

THE WESTMINSTER STANDARDS

Shorter
CATECHISM

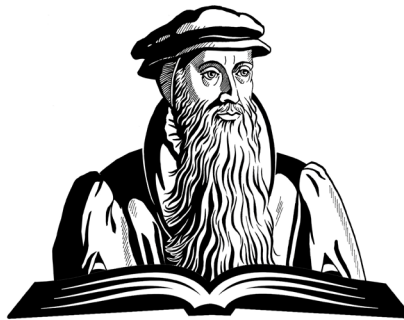
VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

by Rev. Jonathan Mattull

Youth Study Guide

for Lecture #43

Understanding Our Sin
Catechism Questions 82, 83, & 84



The John Knox Institute
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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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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 39–42*
31. The Ten Commandments: A Preface of Grace—*Questions 43 & 44*
32. The Ten Commandments: Love for God—*Questions 45–48*
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 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*
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58. The Lord's Prayer: The Fifth Petition—*Question 105*
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60. The Lord's Prayer: The Conclusion—*Question 107*

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YOUTH STUDY GUIDE

for Lecture #43

Understanding Our Sin

Memorization

Question 82: *Is any man able perfectly to keep the commandments of God?*

Answer: *No mere man since the fall is able in this life perfectly to keep the commandments of God, but doth daily break them in thought, word, and deed.*

Question 83: *Are all transgressions of the law equally heinous?*

Answer: *Some sins in themselves, and by reason of several aggravations, are more heinous in the sight of God than others.*

Question 84: *What doth every sin deserve?*

Answer: *Every sin deserveth God's wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come.*

Lecture Structure

1. Introduction: serious questions about sin.
2. The breaking of God's commandments.
3. Sin, and the degrees of evil.
4. Sin, and its just punishment.
5. Applications.

Basic Questions for Question and Answers 82, 83, & 84

1. What do the words, "mere man" mean as they are used in this lecture?

2. What does the word "heinous" mean as it is used in this lecture?

3. What does the word “aggravations” mean as it is used in this lecture?

4. Summarize the main teachings from the answers to Questions 82, 83, & 84.

Bible Study Questions

(Look up the Scripture texts, read them, then write them out in the space provided.)

1. *No mere man, since the fall, is able in this life perfectly to keep the commandments of God, but doth daily break them in thought, word, and deed.*

Romans 3:23 _____

1 John 1:8 _____

2. *Some sins are more heinous than others.*

Ezekiel 8:6, 13, 15 _____

John 19:11 _____

Matthew 22:37–39 _____

3. *Every sin deserves God's wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come.*

Matthew 13:41–42 _____

1 Thessalonians 1:8–9 _____

Revelation 14:11 _____

Lecture Checkup

1. The Catechism says “no mere man, since the fall is able in this life perfectly to keep the commandments of God.” What does “no mere man” imply? Who does it point to?

2. What does “no mere man since the fall” also tell us about everyone else who has ever lived? What does the Bible say about that?

3. How much has original sin corrupted us? How does it affect our thoughts, words, and actions? Is this only true of the unconverted? Or are believers also corrupted this way?

4. For the believer, what will happen to this sinful corruption in heaven?

5. Are all sins equally ugly and hateful in God's sight? What does the Bible tell us about this?

6. What makes some sins more repulsive to God than other sins?

7. List the four ways that some sins are more heinous than others, according to the *Larger Catechism* .

8. How is it that every sin deserves God's wrath and curse?

9. Why does every sin deserve God's wrath and curse *both in this life, and the life to come*?

10. What are the three horrifying ways that unconverted sinners will experience God's wrath in the end of the world? What three Bible passages prove this?

Practical Application

1. Did this lecture help you to see that the sinful condition of fallen mankind is true for you as well? Did you see that you also deserve God's wrath and curse as a sinner? We hope you will examine yourself in the light of God's Word. May the weight of these things make us see how evil sin is, make us detest all sin, and cause us to flee to God in Christ.

2. What a blessed truth it is to know that God has made a way of escape from the wrath and curse we all deserve! Do you know the way, the truth, and the life, which is Jesus Christ? Have you embraced Christ as your Lord, the only Savior from the wrath to come?
