

The Smalcald Articles

Session 11 - Part III, Articles 9, 10, 11 & 12

Article 9

What is the difference between the so-called “great” excommunication and the “small” excommunication? How are these titles dangerously misleading?

What is the Biblical basis for excommunication? (See Matthew 18:15-18; I Corinthians 5:1-13)

Article 10

On what basis does Luther claim that pastors may be ordained without the consent or participation of the bishops? Does this mean that clergy do not need to be involved in an ordination?

Article 11

How does this article apply to Christendom today?

What do the Scriptures teach concerning celibacy? What about concerning married clergy? (See Matthew 19:10-12; I Corinthians 7:1-9; I Timothy 3:2, 11; 4:1-3)

Article 12

On what basis does Luther say that the Roman church is not the Church? What does he mean by this?

What is the Church about and from where is the Church derived? How does this differ from the Roman view? From the modern evangelical view?

How does Luther’s description of the Church here square with Augsburg Confession, Article 7?

*Pr. David A. Kind
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