



# Newsletter

January 2017

Let the Bible Speak  
PO Box 292921 • Lewisville, TX 75029

1-800-380-5827

Airing Each Sunday At 6:30 AM on **21** TXA

## IS THE DOCTRINE OF TRANSUBSTANTIATION SCRIPTURAL?

By Brett Hickey

A viewer in Arkansas recently asked whether the Roman Catholic doctrine of "transubstantiation" harmonizes with Scripture.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church reads: "The Council of Trent summarizes the Catholic faith by declaring '... that by the consecration of the bread and wine there takes place a change of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of his blood. This change the holy Catholic Church has fittingly and properly called transubstantiation.' "

The Catechism Handbook by Oscar Lukefahr adds, "Only the appearances of bread and wine remain. The whole Christ is truly present where before there had been bread and wine." Did Jesus teach this when He said, "Take, eat; this (bread) is my body" and "For this (fruit of the vine) is My blood of the new covenant" (Matthew 26:26-29)?

A commonly accepted rule in Bible interpretation states that a word or sentence is figurative when the literal meaning is impossible. Always take the literal sense unless the literal sense makes nonsense (D. R. Dungan's Hermeneutics). We know Jesus was not a lamb (John 1:29) nor a grapevine (John 15:1).

1) The fact that Jesus was present in bodily form when he said, "This is my body," suggests that it was a figurative statement; Jesus had only one physical body—not two.

2) As noted earlier, the Catholic Catechism says there is "a

change of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ." The Catechism Handbook says, "The whole Christ is truly present where before there had been bread and wine." The Catholic Encyclopedia says, "...according to the purpose of the Almighty, the substance of the bread and wine departs in order to make room for the Body and Blood of Christ" (emphasis BH). This is demonstrably false; after they are sanctified, the elements in the Lord's Supper do not look like human flesh and blood; they do not feel like human flesh and blood; they do not smell like human flesh and blood; they do not taste like human flesh and blood. Our human senses tell us the substances have not changed.

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## January TV Broadcast Schedule

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Sermon #1075

Q & A: Divorce and Remarriage

**1/8**

Sermon #1077

The End

**1/15**

Sermon #1078

A Glorious Church

**1/22**

Sermon #1079

A Glorious Church (Part 2)

**1/29**

Sermon #1080

Work of an Evangelist

3) After Jesus blessed the elements in Matthew 26:28, he referred to the contents of the cup as the fruit of the vine instead of blood. Jesus clearly taught that the substances had not changed.

4) In 1 Corinthians 11:28, the apostle Paul tells the Christian, "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup." If there had been a change of substance, the apostle Paul would have written, "But let him eat of Jesus' body." However, the Holy Spirit did not inspire Paul to say that. The apostle Paul's wording proves that the substances do not change.

5) If the elements had changed to Jesus' body and blood, Jesus would have been commanding Christians to disobey other clear commands of both the Old and New Testaments. "You shall not eat the blood of any flesh, for the life of all flesh is its blood. Whoever eats it shall be cut off" (Leviticus 17:14). Then, in Acts 15:19-20: "Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God, but that we write to them to abstain from things polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from things strangled, and from blood " (Acts 15:28-29; 21:25, italics added). Jesus would not command us to do what other Scriptures condemned; therefore the substances do not change.

We are not bound by tradition, but by the teaching of Holy Scripture. The evidence from Scripture is conclusive: Jesus was present bodily when He said "This (loaf) is my body," our human senses tell us there is no change in substance, Jesus and Paul indicate after the emblems are sanctified that there is no change in substance, and Jesus would not ask us to violate other Scripture by eating blood.



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We support Brett Hickey's message, and the truths taught in the Bible for all mankind. We assist bringing this TV program to the north Texas area, and are glad you have watched the program! We would like you to visit any of our worship services!

**Allen**  
**East Allen CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
1008 E. Exchange Parkway  
Allen, TX

**Arlington**  
**CHURCH OF CHRIST on Green Oaks**  
4601 S. W. Green Oaks Blvd.  
Arlington, TX

**Bridgeport**  
**East Mound CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Highway 2123, 1.5 miles south of town  
Bridgeport, TX

**Canton**  
**Phalba CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Hwy 198 between Maybank & Canton  
at Hwy 316 intersection  
Phalba, TX

**Cleburne**  
**South Walnut CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
306 South Walnut Street  
Cleburne, TX

**Dallas**  
**Dallas CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
122 Carol Lane  
Red Oak, TX

**Dallas (Spanish speaking services)**  
**Dallas CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
2802 Walton Walker Boulevard  
Dallas, TX

**Duncanville**  
**Duncanville CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
1615 Stratford Lane  
Duncanville, TX

**Fort Worth**  
**Fossil Creek CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
3517 North Beach Street  
Fort Worth, TX

**Frisco**  
**CHURCH OF CHRIST in Frisco**  
9201 North County Road  
Frisco, TX

**Grapevine**  
**CHURCH OF CHRIST in Grapevine**  
713 North Lucas Drive  
Grapevine, TX

**Lewisville**  
**Denton county CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
1305 S. Business State Highway 121,  
Suite 105  
Lewisville, TX

**Mineral Wells**  
**Mineral Wells CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
300 Southeast 15th Street  
Mineral Wells, TX

**Paris**  
**Paris CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
35 13th Street S.E.  
Paris, TX

**Rockwall**  
**Northview CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
NE corner of I-30 Frontage & Industrial  
Blvd  
Rockwall, TX

**Weatherford**  
**Bankhead Drive CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
2610 East Bankhead Drive  
Weatherford, TX