIENDS - 4
GENESIS	JOB	ISAIAH	MATTHEW	1 TIMOTHY
EXODUS	PSALMS	JEREMIAH	MARK	2 TIMOTHY
LEVITICUS	PROVERBS	LAMENTATIONS	LUKE	TITUS
NUMBERS	ECCLESIASTES	EZEKIEL	JOHN	PHILEMON
DEUTERONOMY	SONG OF SOLOMON	DANIEL		
			HISTORY - 1	
HISTORY - 12		MINOR PROPHETS - 12	ACTS	
JOSHUA		HOSEA		PAUL'S LETTERS TO CHURCHES - 9
JUDGES		JOEL		ROMANS
RUTH		AMOS		1 CORINTHIANS
1 SAMUEL		OBADIAH		2 CORINTHIANS
2 SAMUEL		JONAH		GALATIANS
1 KINGS		MICAH		EPHESIANS
2 KINGS		NAHUM		PHILIPPIANS
1 CHRONICLES		HABAKKUK		COLOSSIANS
2 CHRONICLES		ZEPHANIAH		1 THESSALONIANS
EZRA		HAGGAI		2 THESSALONIANS
NEHEMIAH		ZECHARIAH		
ESTHER		MALACHI		GENERAL LETTERS - 8
				HEBREWS
				JAMES
				1 PETER
				2 PETER
				1 JOHN
				2 JOHN
				3 JOHN
				JUDE
				REVELATION



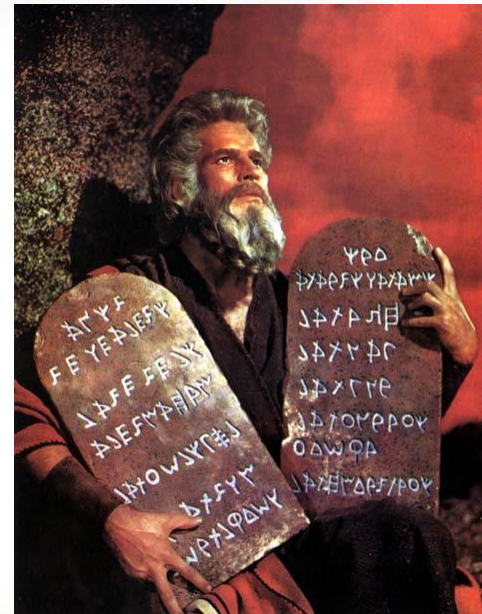
Catechism – Questions and Answers

- What basic distinction must we keep in mind in order to understand the Bible?
 - We must sharply distinguish between the Law and the Gospel in the Bible.



Main Doctrines

- The two main doctrines are the Law and the Gospel
 - The Law
 - The Law of God has three uses:
 1. It provides guidelines for how people should be governed.
 2. It shows us our sin. It convicts us all.
 3. It shows Christians how to live with our Christian freedom.
 - The Gospel
 - The Gospel is the good news of how we are saved completely independently of our good works.





Co-Mingling Law and Gospel

- We will be very careful in this class, “rightly dividing the Word of truth”. (2 Tim. 2:15, NKJV)
- We are convicted by the Law, and saved by God’s Grace through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- If you hear “you are saved by Grace, and all you have to DO is..”, then start throwing heavy objects at me. We are saved by Grace. Period. Good works have their purpose, but that purpose is not to save you.



Why Another Bible Class?

- How many Bible verses do you have to memorize to be saved?
- The purpose of this class is not to put God on the witness stand in a court of law and to pretend to be his defense attorney.
- When you say “I am a person of faith,” what is the OBJECT of that faith?
- This class will cover the basic parts of the Christian faith, from a Lutheran understanding. That way when someone asks you to talk about your faith, you will have something to say.



“But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.” 1 Peter 3:14-16



Reason or Faith?



What is the proper place for reason versus faith?



Excerpt from Episode 8 of Pr. Jeremy Rhode's series on Ecclesiastes. The series can be found at:

http://faithcapo.com/pages/page.asp?page_id=349004&seriesId=36464



The Good, Bad, and the Ugly

- We will show video clips of good sermons, bad sermons, and truly ugly sermons.
- The point is not to beat up on anybody, but to teach discernment.
- Just like getting a vaccine, I will strive to make you immune to false teachers.
- If I can't provide evidence from the Word of God to justify my position, then I fail.



What's Next?

- Apostle's Creed
- Luther & The Reformation
- Sacrament of Baptism
- Office of the Keys
- Confession and Absolution
- Lord's Prayer
- Sacrament of the Altar
- The Ten Commandments