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- The “Wesleyan Quadrilateral”
 - “The Holy Scripture containeth all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation.” Article 5, 25 Articles
- Justification—the standard view (introducing prevenient grace)
- Sanctification
 - Entire Sanctification/Christian Perfection
 - “Sanctification is that renewal of our fallen nature by the Holy Ghost, received through faith in Jesus Christ, whose blood of atonement cleanseth from all sin; whereby we are not only delivered from the guilt of sin, but are washed from its pollution, saved from its power, and are enabled, through grace, to love God with all our hearts and to walk in his holy commandments blameless.”

2

What do they believe about the sacraments?

- “Sacraments ordained of Christ are not only badges or tokens of Christian men's profession, but rather they are certain signs of grace, and God's good will toward us, by which he doth work invisibly in us, and doth not only quicken, but also strengthen and confirm, our faith in him.” Article 16
- “Baptism is not only a sign of profession and mark of difference whereby Christians are distinguished from others that are not baptized; but it is also a sign of regeneration or the new birth. The Baptism of young children is to be retained in the Church.” Article 17

3

What do they believe about the sacraments?

- “[T]he new birth is not the same thing with baptism: They do not constantly go together. A man may possibly be “born of water,” and yet not be “born of the Spirit.” There may sometimes be the outward sign, where there is not the inward grace. I do not speak with regard to infants: It is certain our Church supposes that all who are baptized in their infancy are at the same time born again; and it is allowed that the whole office for the Baptism of Infants proceeds upon this supposition.” John Wesley, *The New Birth*

4

Strengths and Weaknesses

Strengths of Methodism

- High view of the Bible (at least in theory)
- Heavy emphasis on personal conversion to Christ and the new birth
- Applaudable focus on ministries of mercy and evangelism
- Rejection of Catholic and Lutheran views of the physical presence of Christ in the Eucharist

Concerns for Methodism

- Functional downplay of Scripture's authority via interpretation through other quadrants on the quadrilateral
- Celebrates female elders

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Strengths and Weaknesses

- Staunchly reject God's sovereignty in salvation and "actual" depravity
- Odd view of itinerating elders
- Tendency toward a social gospel
- Christian perfectionism

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