

CFBC CATECHISM

An Introduction to the Shorter Catechism

Q. 1. Who made you?

A. God. (Gn 1:26, 27; 2:7; Ec 12:1; Acts 17:24-29).

Q. 2. What else did God make?

A. God made all things. (Gn 1, esp. verses 1, 31; Acts 14:15; Rm 11:36; Col 1:16).

Q. 3. Why did God make you and all things ?

A. For his own glory. (Ps 19:1; Jer 9:23, 24; Rv 4:11; 4:15).

Q. 4. How can you glorify God?

A. By loving him and doing what he commands. (Ec 12:13; Mk 12:29-31; In 15:8-10; 1 Cor 10:31).

Q. 5. Why ought you to glorify God?

A. Because he made me and takes care of me. (Rm 11:36; Rv 4:11; cf. Dan 4:39).

Q. 6. 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).

Q. 7. In how many persons does this one God exist?

A. In three persons. (Mt 3:16, 17; Jn 5:23; 10:30; 14:9, 10; 15:26; 16:13-15; 1 In 5:20, 2 In 9; Rv 1:4, 5).

Q. 8. What are they?

A. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. (Mt 28:19; 2 Cor 13:14; 1 Pet 1:2; Jude 20, 21).

Q. 9. What is God?

A. God is a Spirit, and does not have a body like men. (Jn 4:24; 2 Cor 3:17; 1 Tim 1:17).

Q. 10. Where is God?

A. God is everywhere. (Ps 139:7-12; Jer 23:23,24; Acts 17:27,28).

Q. 11. Can you see God?

A. No; I cannot see God, but he always sees me. (Ex 33:20; Jn 1:18; 1 Tim 6:16; Ps 139 esp. vv. 1-5; Pr 5:21; Hb 4:12, 13).

Q. 12. Does God know all things?

A. Yes; nothing can be hid from God. (1 Chron 28:9; 2 Chron 16:9; Lk 12:6, 7; Rm 2:16).

Q. 13. 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).

Q. 14. Where do you learn how to love and obey God?

A. In the Bible alone. (Job 11:7; Ps 119:104; Is 8:20; Mt 22:29; 2 Tim 3:15-17).

Q. 15. Who wrote the Bible?

A. Holy men who were taught by the Holy Spirit. (1 Pet 1:20, 21; Acts 1:16; 2 Tim 3:16; 1 Pet 1:10, 11).

Q. 16. Who were our first parents?

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

Q. 17. 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. (Gn 2:7; 21-23; 3:19; Ps 103:14).

Q. 18. What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies?

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

Q. 19. Have you a soul as well as a body?

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

Q. 20. How do you know that you have a soul?

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

Q. 21. In what condition did God make Adam and Eve?

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

Q. 28. What is Sin?

A. Sin is not being or doing what God requires; or, doing what God forbids. (1 In 3:4; Rm 3:20; James 2:9-11; 1 Sam 13:8-14; 15:22, 23; Hos 6:7; Rm 1:21-32)

Q. 31. What was the sin of our first parents?

A. Eating the forbidden fruit. (Gn 2:16, 17; 3:6).

Q. 32. Who tempted them to this sin?

A. The devil tempted Eve, and she gave the fruit to Adam. (Gn 3:1-13; 2 Cor 11:3; 1 Tim 2:13, 14; cf. Rv 12:9).

Q. 33. What befell our first parents when they had sinned?

A. Instead of being holy and happy, they became sinful and miserable. (Gn 3:14-24; 4:1-24; Jm 1:14, 15).

Q. 35. What effect had the sin of Adam on all mankind?

A. All mankind are born in a state of sin and misery. (Ps. 5 1:5; Rm 5:12, 18, 19; 1 Cor 15:21, 22; 1 In 5:19).

Q. 36. What is that sinful nature which we inherit from Adam called?

A. Original sin. (1 Kings 8:46; Ps 14:2, 3; 58:3; Eccl 9:3; Mt 15:18-20; In 2:24, 25; Rm 8:7).

Q. 37. What does every sin deserve?

A. The wrath and curse of God. (Deut 27:26; Rm 1:18; 2:2; Gal 3:10; Eph 5:6).

Q. 38. Can any one go to heaven with this sinful nature?

A. No; our hearts must be changed before we can be fit for heaven. (John 3:3-8; Ezek 36:26; Jer 31:31-34)

Q. 39. What is a change of heart called?

A. Regeneration. (Ezek 36:26; Titus 3:5)

Q. 40. Who can change a sinner's heart?

A. The Holy Spirit alone. (John 3:5, 6, 8; Rom 8:2; 2 Cor 3:6)

Q. 46. Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever commit the least sin?

A. No; he was holy, harmless, and undefiled. (1 Pet 2:22; Isa 53:9; 2 Cor 5:21; 1 John 3:5)

Q. 47. How could the Son of God suffer?

A. Christ, the Son of God, became man that he might obey and suffer in our nature. (Jn 1:14; Rm 8:3; Gal 4:4; Phil 2:7, 8; Hb 2:14, 17; 4:15)

Q. 48. What is meant by the Atonement?

A. Christ's satisfying divine justice, by his sufferings and death, in the place of sinners. (Mk 10:45; Acts 13:38, 39; Rm 3:24-26; 5:8, 9; 2 Cor 5:19-21; Gal 3:13; 1 Pet 3:18).

Q. 50. What is justification?

A. It is God's forgiving sinners, and treating them as if they had never sinned. (Zech 3:1-5; Rm 3:24-26; 4:5; 5:17-19; 8:33; 2 Cor 5:21; Hb 8:12; Ph 3:9).

Q. 51. What is sanctification?

A. It is God's making sinners holy in heart and conduct. (In 17:17; Ep 2:10; 4:22-24; Ph 2:12-13; 1 Thes 5:23)

Q. 52. For whom did Christ obey and suffer?

A. For those whom the Father had given him. (Is 53:8; Mt 1:21; Jn 10:11, 15, 16, 26-29; 17:9; Hb 2:13).

Q. 53. What kind of life did Christ live on earth?

A. A life of poverty and suffering. (Mt 5:17; Rm 10:4; 1 Pet 2:21, 22).

Q. 54. What kind of death did Christ die?

A. The painful and shameful death of the cross. (Ps 22; Is 53; Gospel records).

Q. 55. Who will be saved?

A. Only those who repent of sin, believe in Christ, and then lead holy lives. (Mk 1:15; Lk 13:3,5; Acts 2:37-41; 16:30,31; 20:21; 26:20).

Q. 56. What is it to repent?

A. To be sorry for sin, and to hate and forsake it because it is displeasing to God. (Lk 19:8-10; Rm 6:1, 2; 2 Cor 7:9-11; 1 Thes 1:9, 10).

Q. 57. What is it to believe or have faith in Christ?

A. To trust in Christ alone for salvation. (In 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Tim 2:5; 1 In 5:11, 12).

Q. 58. Can you repent and believe in Christ by your own power?

A. No; I can do nothing good without the help of God's Holy Spirit. (In 3:5, 6; 6:44; Rm 8:2, 5, 8-11; 1 Cor 2:9-14; Gal 5:17, 18; Ep 2:4-6).

Q. 59. How can you get the help of the Holy Spirit?

A. God has told us that we must pray to him for the Holy Spirit. (Lk 11:9-13; In 4:10; 16:24);

Q. 60. How long ago is it since Christ died?

A. More than two thousand years.

Q. 61. How were pious persons saved before the coming of Christ?

A. By believing in a Savior to come. (Jn 8:56; Gal 3:8, 9; 1 Cor 10:1-4; Hb 9:15; 11:13).

Q. 62. How did they show their faith?

A. By offering sacrifices according to God's commands. (Ex 24:3-8; 1 Chron 29:20-25; Hb 9:19-23; 10:1; 11:28)

Q. 63. What did these sacrifices represent?

A. Christ, the Lamb of God, who was to die for sinners. (Ex 12:46 cf. In 19:36; Hb 9 & 10; In 1:29; 1 Cor 5:7; 1 Pet 1:19).

Q. 64. What offices has Christ?

A. Christ has three offices.

Q. 65. What are they?

A. The offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king. (Hb 1:1-3; Rv 1:5; Mt 13:57; Hb 5:5-10; Jn 18:37).

Q. 66. How is Christ a prophet?

A. Because he teaches us the will of God. (Deut 18:15, 18; In 1:18; 4:25; 14:23, 24; 1 In 5:20).

Q. 67. How is Christ a priest?

A. Because he died for our sins and pleads with God for us. (Ps 110:4; 1 Tim 2:5, 6; Hb 4:14-16; 7:24, 25; 1 In 2:1, 2).

Q. 68. How is Christ a king?

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

Q. 69. Why do you need Christ as a prophet?

A. Because I am ignorant. (Job 11:7; Mt 11:25-27; In 6:67-69; 17:25, 26; 1 Cor 2:14-16; 2 Cor 4:3-6).

Q. 70. Why do you need Christ as a priest?

A. Because I am guilty. (Pr 20:9; Ec 7:20; Rm 3:19-23; Hb 10:14, 27, 28; 1 In 1:8, 9).

Q. 71. Why do you need Christ as a king?

A. Because I am weak and helpless. (In 15:4, 5; 2 Cor 12:9; Phil 4:13; Col 1:11; Jude 24, 25)

Q. 72. How many commandments did God give on Mount Sinai?

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

Q. 73. What are the ten commandments sometimes called?

A. The Decalogue. (cf. Ex 34:28)

Q. 74. What do the first four commandments teach?

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

Q. 75. What do the last six commandments teach?

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

Q. 76. 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; Mt 22:35-40; James 2:8).

Q. 77. Who is your neighbor?

A.

All my fellow men are my neighbors. (Lk 10:25-37; 6:35).

Q. 78. Is God pleased with those who love and obey him?

A. Yes; he says, "I love them that love me." (Pr 8:17; Ex 20:6; 1 In 4:7-16).

Q. 79. 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; Pr 6:16-19; 1 Cor 16:22).

Q. 80. What is the first commandment?

A. The first commandment is, Thou shalt have no other gods before me. (Ex 20:3; Deut 5:7)

Q. 81. What does the first commandment teach us?

A. To worship God alone. (Is 45:5, 6; Mt 4:10; Rv 22:8, 9).

Q. 82. What is the second commandment?

A. The second commandment is, Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any things that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I, the Lord thy God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments. (Ex 20:4-6; Deut 5:8-10).

Q. 83. What does the second commandment teach us?

A. To worship God in a proper manner, and to avoid idolatry. (Is 44:9-20; 46:5-9; In 4:23, 24; Acts 17:29).

Q. 84. What is the third commandment?

A. The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. (Ex 20:7; Deut 5:11).

Q. 85. What does the third commandment teach me?

A. To reverence God's name, word, and works. (Is 8:13; Ps 29:2; 138:2; Rv 15:3, 4).

Q. 86. What is the fourth commandment?

A. The fourth commandment is, Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath Day, and hallowed it. (Ex 20:8-11; 23:12; Deut 5:12-15).

Q. 87. What does the fourth commandment teach us?

A. To keep the Sabbath holy. (Lv 19:20; 23:3; Is 58:13, 14).

Q. 88. What day of the week is the Christian Sabbath?

A. The first day of the week, called the Lord's day. (Acts 20:7; Rv 1:10).

Q. 89. Why is it called the Lord's day?

A. Because on that day Christ rose from the dead. (Mt 28:1; Mk 16:9; Lk 24:1-6; In 20:1).

Q. 90. How should the Sabbath be spent?

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; 1 Cor. 16:2; Lk 4:16; Mt 12:10-13).

Q. 91. What is the fifth commandment?

A. The fifth commandment is, Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. (Ex 20:12; Deut 5:16).

Q. 92. What does the fifth commandment teach me?

A. To love and obey our parents and teachers. (Mt 15:3-6; Ep 6:1-3; Co 3:20).

Q. 93. What is the sixth commandment?

A. The sixth commandment is, Thou shalt not kill. (Ex 20:13; Deut 5:17)

Q. 94. What does the sixth commandment teach us?

A. To avoid angry passions. (Mt 5:21-24; 1 In 3:15; Jm 4:1-3).

Q. 95. What is the seventh commandment?

A. The seventh commandment is, Thou shalt not commit adultery. (Ex 20:14; Deut 5:18).

Q. 96. What does the seventh commandment teach us?

A. To be pure in heart, language, and conduct. (Mt 5:27, 28; Ep 5:3-5; Ph 4:8, 9).

Q. 97. What is the eighth commandment?

A. The eighth commandment is, Thou shalt not steal. (Ex 20:15; Deut 5:19).

Q. 98. What does the eighth commandment teach us?

A. To be honest and not to take the things of others. (Ex 23:4; Pr 21:6, 7; Ep 4:28).

Q. 99. What is the ninth commandment?

A. The ninth commandment is, Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor. (Ex 20:16; Deut 5:20).

Q. 100. 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; 1 Cor 13:6; James 4:11).

Q. 101. What is the tenth commandment?

A. The tenth commandment is, Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor's. (Ex 20:17; Deut 5:21; Rm 7:7).

Q. 102. What does the tenth commandment teach us?

A. To be content with with what we have (Phil 4:11; 1 Tim 6:6-8; Hb 13:5).

Q. 103. 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. (Pr 20:9; Ec 7:20; Rm 3:19, 20; James 2:10; 1 Jn 1:8, 10).

Q. 104. Of what use are the ten commandments to us?

A. They teach us our duty, make clear our condemnation, and show us our need of a Saviour (1 Tim 1:8-11; Rm 3:20; Gal 3:24).

Q. 105. What is prayer?

A. Prayer is talking with God (Gn 17:22; 18:33; Neh 1:4-11; 2:4; Mt 6:6; Rm 8:26, 27)..

Q. 106. In whose name should we pray?

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

Q. 107. What has Christ given us to teach us how to pray?

A. The Lord's Prayer. (Mt 6:5-15; Lk 11:1-13)

Q. 108. Repeat the Lord's Prayer.

A. Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us

not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Q. 109. How many petitions are there in The Lord's Prayer?

A. Six.

Q. 110. What is the first petition?

A. "Hallowed be thy name." (Mt 6:9; Lk 11:2).

Q. 111. 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).

Q. 112. What is the second petition?

A. "Thy kingdom come." (Mt 6:10; Lk 11:2)

Q. 113. 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. (Mt 28:19, 20; In 17:20, 21; Acts 8:12; 28:30, 31; 2 Thes 3:1).

Q. 114. What is the third petition?

A. "Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." (Mt 6:10; Lk 11:2).

Q. 115. 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; In 9:31; Rv 4:11).

Q. 116. What is the fourth petition?

A. "Give us this day our daily bread." (Mt 6:11; Lk 11:3).

Q. 117. What do we pray for in the fourth petition?

A. That God would give us all things needful for our bodies and souls. (Ps 145:15, 16; Pr 30:8, 9; 1 Tim 4:4, 5).

Q. 118. What is the fifth petition?

A. "And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us" (Mt 6:12; Lk 11:4)."

Q. 119. What do we pray for in the fifth petition?

A. That God would pardon our sins for Christ's sake, and enable us to forgive those who have injured us. (Ps 51: Mt 5:23, 1 In 4:20, 21). us to forgive 24; 18:21-35)

Q. 120. What is the sixth petition?

A. "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." (Mt 6:13; Lk 11:4).

Q. 121. What do we pray for in the sixth petition?

A. That God would keep us from sin. (1 Chron 4:10; Ps 119:11; Mt 26:41).

Q122. How does the Holy Spirit bring us to salvation?

A. He uses the Bible, which is the Word of God (1 Thes 1:5, 6; 2:13; 2 Tim 3:15, 16; James 1:18; 1 Pet 1:22, 23).

Q123. How can we know the Word of God?

A. We are commanded to hear, read and search the Scriptures (1 Pet 2:2; Rv 3:22; Mt 21:42; 22:29; 2 Tim 3:14-17).

Q124. What is a church?

A. A church is an assembly of baptized believers joined by a covenant of discipline and witness who meet together regularly under the preaching of the Word of God (Mt 18:20; Acts 2:42).

Q125. What two ordinances did Christ give to his Church?

A. Baptism and the Lord's Supper (Mt 28:19; 1 Cor 11:24-26).

Q126. 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 (Mt 28:19; 1 Cor 11:24-26)

Q. 127. Who appointed these sacraments?

A. The Lord Jesus Christ. (Matt 28:18-20; Luke 22:19)

Q. 126. What does baptism represent?

A. The believer's burial with Christ in His death & his resurrection to new life in Christ. (In 3:23; Acts 2:41; 8:12, 35-38; Col 2:12; Rom 6:4-6*).

Q. 127. What does this signify?

A. That we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life (Rom 6:4)

Q. 128. In whose name are we baptized?

A. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. (Matt 28:18-19)

Q. 129. Who are to be baptized?

A. Only professing believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 2:37-41; 8:12; 18:8; 19:4, 5).

Q. Should babies be baptized?

A. No; because the Bible neither commands it, nor gives any example of it.

Q. 131. Does Christ care for little children?

A. Yes; for he says, "Allow the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." But they cannot repent and confess personal faith in Christ (Mark 10:14)

Q. 132. To what does your baptism bind you?

A. To be identified as a follower of Christ. (Acts 22:16; Col 2:11-14).

Q. 133. What is the Lord's Supper?

A. The eating of bread and drinking of wine in remembrance of the sufferings and death of Christ. (Mk 14:22-24; 1 Cor 11:23-29).

Q. 134. What does the bread represent?

A. The body of Christ, broken for our sins. (Mt 26:26; 1 Cor 11:24).

Q. 135. What does the cup represent?

A. The blood of Christ, shed for our salvation. (Mt 26:27, 28; 1 Cor 11:25).

Q. 136. Who should partake of the Lord's Supper?

A. Only those who repent of their sins, believe in Christ for salvation, and love their fellow men. (Mt 5:21-24; 1 Cor 10:16, 17; 11:18, 20, 27-33; 1 In 3:24-27; 4:9-11).

Q. 137. Did Christ remain in the tomb after his crucifixion?

A. No; he rose from the tomb on the third day after his death. (Lk 24:45-47; 1 Cor 15:3, 4).

Q. 138. Where is Christ now?

A. In heaven, interceding for sinners. (Rm 8:34; Col 3:1; H1 1:3; 10:12; 12:2).

Q. 139. Will he come again?

A. Yes; at the last day Christ will come to judge the world. (Mt 25:31-43; 2 Thes 1:7-10; 2 Tim 4:1).

Q. 140. What becomes of men at death?

A. The body returns to dust, and the soul goes into either heaven or hell. (Gn 3:19; Ec 12:7; 2 Cor 5:1-6; Hb 12:22,23; Ph 1:23; 2 Pet 2:9; Rm 2:5).

Q. 141. Will the bodies of the dead be raised to life again?

A. Yes; "The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised." (1 Cor 15:52; 1 Thess 4:16; Acts 24:14, 15; In 5:28, 29; Dan 12:2)

Q. 142. What will become of the wicked in the day of judgment?

A. They shall be cast into hell. (Ps 9:16, 17; Lk 12:5; Rm 2:8, 9,12; 2 Th 1:8, 9; Rv 20:12-15).

Q. 143. What is hell?

A. A place of dreadful and endless punishment. (Mt 25:46; Mk 9:43-48; Lk 16:19-31).

Q. 144. What will become of the righteous?

A. They shall be taken to heaven. (2 Cor 5:8; Luke 23:43; John 14:2-3)

Q. 145. What is heaven?

A. A glorious and happy place, where the righteous shall be forever with the Lord. (1 Thess 4:17; Rev 22:3-4)

144.Q. What will happen to the righteous in the day of judgement?

A. They shall live with Christ for ever, in a new heaven and a new earth (Is 66:22; 1 Thes 4:16, 17; 2 Pet 3:10-13; Rv 21:1-4).

145.Q. In light of these truths, what should you do? I

A. I should strive with all my energy to repent of sin and believe savingly in the Lord Jesus Christ (Lk 13:23, 24; Jn 6:27; Acts 16:31).