

SECTION II.—ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH.—The following ordinances or institutions of the Church were appointed by Christ, and are obligatory on the Church :—

1. *Christian Baptism*.—This is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, in which are represented their death to the world, the washing of their souls from the pollutions of sin, their resurrection to newness of life, the burial and resurrection of Christ, their resurrection at the last day, and their engagement to serve God.

2. *The Lord's Supper* is designed to commemorate the sufferings of Christ, and to represent, in the use of bread and wine, the communion which saints have with him, and with each other. Every *true believer* in Christ, being a member of his body, and a part of his visible church, has not only a right to partake of his body and his blood in the communion, but is under obligation thus to commemorate his death.

SECTION III.—DUTIES OF THE CHURCH.—The duty of the Church is that obligation which the revelation of God enjoins upon it collectively, or as individuals, for the manifestation of his manifold wisdom, the perfecting of the saints, and the conversion of the world. In this obligation are included the observance of the ten commandments, entire obedience to the influences of the Spirit, to the institutions of the Gospel, and to all the instructions and precepts of the Scriptures. Among the latter are the following particular requirements : Christian fellowship, secret and family prayer, domestic and social duties, watchfulness, administering to the necessities of the poor and afflicted, the support of those that preach the Gospel, and the exercise of church discipline.

ARTICLE XII.

Death.

The bodies of men, being subject to the calamities of the fall, all have died, or will die, except Enoch, Elijah, and the Saints that will be on the earth at the last day. But the soul, spirit, or the immaterial part, survives the dissolution of the body, and immediately after death enters a state of happiness or misery.