

Transubstantiation

Matthew 26:26-30

Transubstantiation

- Transubstantiation (change of substance), a word applied to the alleged conversion or change of the substance of the bread and wine in the eucharist into the body and blood of Jesus Christ at the time the officiating priest utters the words of consecration. (McClintock & Strong)

Transubstantiation

- The change effected by transubstantiation is declared to be so perfect and complete that, by connection and concomitance, the soul and divinity of Christ coexist with his flesh and blood under the species of bread and wine; and thus the elements, and every particle thereof, contain Christ whole and entire - divinity, humanity, soul, body, and blood, with all their component parts.

Transubstantiation

- Nothing remains of the bread and wine except the accidents. The whole God and man Christ Jesus is contained in the bread and wine, and in every particle of the bread, and every drop of the wine. The natural result of such a doctrine is the elevation of the Host for adoration, a practice unknown till the rise of transubstantiation. (McClintock & Strong)

Transubstantiation

- The doctrine is defended by a literal interpretation of the words of Jesus.
- “At the Last Supper, Jesus said, ‘This is my body,’ ‘This is my blood.’ Nowhere does He use symbolic language. No where does He say, ‘This is symbolic of My body,’ ‘This represents My body.’ God says, ‘This IS...’ Catholics believe what He says.”
- John 6:50-66

Literal or figurative?

- “This is my body” is a figurative expression just as some other statements made by Jesus as being, a door, a vine, a lamb, the way, and the light.
- A statement which is literally impossible.
- A statement which, if it was literally fulfilled, would not achieve the desired goal.

Literal or figurative?

- A statement which is interpreted by another Evangelist in a nonliteral way.

Literal or figurative?

- When a miracle of changing one thing into another occurred in the Bible, it was obvious to the senses.
 - Moses' rod into a snake and then back to a rod.
 - Water into wine.
 - In transubstantiation, we have bread and grape juice before and after the supposed change.

Literal or figurative?

- “The practical evil of this and consubstantiation is that it leads to the paying divine adoration to a bit of bread, and the still more noxious superstition of thinking that Christ’s body can be received and act like a medicine on one who is “not considering the Lord’s body,” such as an infant, or a person in a state of insensibility.”