

Teaching Orthodoxy...using Bible Verses Lesson 10

Other Apostolic Doctrines:

There were many teachings and practices that the Apostles received from Christ, not only teachings about the **Holy Mysteries (or Sacraments)** of **Baptism**, **Chrismation**, or **Communion**. Others are also found rooted in Holy Scripture...such as the teaching of the Fruit of the Holy Spirit, the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, the **Holy Mysteries of Confession**, **Healing Oil**, **Ordination**, **Marriage**, plus Fasting, Praying, the use of Free Will, the possibility of falling away from Christ through lack of synergy, and many more concepts.

Fruit of the Holy Spirit

But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and **by gifts of the Holy Spirit** distributed according to His will. Hebrews 2:4

So Christ Himself gave the **apostles**, the **prophets**, the **evangelists**, the **pastors** and **teachers**, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Ephesians 4:11-12

Now to each one the **manifestation of the Spirit is given** for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a **message of wisdom**, to another a **message of knowledge** by means of the same Spirit, to another **faith** by the same Spirit, to another gifts of **healing** by that one Spirit, to another **miraculous** powers, to another **prophecy**, to another **discernment**/distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of **tongues**, and to still another the **interpretation** of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and He distributes them to each one, just as He determines. 1 Corinthians 12:7-11

The Mystery (Sacrament) of Holy Confession: In the Early Church confession of sins was public, in front of another person or persons, not private into one's pillow.

Therefore, **confess your sins to one another** and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. James 5:16

[confession to God in front of a presbyter/priest is still at least in front of "another" person]

The Mystery (Sacrament) of Holy Oil (Unction) for healing: Jesus sent His Disciples to preach and heal in the land of Judea. They used oil to anoint and heal the sick.

And they went out, and preached that men should repent. And they cast out many devils, and **anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them.** Mark 6:12-13

Is any **sick** among you? let him call for the **elders** [*Greek: "presbyters"*] of the church; and let them **pray over him, anointing him with oil** in the name of the Lord. James 5:14

And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he has committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. James 5:15

The Mystery (Sacrament) of Ordination (the giving the Holy Spirit's gift of deaconship, or pastoring, or being a bishop/overseer) by prayer through "**laying on of hands.**"

So after they had fasted and **prayed, they laid their hands on them** and sent them off. Acts 13:3

The first seven **Deacons** were **ordained** by the Apostles themselves by the laying on of hands:

They presented these men to the apostles, who **prayed and laid their hands on them.** Acts 6:6

Qualifications for office of **Deacon** (servant): 1 Timothy 3:8-13

Qualifications for office of **Bishop** (overseers) who are the successors to the Apostles: 1 Timothy 3:1-7

The **Presbyters** (“elders”, i.e. the priests) are the delegates of Bishop. The Apostle Paul left St. Titus of the island of Crete to be the **Bishop** there, whose job it was to appoint and **ordain elders** in every city on the island.

For this cause left I you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are wanting, and **ordain elders** [“presbyters”] **in every city**, as I had appointed you. Titus 1:5

The Mystery (Sacrament) of Marriage: sexual activity is **to be only between** a man and a woman whom God has united. Divorce is not part of God’s plan, nor is polygamy.

But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.' For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.' So they are **no longer two, but one** flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate. Mark 10:6-9

Not allowed is: pre-marital sex [“whoremongers”, fornication], adultery, any kind of sexual activity outside of monogamous marriage...all improper sex sends one to hell, unless one repents.

Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but **whoremongers** and **adulterers** God will **judge**. Hebrews 13:4

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the **sexually immoral**, nor idolaters, nor **adulterers**...I Cor.6:9-10

Fasting was taught and required by Jesus.

But **when you fast**, put oil on your head and wash your face. Matthew 6:17 [He did not say, “IF you fast”, but said “WHEN you fast”.]

Jesus fasted 40 days and forty nights.

After **fasting** forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. Matthew 4:2

The Apostles and the early Church fasted and prayed.

So after they had **fasted and prayed**, they laid their hands on them and sent them off. Acts 13:3

Prayer...all night vigils.

In these days He [Jesus] went out to the mountain to pray, and **all night he continued in prayer** to God. Luke 6:12

The Lord's Prayer.

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." And he said unto them, "When ye pray, say, 'Our Father which art in heaven...'" Luke 11:1-4