

THE LORDS SUPPER

The following is taken from Dr. Martin Luther's Small Catechism, Edited by the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and other States with Additional Notes For Students, Teachers, and Pastors by Edward W. A. Koehler D. D. Concordia Teachers Collage, River Forest, Ill.

CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY PRESS
Fort Wayne, Indiana

It is highly recommended that you obtain a copy of this publication from your local Christian book store to aid in home study for your Family



The Sacrament of the Altar

(The Lord's Supper)

*As the head of the Family
Should Teach It in a Simple
Way to His or Her Household.*

I. THE NATURE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

What is the sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, for us christians to eat and to drink, instituted by Christ Himself.

Where is this written?

*The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and St. Paul [the Apostle] write thus:
Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and
when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, Take,
eat; this is My body, which is given for you. this do in remembrance of Me.*

*After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He
had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; this cup is the new
testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. this do, as*

oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

II. THE BENEFIT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

What is the benefit of such eating and drinking?

That is shown us by these words, "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins"; namely, that in the sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

III. THE POWER OF THE LORDS SUPPER

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

It is not the eating and drinking indeed that does them, but the words here written, "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins"; which words, besides the bodily eating and drinking, are the chief thing in the Sacrament; and he that believes these words has what they say and express, namely, the forgiveness of sins

IV. THE BENEFICIAL USE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Who, then, receives such Sacrament worthily?

Fasting and bodily preparation are indeed a fine out-ward training; but he is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words, "Given and shed for you for the remission of sins."

But he that does not believe these words, or doubts, is unworthy and unprepared; for the words "for you" require all hearts to believe.