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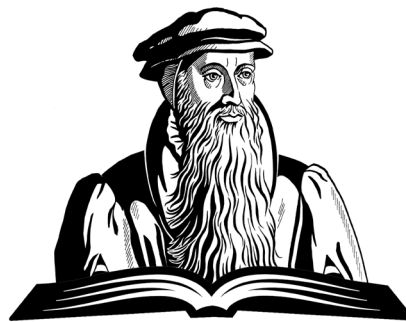
by Rev. Jonathan Mattull

Adult Study Guide

for Lecture #1

The Chief End of Man

Catechism Question 1



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

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Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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The Shorter CATECHISM

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by Rev. Jonathan Mattull

1. The Chief End of Man—*Question 1*
2. God's Word and Its Teaching—*Questions 2 & 3*
3. What God Is—*Question 4*
4. One Triune God—*Questions 5 & 6*
5. The Decrees of God—*Questions 7 & 8*
6. God's Work of Creation—*Question 9*
7. God's Creation of Man—*Question 10*
8. God's Works of Providence—*Question 11*
9. God's Special Providence Towards Man—*Question 12*
10. The Fall of Man—*Questions 13 & 15*
11. What Sin Is—*Question 14*
12. The Fall's Effect on All Mankind—*Questions 16 & 17*
13. The Sinfulness & Misery of Man's Fallen State—*Questions 18 & 19*
14. The Covenant of Grace—*Question 20*
15. Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of God's Elect—*Question 21*
16. The Incarnation—*Question 22*
17. Christ's Office of Prophet—*Questions 23 & 24*
18. Christ's Office of Priest—*Question 25*
19. Christ's Office of King—*Question 26*
20. The Humiliation of Christ—*Question 27*

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21. Christ's Exaltation—*Question 28*
22. Redemption Applied—*Questions 29 & 30*
23. Effectual Calling—*Questions 31 & 32*
24. Justification—*Question 33*
25. Adoption—*Question 34*
26. Sanctification—*Question 35*
27. Blessings of Salvation in this Life—*Question 36*
28. Blessings of Salvation at Death—*Question 37*
29. Blessings of Salvation at the Resurrection—*Question 38*
30. The Duty Required of Man—*Questions 39 through 42*
31. The Ten Commandments: A Preface of Grace—*Questions 43 & 44*
32. The Ten Commandments: Love for God—*Questions 45–8*
33. The Ten Commandments: Love for God's Worship—*Question 49–52*
34. The Ten Commandments: Love for God's Name—*Questions 53–56*
35. The Ten Commandments: A Day for Holy Love—*Questions 57–59*
36. The Ten Commandments: Love for God's Day—*Questions 60–62*
37. The Ten Commandments: Love within Our Relationships—*Questions 63–66*
38. The Ten Commandments: Love for Life—*Questions 67–69*
39. The Ten Commandments: Love for Purity—*Questions 70–72*
40. The Ten Commandments: Love for the Lord's Allotment—*Questions 73–75*

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41. The Ten Commandments - Love for the Truth—*Questions 76 thru 78*
42. The Ten Commandments - Love from Within—*Questions 79 thru 81*
43. Understanding Our Sin—*Questions 82 thru 84*
44. Escaping God’s Wrath and Curse: Saving Faith—*Questions 85 and 86*
45. Escaping God’s Wrath and Curse: Repentance unto Life—*Question 87*
46. Escaping God’s Wrath and Curse: Means of Grace—*Question 88*
47. Means of Grace: The Word of God—*Questions 89 and 90*
48. Means of Grace: The Sacraments—*Questions 91 thru 93*
49. Means of Grace: Christian Baptism—*Questions 94 and 95*
50. Means of Grace: The Lord’s Supper—*Question 96*
51. Means of Grace: Receiving the Lord’s Supper—*Question 97*
52. Means of Grace: Prayer—*Questions 98 and 99*
53. The Lord’s Prayer: The Preface—*Question 100*
54. The Lord’s Prayer: The First Petition—*Question 101*
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57. The Lord’s Prayer: The Fourth Petition—*Question 104*
58. The Lord’s Prayer: The Fifth Petition—*Question 105*
59. The Lord’s Prayer: The Sixth Petition—*Question 106*
60. The Lord’s Prayer: The Conclusion—*Question 107*

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ADULT STUDY GUIDE

for Lecture #1

The Chief End of Man

Memorization

Question 1: What is the chief end of man?

Answer: Man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy him forever.

Lecture Structure

1. Introduction – What is the purpose of your life?
2. Man's purpose is focused on God.
3. Man's purpose joins together glorifying God and enjoying God.
4. Man's ultimate purpose is an everlasting purpose that will never end.
5. Conclusion.

Literal Study

1. Define these key terms:

a. Man's chief end _____

b. Glorify God _____

c. Enjoy God _____

2. Paraphrase this Question and Answer, or put it into your own words.

Lecture Checkup

(If a text is mentioned, please read it and write it out in the space provided.)

1. What does it mean when he says that man's purpose is focused on God?

2. What has God, our Creator, said about man's purpose?

3. What does it mean to glorify God?

Psalm 145, verses 1–3

4. How can we glorify God? Can we add to his glory, or make him more glorious?

Matthew 6, verse 33

Matthew 5, verse 16

5. Give some examples of secondary purposes we may have. How do these secondary purposes fit in with our primary purpose?

Ephesians 6, verses 5–6

6. Can a man glorify God while he is in a sinful state? What is absolutely necessary in order for anyone to glorify and enjoy God?

7. What does glorifying God have to do with loving God?

8. How does the account of Adam and Eve in Genesis 3, verse 8 show us that we cannot enjoy God because of sin?

9. What is the only way in which we can glorify God and enjoy him in our lives?

Romans 5, verse 12

10. How is it that the chief end of man is said to be everlasting?

Further Studies

(As a help to answering these questions, please read the book,
The Shorter Catechism Explained from Scripture, by Thomas Vincent.)

1. How is God enjoyed here, and how will he be enjoyed by his people hereafter?

2. Why ought men to chiefly seek the glorifying of God in all their actions?

3. Why ought men to chiefly desire and seek the enjoyment of God forever?

Practical Application

1. Meditate on the chief end of man, then write a short article about your thoughts on this topic.

2. What does the world say about the chief end of man? What is your chief end?
