

Thirteenth Thesis

*Concerning the Communion,
or participation in the Body and Blood of Christ*

Communion of the body and blood of Christ is inward and spiritual,¹ which is the participation in his flesh and blood by which the inward man is daily nourished in the hearts of those in whom Christ dwells. Christ's breaking of bread with his disciples was a *type*. Those who had received the substance continued practicing the type in the church for a time, for the sake of the weak. They also practiced "abstaining from things strangled, and from blood;" washing each other's feet, and "anointing the sick with oil," all of which are commanded with no less authority and solemnity than the former. But since they are only the *shadows* of better things, they cease in those who have obtained the substance.²

Sources: Robert Barclay, *Apology for the True Christian Divinity*, (Glenside PA: Quaker Heritage Press, 2002) pp. 373-374 and Roberti Barclaii, *Teologiae verè Christianae apologia*, facsimile (Amsterdam: Jacob Claus, 1676) p. 287.

¹ 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; John 6:32-33, 55; 1 Corinthians 5:8 RB.

² Acts 15:20; John 13:14; James 5:14 RB