

CATECHISM

I. Questions about God, Man, and Sin

Q1. Who made you?

A. God made me.

(Gen. 1:26, 27, 2:7; Eccl. 12:1; Acts 17:24-29)

Q2. What else did God make?

A. God made all things.

(Gen. 1 esp. vv. 1 and 31; Acts 14:15; Rom. 11:36; Col. 1:16)

Q3. Why did God make you and all things?

A. For His own glory.

(Ps. 19:1; Jer. 9:23, 24; Rev. 4:11, 5:13)

Q4. How can you glorify God?

A. By loving Him and doing what He commands.

(Eccl. 12:13; Mk. 12:29-31; Jn. 15:8-10; I Cor. 10:31)

Q5. Why ought you to glorify God?

A. Because He made me and takes care of me.

(Rom. 11:36; Rev. 4:11; cf. Dan. 5:23)

Q6. Are there more gods than one?

A. There is only one God.

(Deut. 6:4; Jer. 10:10; Mk. 12:29; Acts 17:22-31)

Q7. In how many persons does this one God exist?

A. In three persons.

(Matt. 3:16-17; Jn. 5:23, 10:30, 14:9-10, 15:26, 16:13-15; I Jn. 5:20; II Jn. 9; Rev. 1:4-5)

Q8. Who are They?

A. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

(Matt. 28:19; II Cor. 13:14; I Pet. 1:2; Jude 20 and 21)

Q9. Who is God?

A. God is a Spirit, and has not a body like men.

(Jn. 4:24; II Cor. 3:17; I Tim. 1:17)

Q10. Where is God?

A. God is everywhere.

(Ps. 139:7-12; Jer. 23:23-24; Acts 17:27-28)

Q11. Can you see God?

A. No. I cannot see God, but He always sees me.

(Ex. 33:20; Jn. 1:18; I Tim. 6:16; Ps. 139 esp. vv. 1-5; Prov. 5:21; Heb. 4:12-13)

Q12. Does God know all things?

A. Yes. Nothing can be hidden from God.
(*I Chron. 28:9; II Chron. 16:9; Luke 12:6-7; Rom. 2:16*)

Q13. Can God do all things?

A. Yes. God can do all His holy will.
(*Ps. 147:5; Jer. 32:17; Dan. 4:34-35; Eph. 1:11*)

Q14. Where do you learn how to love and obey God?

A. In the Bible alone.
(*Job 11:7; Ps. 119:104; Is. 8:20; Matt. 22:29; II Tim. 3:15-17*)

Q15. Who wrote the Bible?

A. Holy men who were moved by the Holy Spirit.
(*II Pet. 1:20-21; Acts 1:16; II Tim. 3:16; I Pet. 1:10-11*)

Q16. Who were our first parents?

A. Adam and Eve.
(*Gen. 2:18-25, 3:20; 5:1-2; Acts 17:26; I Tim. 2:13*)

Q17. Of what were our first parents made?

A. God made the body of Adam out of the ground, and formed Eve from the body of Adam.
(*Gen. 2:7, 21-23, 3:19; Ps. 103:14*)

Q18. What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies?

A. He gave them souls that could never die.
(*I Cor. 15:45; Eccl. 12:7; Zech. 12:1*)

Q19. Have you a soul as well as a body?

A. Yes. I have a soul that can never die.
(*Matt. 10:28; Mk. 8:34-38, 12:30*)

Q20. How do you know that you have a soul?

A. Because the Bible tells me so.
(*Matt. 10:28; Mk. 8:34-38, 12:30*)

Q21. In what condition did God make Adam and Eve?

A. He made them holy and happy.
(*Gen. 1:26-28; Ps. 8:4-8*)

Q22. Did Adam and Eve stay holy and happy?

A. No. They sinned against God.
(*Gen. 3:1-7; Eccl. 7:29; Hosea 6:7 (where "men" = Adam)*)

Q23. What is sin?

A. Sin is any transgression of the law of God.
(*I Jn. 3:4; Rom. 3:20; James 2:9-11*)

- Q24. What is meant by transgression?
 A. Doing what God forbids.
(1 Sam. 13:8-14, 15:22,23; Hosea 6:7; Rom. 1:21-32)
- Q25. What was the sin of our first parents?
 A. Eating the forbidden fruit.
(Gen. 2:16-17, 3:6)
- Q26. Why did they eat the forbidden fruit?
 A. Because they did not believe what God had said.
(Gen. 3:1-6; cf. Heb. 11:6)
- Q27. Who tempted them to this sin?
 A. The devil tempted Eve, and she gave the fruit to Adam.
(Gen. 3:1-13; II Cor. 11:3; I Tim. 2:13,14; cf. Rev. 12:9)
- Q28. What happened to our first parents when they had sinned?
 A. Instead of being holy and happy, they became sinful and miserable.
(Gen. 3:14-24, 4:1-24; James 1:14, 15)
- Q29. What effect had the sin of Adam on all mankind?
 A. All mankind is born in a state of sin and misery.
(Ps. 51:5; Rom 5:12, 18, 19; I Cor. 15:21, 22; I Jn. 5:19)
- Q30. What do we inherit from Adam as a result of this original sin?
 A. A sinful nature.
(I Kings 8:46; Ps. 14:2-3, 58:3; Eccl. 9:3; Matt. 15:18-20; Jn. 2:24-25; Rom. 8:7)
- Q31. What does every sin deserve?
 A. The anger and judgment of God.
(Deut. 27:26; Rom. 1:18, 2:2; Gal. 3:10; Eph. 5:6)
- Q32. Can anyone go to heaven with this sinful nature?
 A. No. Our hearts must be changed before we can be fit for heaven.
(Jer. 31:33-34; Ezek. 36:25-27; Jn. 1:12-13, 3:1-10; I Jn. 5:1, 4, 18)
- Q33. What is a change of heart called?
 A. Regeneration.
(Titus 3:5-7)
- Q34. Who can change a sinner's heart?
 A. The Holy Spirit alone.
(Jn. 3:3; Rom. 8:6-11; I Cor. 2:9-14; II Thes. 2:13-14; Titus 3:5-6)
- Q35. What is righteousness?
 A. It is obedience to God's law.
(Ex. 33:19, 34:6; Ps. 33:5; Hosea 3:5; Rom. 11:22)

Q36. Can anyone be saved by his own righteousness?

A. No. No one is good enough for God.

(Prov. 20:9; Eccl. 7:20; Rom. 3:10-23)

II. Questions about Salvation

Q37. What is a covenant?

A. An agreement between two or more persons.

(I Sam. 18:3; Matt. 26:14-15)

Q38. What is the covenant of grace?

A. The agreement God made with His elect people to save them from their sins.

(Gen. 17:1-8; Rom. 11:27; Heb. 10:16-17)

Q39. What did Christ undertake in the covenant of grace?

A. To keep the whole law for His people, and to suffer the punishment due to their sins.

(Rom. 8:3-4; Gal. 4:4-5; Heb. 9:14-15)

Q40. Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever sin?

A. No. He was holy, blameless, and undefiled.

(Heb. 7:26; Luke 23:47; Heb. 4:15; I Peter 2:22; I Jn. 3:5)

Q41. How could the Son of God suffer?

A. Christ, the Son of God, took flesh and blood, that He might obey and suffer as a man.

(Jn. 1:14; Rom. 8:3; Gal. 4:4; Phil. 2:7-8; Heb. 2:14-17, 4:15)

Q42. What is meant by the atonement?

A. Christ satisfying divine justice, by His sufferings and death, in the place of sinners.

(Mark 10:45; Acts 13:38-39; Rom. 3:24-26; 5:8-9; II Cor. 5:19-21; Gal. 3:13; I Pet. 3:18)

Q43. What did God the Father undertake in the covenant of grace?

A. To justify and sanctify those for whom Christ should die.

(Rom. 8:29-33; Heb. 10:9-10; I Cor. 1:8-9; Phil. 1:6; I Thes. 4:3-7)

Q44. What is justification?

A. It is God regarding sinners as if they had never sinned.

(Zech. 3:1-5; Rom. 3:24-26, 4:5, 8:33; II Cor. 5:21; Heb. 8:12)

Q45. What is sanctification?

A. It is God making sinners holy in heart and conduct.

(Jn. 17:17; Eph. 2:10, 4:22-24; Phil. 2:12-13; I Thes. 5:23)

- Q46. For whom did Christ obey and suffer?
 A. For those whom the Father had given him.
(Is. 53:8; Matt. 1:21; Jn. 10:11, 15-16, 26-29, 17:9; Heb. 2:13)
- Q47. What kind of life did Christ live on earth?
 A. A life of perfect obedience to the law of God.
(Matt. 5:17; Rom. 10:4; I Pet. 2:21-22)
- Q48. What kind of death did Christ die?
 A. The painful and shameful death of the cross.
(Ps. 22; Is. 53; the gospel records)
- Q49. Who will be saved?
 A. Only those who repent of sin and believe in Christ.
(Mark 1:15; Luke 13:3-5; Acts 2:37-41, 16:30-31, 20:21, 26:20)
- Q50. What is it to repent?
 A. To be sorry for sin, and to hate and forsake it because it is displeasing to God.
(Luke 19:8-10; Rom. 6:1-2; II Cor. 7:9-11; I Thes. 1:9-10)
- Q51. What is it to believe in Christ?
 A. To trust in Christ alone for salvation.
(Jn. 14:6; Acts 4:12; I Tim. 2:5; I Jn. 5:11-12)
- Q52. Can you repent and believe in Christ by your own power?
 A. No. I can do nothing good without God's Holy Spirit.
(Jn. 3:5-6, 6:44; Rom. 8:2-5, 8-11; I Cor. 2:9-14; Gal. 5:17, 18; Eph. 2:4-6)
- Q53. How can you receive the Holy Spirit?
 A. God has told us that we must pray to Him for the Holy Spirit.
(Luke 11:9-13; Jn. 4:10, 16:24)
- Q54. How were godly persons saved before the coming of Christ?
 A. By believing in the Savior to come.
(Jn. 8:56; Gal. 3:8, 9; I Cor. 10:1-4; Heb. 9:15; 11:13)
- Q55. How did they show their faith?
 A. By offering sacrifices on God's altar.
(Ex. 24:3-8; I Chron. 29:20-25; Heb. 9:19-23; 10:1; 11:28)
- Q56. What did these sacrifices represent?
 A. Christ, the Lamb of God, who was to die for sinners.
(Ex. 12:46; cf. Jn. 19:36; Heb. 9-10; Jn. 1:29; I Cor. 5:7; I Pet. 1:19)
- Q57. What does Christ do for His people?
 A. He does the work of a prophet, a priest, and a king.
(Heb. 1:1-3; Rev. 1:5; Matt. 13:57; Heb. 5:5-10; Jn. 18:37)

Q58. Why is Christ a prophet?

A. Because He teaches us the will of God.
(*Deut. 18:15-18; Jn. 1:18, 4:25, 14:23-24; I Jn. 5:20*)

Q59. Why is Christ a priest?

A. Because He died for our sins and prays to God for us.
(*Ps. 110:4; I Tim. 2:5-6; Heb. 4:14-16; 7:24-25; I Jn. 2:1-2*)

Q60. Why is Christ a king?

A. Because He rules over us and defends us.
(*Ps. 2:6-9; Matt. 28:18-20; Eph. 1:19-23; Col. 1:13, 18; Rev. 15:3-4*)

Q61. Why do you need Christ as a prophet?

A. Because I am ignorant of God's will.
(*Job 11:7; Matt. 11:25-27; Jn. 6:67-69; 17:25-26; I Cor. 2:14-16; II Cor. 4:3-6*)

Q62. Why do you need Christ as a priest?

A. Because I am guilty of sin.
(*Prov. 20:9; Eccl. 7:20; Rom. 3:19-23; Heb. 10:14,27-28; I Jn. 1:8-9*)

Q63. Why do you need Christ as a king?

A. Because I am weak and helpless.
(*Jn. 15:4-5; II Cor. 12:9; Phil. 4:13; Col. 1:11; Jude 24-25*)

III. Questions about The Ten Commandments

Q64. How many commandments did God give on Mount Sinai?

A. Ten Commandments.
(*Ex. 20:1-17; Deut. 5:1-22*)

Q65. What are the Ten Commandments sometimes called?

A. God's moral law.
(*Luke 20:25-28; Rom. 2:14-15, 10:5*)

Q66. What do the first four commandments teach?

A. Our duty to God.
(*Deut. 6:5-6, 10:12-13*)

Q67. What do the last six commandments teach?

A. Our duty to our fellow men.
(*Deut. 10:19; Micah 6:8; cf. Gal. 6:10*)

Q68. What is the sum of the Ten Commandments?

A. To love God with all my heart, and my neighbor as myself.
(*Deut. 6:1-15, 11:1; Matt. 22:35-40; James 2:8*)

- Q69. Who is your neighbor?
 A. All my fellow men are my neighbors.
(Luke 10:25-37)
- Q70. Is God pleased with those who love and obey him?
 A. Yes, He says, 'I love them that love me'.
(Prov. 8:17; Ex. 20:6)
- Q71. Is God pleased with those who do not love and obey him?
 A. No. 'God is angry with the wicked every day'.
(Ps. 7:11; Mal. 2:17; Prov. 6:16-19)
- Q72. What is the first commandment?
 A. The first commandment is, "You shall have no other gods before Me."
(Ex. 20:3; Deut. 5:7)
- Q73. What does the first commandment teach us?
 A. To worship God only.
(Is. 45:4-5; Matt. 4:10; Rev. 22:8-9)
- Q74. What is the second commandment?
 A. The second commandment is, "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments."
(Ex. 20:4-6; Deut. 5:8-10)
- Q75. What does the second commandment teach us?
 A. To worship God in the right way, and to avoid idolatry.
(Is. 44:9-20, 46:5-9; Jn. 4:23, 24; Acts 17:29)
- Q76. What is the third commandment?
 A. The third commandment is, "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain."
(Ex. 20:7; Deut. 5:11)
- Q77. What does the third commandment teach us?
 A. To reverence God's name, word and works.
(Is. 8:13; Ps. 29:2, 138:2; Rev. 15:3-4)

Q78. What is the fourth commandment?

A. The fourth commandment is, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."

(Ex. 20:8-11, 23:12; Deut. 5:12-15)

Q79. What does the fourth commandment teach us?

A. To keep the Sabbath holy.

(Lev. 19:30; 23:3; Is. 58:13-14)

Q80. What day of the week is the Christian Sabbath?

A. The first day of the week, called the Lord's Day.

(Acts 20:7; Rev. 1:10)

Q81. Why is it called the Lord's Day?

A. Because on that day Christ rose from the dead.

(Matt. 28:1; Mark 16:9; Luke 24:1-6; Jn. 20:1)

Q82. How should the Sabbath be kept?

A. In prayer and praise, in hearing and reading God's Word, and in doing good to our fellow men.

(Is. 58:13-14; Acts 20:7; I Cr. 16:2; Luke 4:16; Matt. 12:10-13)

Q83. What is the fifth commandment?

A. The fifth commandment is, "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you."

(Ex. 20:12; Deut. 5:16)

Q84. What does the fifth commandment teach us?

A. To love and obey our parents.

(Matt. 15:3-6; Eph. 6:1-3; Col. 3:20)

Q85. What is the sixth commandment?

A. The sixth commandment is, "You shall not murder."

(Ex. 20:13; Deut. 5:17)

Q86. What does the sixth commandment teach us?

A. To avoid hatred.

(Matt. 5:21-24; I John 3:15)

- Q87. What is the seventh commandment?
 A. The seventh commandment is, "You shall not commit adultery."
(Ex. 20:14; Deut. 5:18)
- Q88. What does the seventh commandment teach us?
 A. To be pure in heart, language, and conduct.
(Matt. 5:27-28; Eph 5:3-5; Phil. 4:8, 9)
- Q89. What is the eighth commandment?
 A. The eighth commandment is, "You shall not steal."
(Ex. 20:15; Deut. 5:19)
- Q90. What does the eighth commandment teach us?
 A. To be honest and not to take the things of others.
(Ex. 23:4; Prov. 21:6-7; Eph. 4:28)
- Q91. What is the ninth commandment?
 A. The ninth commandment is, "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."
(Ex. 20:16; Deut. 5:20)
- Q92. What does the ninth commandment teach us?
 A. To tell the truth and not to speak evil of others.
(Ps. 15:1-3; Zech. 8:16; I Cor. 13:6; James 4:11)
- Q93. What is the tenth commandment?
 A. The tenth commandment is, "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."
(Ex. 20:17; Deut. 5:21; Rom. 7:7)
- Q94. What does the tenth commandment teach us?
 A. To be content with what we have.
(Phil.4:11; I Tim. 6:6-8; Heb. 13:5)
- Q95. Can any man keep these ten commandments perfectly?
 A. No mere man, since the fall of Adam, ever did or can keep the ten commandments perfectly.
(Prov. 20:9; Eccl. 7:20; Rom. 3:19-20; James 2:10; I John 1:8,10)
- Q96. Of what use are the ten commandments to us?
 A. They teach us our duty, and show us our need of a Savior.
(I Tim. 1:8-11; Rom. 3:20; Gal. 3:24)

IV. Questions about Prayer

Q97. What is prayer?

A. Prayer is praising God, giving thanks for all his blessings, and asking him for the things he has promised in the Bible.
(*Gen. 17:22, 18:33; Neh. 1:4-11, 2:4; Matt. 6:6; Rom. 8:26,27*)

Q98. In whose name should we pray?

A. Only in the name of Christ.
(*John 14:13-14, 16:23-24; Heb. 4:14-16*)

Q99. What has Christ given to teach us how to pray?

A. The Lord's Prayer.
(*Matt. 6:5-15; Luke 11:1-13*)

Q100. Can you repeat the Lord's prayer?

A. Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.
(*Matt. 6:5-15; Luke 11:1-13*)

Q101. How many petitions are there in the Lord's Prayer?

A. Six.
(*Matt. 6:5-15; Luke 11:1-13*)

Q102. What is the first petition?

A. 'Hallowed be Your name'.
(*Matt. 6:9; Luke 11:2*)

Q103. What do we pray for in the first petition?

A. That God's name may be honored by us and all men.
(*Ps. 8:1; 72:17-19; 113:1-3; 145:21; Is. 8:13*)

Q104. What is the second petition?

A. 'Your kingdom come'.
(*Matt. 6:10; Luke 11:2*)

Q105. What do we pray for in the second petition?

A. That the gospel may be preached in all the world, and believed and obeyed by us and all men.
(*Matt. 28:19-20; John 17:20-21; Acts 8:12, 28:30-31; II Thes. 3:1*)

Q106. What is the third petition?

A. 'Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven'.
(*Matt. 6:10; Luke 11:2*)

- Q107. What do we pray for in the third petition?
 A. That men on earth may serve God as the angels do in heaven.
(Ps. 67, 103:19-22; John 9:31; Rev. 4:11)
- Q108. What is the fourth petition?
 A. 'Give us this day our daily bread'.
(Matt. 6:11; Luke 11:3)
- Q109. What do we pray for in the fourth petition?
 A. That God will give us all things needful for our bodies.
(Ps. 145:15-16; Prov. 30:8-9; I Tim. 4:4-5)
- Q110. What is the fifth petition?
 A. 'And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors'.
(Matt. 6:12; Luke 11:4)
- Q111. What do we pray for in the fifth petition?
 A. That God will pardon our sins, and help us to forgive those who have sinned against us.
(Ps. 51; Matt. 5:23-24, 18:21-35; I John 4:20-21)
- Q112. What is the sixth petition?
 A. 'And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil'.
(Matt. 6:13; Luke 11:4)
- Q113. What do we pray for in the sixth petition?
 A. That God will keep us from sin.
(I Chron. 4:10; Ps. 119:11; Matt. 26:41)

V. Questions about the Word, the Church, and the Ordinances

- Q114. How does the Holy Spirit bring us to salvation?
 A. He uses the Bible, which is the Word of God.
(I Thes. 1:5-6, 2:13; II Tim. 3:15-16; James 1:18; I Peter 1:22, 23)
- Q115. How can we know the Word of God?
 A. We are commanded to hear, read, and search the Scriptures.
(I Peter 2:2; Rev. 3:22; Matt. 21:42, 22:29; II Tim. 3:14-17)
- Q116. How can we know that the Scriptures are true?
 A. God is the author and He does not lie.
(II. Tim. 3:16; Num. 23:19; Titus 1:2)
- Q117. What is a church?
 A. An assembly of believers met together under the preaching of the Word of God.
(Matt. 18:20; Acts 2:42)

Q118. What two ordinances did Christ give to his church?

A. Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

(Matt. 28:19; I Cor. 11:23-26)

Q119. Why did Christ give these ordinances?

A. To show that His disciples belong to Him, and to remind them of what He has done for them.

(Matt. 28:19; I Cor. 11:24-26)

VI. Questions about the Last Things

Q120. Did Christ remain in the tomb after his crucifixion?

A. No. He rose from the tomb on the third day after his death.

(Luke 24:45-47; I Cor. 15:3-4)

Q121. Where is Christ now?

A. In heaven, seated at the right hand of God the Father.

(Rom. 8:34; Heb. 1:3, 10:12, 12:2)

Q122. Will Christ come again?

A. Yes. At the last day He will come to judge the world.

(Matt. 25:31-46; II Thes. 1:7-10; II Tim. 4:1)

Q123. What happens to men when they die?

A. The body returns to dust, and the soul goes into the world of spirits.

(Gen. 3:19; Eccl. 12:7; II Cor. 5:1-6)

Q124. Will the bodies of the dead be raised to life again?

A. Yes. 'There shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.'

(Acts 24:14-15; John 5:28-29; Dan. 12:2)

Q125. What will happen to the wicked in the day of judgment?

A. They shall be cast into hell.

(Ps. 9:16-17; Luke 12:5; Rev. 20:12-15)

Q126. What is hell?

A. A place of dreadful and endless punishment.

(Matt. 25:46; Mark 9:43-48; Luke 16:19-31)

Q127. What will happen to the righteous in the day of judgment?

A. They shall live with Christ forever, in a new heaven and a new earth.

(Is. 66:22; I Thes. 4:16, 17; II Peter 3:10-13; Rev. 21:1-4)