

First Reformed Presbyterian Church of Cambridge, Massachusetts
The Lord's Day, October 16, Anno Domini 2005

Romans 4:13-5:11

Communion of Saints: Fellowship with Christ

Westminster Confession of Faith 26:1 All saints, that are united to Jesus Christ their Head, by His Spirit, and by faith, have fellowship with Him in His graces, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory; and, being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces, and are obliged to the performance of such duties, public and private, as do conduce to their mutual good, both in the inward and outward man.

- I. Our union with Christ is the basis for salvation.
 - A. Embraces all of salvation, from election to glorification.
 - B. God effectually calls those who are Christ's into union with him.
 - C. Called into fellowship with Jesus Christ.
koinōnia, 1 Corinthians 1:9; 1 Corinthians 10:18; 1 Corinthians 10:16; 1 Corinthians 12:27.

- II. Fellowship with Christ is not mysticism.
 - A. Mystical union does not mean mysticism.
John 15:5-7.
 - B. Nor is it faith that saves us, but Christ.

- III. Fellowship in his graces, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory.
 - A. Jesus Christ, head of the body, the church.
Col 1:18; 1 Corinthians 12:27.
 - B. The members partake of all that the head is.
Ephesians 5:30; John 14:12.
 - C. "Together with..." Christ.
Gal 2:19; Rom 8:17; Romans 6:4; Col 2:12; Col 3:1; Eph 2:5; Rom 6:8; Eph 2:6; 2Tim 2:12; Rom 8:32.

- IV. Fellowship with Christ now and eternally.
 - A. Fellowship in his humility and suffering.
2Cor 6:1; 13:4; 2Tim 2:11.

 - B. Members of his body are with him always.
Col 2:11; Col 2:7; 1Thess 4:14-15.

 - C. Fellowship in his glory.
Col 3:4; 2Cor 8:9; 2Cor 1:7; Psalm 84:11.