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CATECHISM

VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

by Rev. Jonathan Mattull

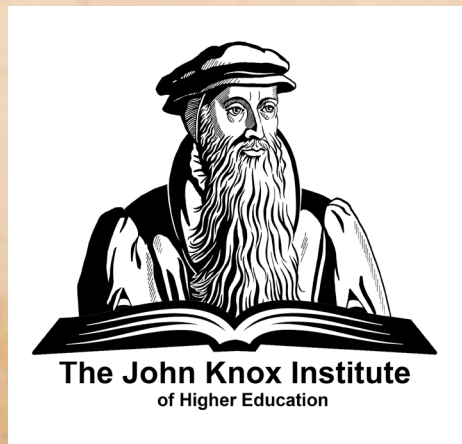
Adult Study Guide

for Lecture #38

The Ten Commandments:

Love for Life

Catechism Questions 67, 68, & 69



John Knox Institute of Higher Education

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The Ten Commandments:
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Memorization

Question 67: *Which is the sixth commandment?*

Answer: *The sixth commandment is, "Thou shalt not kill."*

Questions 68: *What is required in the sixth commandment?*

Answer: *The sixth commandment requireth all lawful endeavours to preserve our own life, and the life of others.*

Question 69: *What is forbidden in the sixth commandment?*

Answer: *The sixth commandment forbiddeth the taking away of our own life, or the life of our neighbour unjustly, or whatsoever tendeth thereunto.*

Lecture Structure

1. Introduction: man made in God's image.
2. The gift of life.
3. Preserving the gift of life.
4. Denying the gift of life.
5. Conclusion.

Literal Study

1. Define these words as they are used in this lecture:

a) Murder _____

b) Manslayer _____

c) Endeavor _____

2. Summarize the main teachings from the answers to Questions 67 through 69.

Lecture Checkup

1. What is the great difference between human beings and all other creatures in this world? What does the Bible tell us about man that is special? How is that different from what is taught by evolutionists?

2. What is the obvious reason that the world has increasingly ignored the great honor owed to human life?

3. What does the Catechism mean in Question 68 by the term, “lawful endeavours”? What are some practical ways to interpret this?

4. In keeping of the sixth commandment, why is self defence biblical? Explain your answer.

5. What does the sixth commandment teach us about preserving the lives of others?

6. What does the Bible teach us about the death penalty? What is the sword that the civil government bears?

7. What is the biblical view of suicide? Why? What should a person do if they face this temptation?

8. What is the biblical view about abortion of a baby? What is it based on? How should we react to such a sad situation as this?

9. On top of forbidding murder, why does the commandment also forbid things that tend to, or lead to, the unlawful taking of our own life or the lives of others?

10. What about unrighteous anger, hatred, or hate-filled speech? What does the Lord Jesus teach us about this? How is it forbidden in the sixth commandment?

Further Studies

1. If it is true that we should be willing to lose our life in order to own and acknowledge truth, might we not then deny Christ and his truths for the preservation of our life?

2. What are the lawful endeavors which we ought to use for the preservation of our life and the lives of others?

3. If someone kills themselves, is it possible for them to be saved, considering that there is no repenting afterwards for this sin?

4. Could we be guilty of murdering ourselves or others in any other way than by directly taking our own life or others' lives?

Practical Application

1. Considering the teachings in this lecture can lead us to conviction of the sin of breaking this commandment. If so for you, pray and confess your sins to God, and ask Him to help you not return to that sin again. Remember that God is merciful, and there is forgiveness in the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. Take some time to meditate on practical ways you can keep this commandment, and begin to put into practice those things that it requires for yourself and for others. Perhaps you could start with a list of things to avoid. But always start by praying and asking the Lord to guide you in this endeavor.

Project Ideas

Write an article to prove that abortion is a great sin. Think of the practical ways you can practice Proverbs 31:8, “Open thy mouth for the dumb,” especially for the unborn.