

THE WESTMINSTER STANDARDS

Shorter
CATECHISM

VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

by Rev. Jonathan Mattull

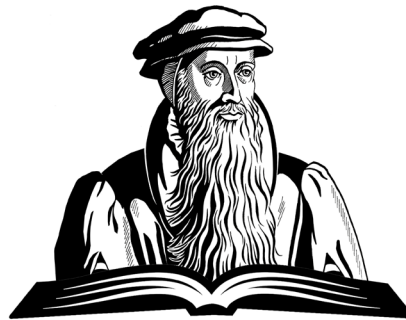
Adult Study Guide

for Lecture #9

God's Special Providence

Towards Man

Catechism Question 12



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

John Knox Institute of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

© 2023 by John Knox Institute of Higher Education

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form or by any means for profit, except in brief quotations for the purposes of review, comment, or scholarship, without written permission from the publisher, John Knox Institute, P.O. Box 19398, Kalamazoo, MI 49019-19398, USA.

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

Visit our website: www.johnknoxinstitute.org

Rev. Jonathan Mattull is minister of the gospel at Sovereign Grace Presbyterian Church, in St. Louis, Missouri, a congregation of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing), Presbytery of the United States of America.

stlpresbyterian.org

The Shorter CATECHISM

VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

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*

The Shorter CATECHISM

VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

by Rev. Jonathan Mattull

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*

The Shorter CATECHISM

VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

by Rev. Jonathan Mattull

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*
55. The Lord’s Prayer: The Second Petition—*Question 102*
56. The Lord’s Prayer: The Third Petition—*Question 103*
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*

The Shorter CATECHISM

VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

by Rev. Jonathan Mattull

ADULT STUDY GUIDE

for Lecture #9

God's Works of Providence

Towards Man

Memorization

Question 12: *What special act of providence did God exercise toward man in the estate wherein he was created?*

Answer: *When God had created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, upon condition of perfect obedience; forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, upon the pain of death.*

Lecture Structure

1. Introduction.
2. When this covenant was made..
3. What this covenant established
4. What this covenant required.
5. Conclusion

Literal Study

Define these key terms as they are used in this lecture:

1. Covenant _____
2. Condition _____
3. Paraphrase Question and Answer #12, or put it into your own words.

Lecture Checkup

1. When was this covenant made?

2. Does the word “covenant” appear in Genesis chapters 1 through 3 What is there in these chapters which implies that God made a covenant with Adam and Eve?

3. What was the promise in this covenant? What was the consequence of disobedience to this covenant?

4. In the Bible, “life and death” sometimes refers to physical life and physical death. But what other kind of “life and death” is revealed in the Bible ?

5. In this first covenant, what did Adam have to do in order to maintain and secure the life that was promised to him?

6. Was it unfair of God to require perfect obedience from Adam? What four things show that God was very fair and reasonable to make such a demand?

7. What is “the covenant of works”? What is another name for it? Why are these two names used for the same covenant?

8. What was forbidden in this covenant? What was the consequence for not obeying?

9. What was God’s intent in making a covenant with Adam?.

10. Did Adam’s disobedience affect himself only? Who else did it affect?

11. By God’s great kindness, what encouragements and benefits did the covenant give to Adam?

Further Studies

1. What does natural, spiritual, and eternal life consist in?

2. This first covenant required perfect obedience. In what respect was Adam’s obedience to be perfect?

3. Why was the tree called “the tree of the knowledge of good and evil?”

4. What does temporal, spiritual, and eternal death consist in?

Practical Application

1. The world today is in a terrible state. How does the fact of Adam’s fall into sin explain why the world is as it is today?

2. When Adam and Eve broke the covenant of works, did God cast mankind away? What is the story afterwards?

Project Ideas

Do some research on how life and death are dealt with in different religions and philosophies. List the differences and compare them with the biblical view of life and death.