

# CATECHETICAL REVIEW

By  
A. H. LANGE

## THE SIX CHIEF PARTS

1. The Ten Commandments
2. The Creed
3. The Lord's Prayer
4. The Sacrament of Holy Baptism
5. The Office of the Keys and Confession
6. The Sacrament of the Altar

## INTRODUCTION

1. What book is the source of Christian doctrine? The Bible, or the Scriptures.
2. What are the two parts of the Bible? The Old and the New Testament.
3. By whom was the Old Testament written? By the prophets.
4. By whom was the New Testament written? By the apostles and evangelists.
5. Who gave them the thoughts and words which they wrote? God.
6. Prove this by a Bible verse. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God." 2 Tim. 3:16; 1 Cor. 2:12, 13.
7. Whose word, then, is the Bible? God's Word.
8. Hence, what does Jesus say concerning Scripture? "The Scripture cannot be broken." John 10:35.
9. What else does He say about God's Word? "Thy Word is Truth." John 17:17.
10. What, therefore, can the Bible not contain? It cannot contain errors and falsehoods.
11. How then, are we to receive all the statements of this Book? As divine truth.
12. What two great bodies of doctrine does the Bible teach us? The Law and the Gospel.
13. How did God give the Law at first? He wrote it in man's heart.
14. How did He, at a later time, repeat it? He laid it down in Ten Commandments.
15. Through whom was it published? Through Moses. (Ex. 19 and 20.)

## I. The Ten Commandments

16. Which are the Ten Commandments?
  1. Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.
  2. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord, thy God, in vain.
  3. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
  4. Thou shalt honor thy father and thy mother that it may be well with thee and thou mayest live long on the earth.
  5. Thou shalt not kill.
  6. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
  7. Thou shalt not steal.
  8. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
  9. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house.
  10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.
17. Which Commandments are called the *First Table* of the Law? The first three.
18. What is the sum of the First Table? "Thou shalt love the Lord, thy God, with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind."
19. Which Commandments form the *Second Table*? The last seven.
20. What is the sum of the Second Table? "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Matt. 22:37-39.
21. What, then, is the sum of all Commandments? Love.
22. In what sermon did Christ show the true meaning of the Law? In the Sermon on the Mount. Matt. 5-7.
23. Which is the **First Commandment**? *Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.*
24. What sin does God forbid in this Commandment? Idolatry, that is, the worship of idols, or false gods.
25. How many kinds of idolatry are there? Two kinds, open and hidden.
26. When does a person practice open idolatry? When he adores a creature as God.

27. When do we practice hidden idolatry? When we fear, love, and trust in creatures as we should fear, love, and trust in God alone.
28. What follows from the fact that we should not have *other* gods before the Lord? That we should have Him alone as our God.
29. What, then, is enjoined in this Commandment? That we should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. (Joseph; Abraham; David; Daniel.)
30. Which is the **Second Commandment**? *Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord, thy God, in vain.*
31. What is the name of God? The name of God is that by which He is known.
32. What should we not do with God's name? We should not take it in vain, not misuse it.
33. Hence, what sins does God forbid? Cursing, false swearing, using witchcraft, lying, or deceiving by His name.
34. What does He command us to do? We should call upon His name in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.
35. From what source must these good works flow? From a heart that fears and loves God.
36. Which is the **Third Commandment**? *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*
37. What day of the week was kept by the Jews in the Old Testament? The seventh day, Saturday, Sabbath.
38. Why do we no longer observe this day? Because God Himself has abolished it. Col. 2:16, 17.
39. Why do we observe Sunday and other holidays? In order to have time and opportunity for public worship. Acts 2:42; Heb. 10:5.
40. What important things are done in public worship? Bible reading, preaching, prayer, Baptism, the Lord's Supper, confession, and absolution.
41. What does God forbid in this Commandment? We should not despise preaching and His Word.

42. What does He command us to do? We should hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.
43. When do we hold it sacred? When we receive it, not as the word of men, but as the Word of God.
44. How did Mary show that she gladly heard and learned the Word of God? She sat at Jesus' feet and listened to His Word.
45. Which is the **Fourth Commandment**? *Thou shalt honor thy father and thy mother, that it may be well with thee and thou mayest live long on the earth.*
46. Who is meant by "thy father and thy mother"? All those who are placed over us in home, state, school, and church.
47. What does God forbid us to do with regard to our parents and superiors? We should not despise them nor provoke them to anger.
48. What does He command us to do? We should give them honor, serve and obey them, and hold them in love and esteem.
49. Which is the **Fifth Commandment**? *Thou shalt not kill.*
50. What sins are forbidden by this Commandment? Suicide, murder, bitter words, anger, hatred, enmity.
51. What is enjoined upon us? We should help and befriend our neighbor in every bodily need.
52. How should we at all times feel toward our neighbor? We should be merciful, meek, and forgiving.
53. Which is the **Sixth Commandment**? *Thou shalt not commit adultery.*
54. Who has instituted marriage? God Himself.
55. What is marriage? The lifelong union of man and wife unto one flesh.
56. How is it entered? By rightful betrothal, or engagement.
57. What sins are forbidden? Breach of promise; divorce; unfaithfulness; impurity in deed, word, look, thought, and desire; sinful amusements.

58. What is enjoined upon all persons? To lead a chaste and decent life in word and deed.
59. What ought we to do when evil desires arise in the heart? We ought to quench or suppress them.
60. With what ought we to quench them? With the Word of God and prayer.
61. By what other means are we to check evil desires? By industry and temperance.
62. What is enjoined upon married persons especially? That each should love and honor his spouse.
  
63. Which is the **Seventh Commandment**? *Thou shalt not steal.*
64. What sins are forbidden in this Commandment? Robbery, theft, fraud; taking too much interest, taking interest from the needy; envy, covetousness.
65. What is enjoined? We should help our neighbor to improve and protect his property and business.
  
66. Which is the **Eighth Commandment**? *Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.*
67. What is false witness? In the first place, any testimony that is not true.
68. What, furthermore, is false witness? Any testimony that flows from a false or deceitful heart.
69. What sins, then, are forbidden? Deceitfully belying, betraying, slandering, or defaming our neighbor.
70. What is enjoined? We should defend our neighbor, speak well of him, and put the best construction on everything.
  
71. Which is the **Ninth Commandment**? *Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house.*
72. What is forbidden? We should not craftily seek to get our neighbor's inheritance or house nor obtain it by a show of right.
73. What is enjoined? That we should help our neighbor and be of service to him in keeping it.

74. Which is the **Tenth Commandment**? *Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maid-servant, nor his cattle, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.*
75. What is forbidden? We should not estrange, force, or entice away from our neighbor his wife, servants, or cattle.
76. What is enjoined? We should urge them to stay and do their duty.
77. When God says, "Thou shalt not covet," of what does He remind us particularly? That mere evil lust is truly sin and that we should have only holy desires in our hearts.
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78. What does God threaten to do to all who transgress His Commandments? He threatens to punish them.
79. What does He say of the soul that sinneth? "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Ezek. 18:20.
80. What, then, is the wages of sin? "The wages of sin is death." Rom. 6:23.
81. What does God promise to all that keep His Commandments? Grace and every blessing. Ex. 15:22-26.
82. Can anyone keep the Commandments of God perfectly? No.
83. Who cannot keep the Law at all? Natural man. Rom. 8:7.
84. Who can keep it, though imperfectly? The regenerate, that is, the children of God.
85. What Bible verse declares all men to be sinners? "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3:23. (Rom. 1-3.)
86. Is there any hope, then, of being saved by the Law? Not at all.
87. By what Scripture passage do you prove this? "By the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified." Gal. 2:16.
88. Is the Law nevertheless of some benefit to mankind? It is.
89. What purposes does it serve? It serves as a curb, a mirror, and a rule.
90. How does it act as a curb? It checks crime to some extent.
91. How does it serve as a mirror? "By the Law is the knowledge of sin."

92. How does it serve as a *rule*? It teaches good works.
93. What does he commit who departs from this rule? Sin.
94. By whom was sin brought into the world? By the devil and by man. (Gen. 3.)
95. Of how many kinds is sin? Of two kinds; original and actual.
96. What is *original sin*? The corrupt condition of man's nature.
97. Since what time of his life is man's heart evil? "The imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth." Gen. 8:21.
98. How did we get this evil nature? We have inherited it.
99. What is *actual sin*? Every sinful act of man.
100. Mention some evil acts. "Evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies." Matt. 15:19.
101. How are we made free from sin? By faith in Christ. John 8:31-36; Rom. 10:4; Luke 17:11-19.
102. From what part of the Christian doctrine do we learn this? From the Creed.

## II. The Creed

103. How many articles form the Creed? Three.
104. How do they read?
  1. **I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**
  2. **And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**
  3. **I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**



## THE FIRST ARTICLE

105. What is God? God is a spirit. He is eternal, everywhere present, all-knowing, almighty, holy, just, faithful, kind, merciful, and gracious.
106. Who is the true God? The Triune God.
107. Why is He called the "Triune God"? Because there are three Persons in one divine Being.
108. How may this be expressed in another way? There is a Trinity in Unity.
109. What are the names of the three Persons? Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
110. From what word of Christ do we learn this? "Go ye and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." Matt. 28:19. (Matt. 3:13-17.)
111. Why is God called "**Father Almighty**"? Because He is the Maker and Preserver of all things.
112. What was made by the word of the Lord? Heaven and earth. (Gen. 1.)
113. Hence, what do you believe concerning yourself? God has made me.
114. What essential parts did He give you? My body and soul.
115. What does He still do for you? He preserves or keeps me. (Ps. 104.)
116. What does He give you for your preservation? Clothing and shoes, meat and drink, and many other things.
117. From what does He guard and protect you? From all evil. (Ps. 91.)
118. What prompts Him to do all this for you? His goodness and mercy. (Ps. 34; Ps. 145.)
119. What, then, is your duty toward Him? To thank and praise, to serve and obey Him. (Ps. 107; Deut. 8.)
120. How may all creatures be classified? As visible and invisible.
121. Which are the foremost among the invisible creatures? The angels.

122. How many kinds of angels are there? Two kinds, good and evil.
123. What is the office of the good angels? They praise God, carry out His commands, and serve mankind. (Acts 12.)
124. What is the work of the evil angels? They oppose God and seek to destroy man. (1 Pet. 5:8, 9.)
125. Which is the foremost among the visible creatures? Man.
126. In whose image was man made? In God's image.
127. In what respect was he like God? He was holy and righteous. Eph. 4:24.
128. Do we still bear the image of God? No.
129. When was it lost? When man fell into sin. Gen. 5:3.
130. In whom is its renewal begun? In the believers.
131. When will it be fully restored? In eternal life. 1 John 3:2.
132. For whose sake does God renew His image in us? For Christ's sake.
133. Which Article treats of Jesus Christ? The Second Article.

## THE SECOND ARTICLE

134. What is the meaning of the name "Jesus"? Savior.
135. What is the meaning of the name "Christ"? The Anointed.
136. Who is **Jesus Christ**? The Son of God; true God and true man.
137. What two natures, then, are there in Christ? The divine and the human nature.
138. For what purpose did the Son of God assume the human nature? For the redemption of the world. Matt. 18:11; Gal. 4:4, 5; Heb. 2:14, 15.
139. How manifold is the office of Christ? Threefold; that of a *Prophet* (John 4), a *Priest* (Heb. 7–10), and a *King* (Ps. 2; Ps. 72).
140. What two states of Christ do we distinguish? The State of Humiliation and the State of Exaltation. Phil. 2:5-11.
141. According to which nature did He humble Himself? According to His human nature.

142. Explain in what manner He humbled Himself. He did not always and not fully use the divine majesty communicated to His human nature.
143. Which words of the Second Article describe the State of Humiliation?
  - “Conceived by the Holy Ghost” (Matt. 1:18-25);
  - “born of the Virgin Mary” (Luke 2:1-20);
  - “suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried” (Luke 22:23).
144. Which words of the Second Article describe the State of Exaltation?
  - “He descended into hell” (1 Pet. 3:18, 19; Col. 2:15);
  - “the third day He rose again from the dead” (Luke 24; 1 Cor. 15:1-20);
  - “He ascended into heaven” (Acts 1:1-12);
  - “and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty” (Ps. 110; Heb. 1);
  - “from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead” (Matt. 25:31-46; 1 Thess. 5:1-12).
145. For whom did Christ do all this? For me and every other sinner. John 1:29.
146. From what evils has He redeemed you? From all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil.
147. What did He do with your sins in order to free you from them? He took them upon Himself. (Is. 53.)
148. What did He do to save you from death? He died in my stead. John 10:15.
149. How did He deliver you from the power of the devil? He conquered the devil and broke his power. 1 John 3:8.
150. What ransom did Christ pay for your redemption? His holy, precious blood.
151. What is the power of the blood of Christ? “The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin.” 1 John 1:7.
152. For what purpose has Christ redeemed you? That I may be His own.
153. What does this mean? That I may be His subject, His servant, His child.

154. Having become His very own, where are you to live? In His kingdom.
155. What kind of kingdom is this? Not a worldly, but a spiritual kingdom.
156. What are you to do in His kingdom? I am to serve Him.
157. What did Christ do on the third day in order to seal His work to us? He rose again from the dead.
158. What if Christ had not been raised? "If Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins." 1 Cor. 15:17.
159. Why, then, do we rejoice in His resurrection? Because He was raised again for our justification. Rom. 4:25.
160. What is He doing since His resurrection? He lives and reigns.
161. What does His life mean to us? Because He lives, we shall live also. John 14:19.
162. What does His reign, or rule, mean to us? He governs and protects us. Eph. 1:20-23.
163. How long does He live and reign? To all eternity.
164. What kind of news is it that you have learned from the Second Article? Good news.
165. What does the Bible call this good news? The Gospel.
166. What Bible verse is a brief summary of the Gospel? "God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

### THE THIRD ARTICLE

167. Of whose work does the Third Article treat? Of the work of the **Holy Ghost**. (Acts 2.)
168. Who is the Holy Ghost? The Third Person in the Holy Trinity.
169. What is He with the Father and the Son? He is true God.
170. Why is He called *holy*? Because He Himself is holy and because He makes us holy.

171. What Bible verse shows the importance of His work? "No man can say that Jesus is the Lord but by the Holy Ghost." 1 Cor. 12:3.
172. What can you not do by your own reason or strength? I cannot believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him.
173. Why is this impossible? Because by nature I am spiritually blind and dead and an enemy of God.
174. What does the Bible say concerning the natural state of man? "Ye were dead in trespasses and sins." Eph. 2:1.
175. Who was it, however, that quickened you and brought you to Christ? The Holy Ghost.
176. How did He do this? He *called me by the Gospel*. (Luke 14:16-24.)
177. What did He work in you by such call? He *enlightened me with His gifts*.
178. What does this mean? He led me to know Jesus as my Savior.
179. How does this knowledge affect your heart and mind? I believe and trust, rejoice and take comfort, in Him.
180. What further change has the Holy Ghost wrought in you? He has *sanctified me*.
181. What does this mean? He has renewed my heart.
182. What new power has He given you? The power to fight against sin.
183. What new desire has He created in you? A desire to be fruitful in good works. (John 15:1-17.)
184. What else has the Holy Ghost done for you? He has *kept me in the true faith*.
185. Restate the four things which He has done for you. He has called, enlightened, sanctified, and kept me.
186. Has He wrought all this in you alone? No.
187. What other persons have been blessed in like manner? All believers in Christ.

188. What do we call all believers when we think of them as one body? **The Christian Church**, the communion of saints. (Eph. 1–5.)
189. What, then, do we mean by the Church? The whole number of those who have been sanctified. Eph. 5:25-27. (*Holy Church.*)
190. By what other names is the Church known? The household of God, the temple of God, the body of Christ. (*One Church.*)
191. Who is the firm foundation of the Church? Christ Himself. 1 Cor. 3:11; Matt. 16:18. (*Christian Church.*)
192. How does one become a member of the Church? By faith in Christ. (*Church invisible.*)
193. What is the office of the Holy Ghost in regard to the Church? He calls, gathers, enlightens, sanctifies, and keeps it.
194. By what means does He do all this? *By the Gospel.* (Missionary work.)
195. What daily blessing do you enjoy as a member of the Church? **The forgiveness of sins.** (Ps. 103; Ps. 130; Jer. 31:31-34.)
196. What prompts God to forgive your sins? His grace. Eph. 1:7.
197. For whose sake does He forgive them? For Christ's sake.
198. Why for Christ's sake? Because He has made full atonement for our sins.
199. To whom does God forgive sins? To me and all believers.
200. How many sins does He forgive you? All of them.
201. How does God deal with the sinner to whom He forgives sins? He justifies him.
202. What does this mean? He declares him righteous.
203. Whose righteousness does He give him? The righteousness of Christ.
204. How does the sinner make that righteousness his very own? By faith in Christ.
205. How, then, is a man justified before God? "A man is justified by faith, without the deeds of the Law." Rom. 3:28.

206. What is the importance of the article of justification? This article distinguishes the Christian Church from all false religions.
207. To whom alone does this article give all glory? To God alone.
208. What kind of comfort does this article give to poor sinners? True and lasting comfort.
209. What has God promised to do with your body at the Last Day? To raise it from the dead. **The resurrection.** (1 Cor. 15:12-58.)
210. How will your body compare with that of Christ? It will be like His glorious body.
211. Will the unbelievers also be raised? Yes, all the dead. John 5:28, 29.
212. What, however, will be the fate of the unbelievers? They will be cast into hell.
213. What is hell? A place of everlasting shame and torment. (Luke 16:19-31.)
214. What will God give to the believers? **Eternal life.** John 3:16.
215. What is eternal life? A state of everlasting joy and glory in heaven. Ps. 16:11; Rom. 8:18. (Heb. 4:1-11; Rev. 7:9-17; Rev. 21.)
216. Does God earnestly desire to save all men? He does. 1 Tim. 2:4.
217. Why is it that many are not saved? They always resist the Holy Ghost.
218. Who, then, is to blame for their damnation? They themselves.
219. To what do those who are saved owe their salvation? To the grace of God. Eph. 2:8, 9.
220. What, then, are we to do who have been saved? We are to praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

### III. The Lord's Prayer

#### OF PRAYER IN GENERAL

(Gen. 18:17-23; Gen. 19:20; Luke 11:1-13;  
Luke 18:1-17)

221. What is prayer? An act of worship.
222. What should *induce* us to pray? God's command, God's promise, and our need.
223. What Scripture-passage contains a statement of these three things? "Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify Me." Ps. 50:15.
224. To *whom* should we pray? Only to the true God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Matt. 4:10.
225. *What* should we ask of God in our prayers? Spiritual and temporal blessings.
226. *How* should we pray? In the name of Jesus and with firm confidence. John 16:23.
227. *For whom* should we pray? For *all men*. 1 Tim. 2:1.
228. *Where* should we pray? Everywhere, especially in our homes and in public worship. 1 Tim. 2:8; Matt. 6:6; Ps. 26:12.
229. *When* should we pray? At all times, and especially in times of trouble.
230. Which of all prayers is the model prayer? The Lord's Prayer.
231. How does the *Lord's Prayer* read?

Our Father who art in heaven; Hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.



232. How does the **Address**, or **Introduction**, read? *Our Father who art in heaven.*
233. What do we call God in this prayer? We call Him our Father.
234. How did we become His children? Through faith in Christ.
235. How ought we to pray if God is our Father? With all boldness and confidence.
236. By what example can you illustrate this? By the example of dear children.
237. How do they ask their dear father? Without fear and doubt.
238. Which is the **First Petition**? *Hallowed be Thy name.* (Jer. 23.)
239. What is to be hallowed? The name of our heavenly Father.
240. What is it to *hallow* God's name? To keep it sacred, or holy.
241. According to what standard are we to keep it holy? According to the Word of God.
242. How, then, must we teach His Word? In its truth and purity.
243. And what kind of life must we lead according to it? A holy life. Matt. 5:16.
244. Hence, what do we ask God to grant us? Pure doctrine and holy life.
245. Who, on the contrary, profanes the name of God? He that *teaches otherwise* than God's Word teaches.
246. Who also profanes His name? He that *lives otherwise* than God's Word teaches.
247. Hence, from what do we ask God to preserve us? From false doctrine and ungodly life.
248. Which is the **Second Petition**? *Thy kingdom come.* (Acts 1:3.)
249. What is the kingdom of God? His gracious reign, or rule. Rom. 14:17.
250. Through whose mighty working does the kingdom of God come to us? Through the working of the Holy Spirit.
251. What does He do to make it come? He brings us to believe His holy Word.

252. What else does He help us to do? To lead a godly life.
253. What is the name of that kingdom in which we live at present? The Kingdom of Grace. Rom. 5:21.
254. In which kingdom do we desire to live hereafter? In the Kingdom of Glory.
255. Which is the **Third Petition**? *Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.* (John 17; Matt. 26:36-46.)
256. What do we pray in regard to the will of God? That it may be done among us.
257. Whose will is opposed to God's will? The will of the devil, the world, and our flesh. 1 Pet. 5:8; 1 John 2:15-17.
258. Explain how the devil, the world, and our flesh set themselves against the will of God. They will not let us hallow God's name nor let His kingdom come.
259. Hence, what is the nature of their counsel and will? It is an evil counsel and will.
260. What do we pray God to do with their will? To break and hinder it.
261. What, on the other hand, do we ask God to do for us? To strengthen and preserve us in His Word and faith.
262. Is He willing to do this? He is. Phil. 1:6.
263. What, then, is the nature of His will? It is a good and gracious will.
264. Which is the **Fourth Petition**? *Give us this day our daily bread.* (1 Kings 17.)
265. What is meant by daily bread? Every earthly gift that we need for the present time.
266. To whom does God give daily bread? To the wicked as well as to the godly people. Matt. 5:45.
267. But what do we here pray Him to do? To lead us to know it.
268. What is meant by *knowing* the bread? Recognizing it as a gift of God.
269. What will such knowledge lead us to do? To receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

270. Which is the **Fifth Petition**? *And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.* (Matt. 18:21-35.)
271. What do we mean by saying, "Forgive us our trespasses"? Do not look upon our sins.
272. If God were to mark our sins, what should we have to fear concerning our prayer? That it would be denied.
273. Why? Because we are worthy of none of the things for which we pray, neither have we deserved them.
274. What, therefore, is our only plea? That God would grant them all to us by grace.
275. Why by grace? Because we daily sin much and indeed deserve nothing but punishment.
276. What do we promise to do when God has forgiven our sins? To forgive those who sin against us.
277. How ought we to forgive? Heartily, or from the heart.
278. How are we to assure the neighbor of our forgiveness? By doing good to him.
279. Which is the **Sixth Petition**? *And lead us not into temptation.* (Gen. 3; Matt. 4:1-11.)
280. By whom are we tempted to evil? By the devil, the world, and our flesh.
281. What are they trying to do? To deceive and seduce us.
282. Into what sins would they lead us? Into misbelief, despair, and other great shame and vice.
283. Upon whom do we call for aid against such temptations? Upon God.
284. What do we ask Him to do? To guard and keep us.
285. For what purpose? That we may finally overcome and obtain the victory.
286. Which is the **Seventh Petition**? *But deliver us from evil.* (Ps. 42.)
287. What forms of evil are there? Evils of the body and soul, of property and honor.
288. What do we pray God to do? To deliver us from evil.

289. What do we ask Him to grant us finally? A blessed end.
290. What is a blessed end. Dying in the Lord. (Luke 2:25-32.)
291. Where will those be taken who die in the Lord? To Himself in heaven.
292. What shall they then remember no more? This vale of tears.
293. How does the **Doxology** read? *For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.*
294. What does this mean? Our heavenly Father reigns; He can answer our prayer; He is to be praised.
295. What is the closing word? **Amen.**
296. What is the meaning of this word? Yea, yea, it shall be so.
297. Why do we believe that these petitions are acceptable to God? Because He Himself has commanded us so to pray.
298. Why are you sure that they are heard and answered? Because He Himself has promised to hear us.
299. How does His promise read? "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in My name, He will give it you." John 16:23.

## IV. The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

300. Let us define a Sacrament. What kind of act is it? A sacred act, ordained by God.
301. What kind of means, or element, is used in a Sacrament? An external, or visible, means. (Water, bread, wine.)
302. What is connected with the external means? God's word. (The word comes to the element, and it becomes a Sacrament.)
303. What is offered and sealed to us through a Sacrament? The gifts of God's grace, the benefits of Christ.
304. How many Sacraments are there? Two, Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

### FIRST, THE NATURE OF BAPTISM

305. How do the words of institution read? Christ, our Lord, says in the last chapter of Matthew: **"Go ye and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you."**
306. Who has instituted Baptism? Christ, our Lord.
307. To whom does He say, "Go ye"? To His Church.
308. What charge has He given His Church? To teach all nations, that is, *to make disciples of all nations*.
309. How is the Church to make disciples of all nations? By *baptizing and teaching* them.
310. Whom is she to baptize and to teach? All nations, that is, all human beings, young and old.
311. What external means is to be used in Baptism? Water. (Acts 8:26-38.)
312. How is the water to be applied? By washing, pouring, sprinkling, or immersion. Matt. 3:11; Mark 7:4; Luke 11:38; Heb. 9:10.

- 313. What words must be spoken when the water is applied?  
"I baptize thee in the name of the Father and of the Son  
and of the Holy Ghost."
- 314. Whose name and word, then, is connected with the water?  
God's name and word.
- 315. What is it to be baptized in God's name? It is to be bap-  
tized by God Himself.

### **SECONDLY, THE BENEFIT OF BAPTISM**

- 316. What does Baptism work? Forgiveness of sins. Acts 2:38;  
Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26, 27.
- 317. From what does it deliver? From death and the devil.
- 318. What does it give? Eternal salvation.
- 319. To whom does it give all this? To all who believe this.
- 320. From what source do we learn about these great things?  
From the words and promises of God.
- 321. Which is one of such words and promises of God? Christ,  
our Lord, says in the last chapter of Mark: "He that be-  
lieveth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth  
not shall be damned."
- 322. What is promised to him that believes and is baptized?  
Salvation.
- 323. Does everyone that is baptized receive this blessing? No,  
only he that believes.
- 324. How does the effect of Baptism continue all through life?  
It always assures us of God's covenant.
- 325. What does the Lord say of the firmness of His covenant?  
"The covenant of My peace shall not be removed." Is.  
54:9, 10.

### **THIRDLY, THE POWER OF BAPTISM**

- 326. How can water do such great things? It is not the water  
that does them. (Illustration: Numbers 21:5-9.)

- 327. What is it that does them? The word of God which is in and with the water.
- 328. How does the word of God do them? His word, like a hand, places these great things into Baptism.
- 329. And what does faith do here? It trusts such word of God.
- 330. What does that mean? Faith, like a hand, takes, or accepts, these great things.
- 331. What does Paul, in Titus, chapter third, write about the power of Baptism? "God saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost."
- 332. What is Baptism therefore properly called? A means of grace.
- 333. How do the Reformed churches regard Baptism? Merely as a sign or profession.

#### **FOURTHLY, THE SIGNIFICANCE OF BAPTISM**

- 334. What does Baptism signify? The drowning of the old man and the coming forth of the new man.
- 335. How were we, by Baptism, united with the death and resurrection of Christ? We died with Him and rose with Him.
- 336. Unto what did we die with Him? Unto sin.
- 337. Unto what did we rise with Him? Unto newness of life.
- 338. What must sin therefore not be allowed to do? To rule over us.
- 339. To whom should we devote every member of the body? To God. Rom. 6:12, 13.
- 340. Of what vow does this remind us? Of our baptismal vow.
- 341. Whom did we renounce in Holy Baptism? Satan and his allies.
- 342. Whom only did we promise to serve? The true God.
- 343. When do we solemnly renew the baptismal vow? At our confirmation.

### INFANT BAPTISM

344. Why do we baptize infants as well as adults? Because they are included in "all nations."
345. Give another reason for baptizing infants. They need the benefit of Baptism.
346. How is the benefit to be received? By faith in Christ.
347. Can the Lord work faith in the hearts of infants? He can.
348. How do we know this? Christ Himself says that these little ones believe in Him. (Matt. 18:1-6.)
349. What kind of sponsors ought we to choose for children? Such as are of our own faith.
350. Why? Because they are to assist in caring for the Christian education of the children.



## V. The Office of the Keys and Confession

### A. THE OFFICE OF THE KEYS

351. What is the Office of the Keys? It is the peculiar church power which Christ has given to His Church on earth.
352. What does the holy evangelist John write about the Office of the Keys? **"The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and saith unto them. Receive ye the Holy Ghost. Whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained."** John 20:22, 23.
353. Who has instituted the Office of the Keys? The Lord Jesus.
354. To whom has He given this office? To His Church.
355. What does He call the keys which He has given to His Church? **"The keys of the kingdom of heaven."** Matt. 16:19.
356. How is the Church to open the kingdom of heaven? By forgiving sins.
357. Whose sins are to be forgiven? The sins of penitent sinners.
358. What are penitent sinners? Such as are sorry for their sins and believe in Jesus Christ.
359. Mention some penitent sinners from Bible History. The *publican*, Luke 18:13; the *prodigal* son, Luke 15:11-24; *Peter*, Matt. 26:75.
360. Whose sins, on the other hand, are to be retained? The sins of the impenitent.
361. What are impenitent sinners? Such as are not sorry for their sins and have no faith.
362. How long are their sins to be retained? As long as they do not repent.
363. According to whose command must we thus deal with sinners? According to Christ's command.
364. What has He commanded to do with the sinner who refuses to hear the church? To treat him as a heathen man and a publican. Matt. 18:15-17. (1 Cor. 5.)
365. What is the church to do with a sinner who shows himself penitent? To receive him as a brother. (2 Cor. 2.)

## B. CONFESSION

(Ps. 32; Ps. 51)

366. How many parts does confession embrace? Two parts.
367. Which is the first part? We confess our sins.
368. Which is the second part? We receive absolution, or forgiveness.
369. What are the words of the General Confession?

**O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being. Amen.**

370. In what service do we use this confession? In the preparatory, or confessional, service.
371. In whose name does the minister, then, forgive our sins? In the name of God.
372. How are we to regard the forgiveness which we receive from the confessor, or minister? As if we received it from God Himself. John 20:23.
373. Of how many sins should we plead guilty before God? Of all sins. 1 John 1:8, 9; Prov. 28:13.
374. Does that include even those sins which we do not know? It does. Ps. 19:12.
375. What does our Church teach concerning confession before the confessor, or pastor? No one should be forced to private confession, but it is of great benefit to a burdened conscience. Matt. 9:2. (2 Sam. 12.)
376. What does the Bible say about confessing our faults to the neighbor whom we have offended and grieved? "Confess your faults one to another." Jas. 5:16. "Be reconciled to thy brother." Matt. 5:23, 24.
377. According to what rule should we examine ourselves before confession? According to the divine Law, or the Ten Commandments.

## VI. The Sacrament of the Altar

(1 Cor. 11:23-34)

### FIRST, THE NATURE OF THIS SACRAMENT

378. Why is it called the Sacrament of the Altar? Because it is given and taken at the altar.
379. By what other names is it known? Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper, the Lord's Table.
380. Which Evangelists and Apostles have written about this Sacrament? *Matthew* (26:26-29), *Mark* (14:22-24), *Luke* (22:19, 20), and *St. Paul* (1 Cor. 11:23-34).
381. How do the *words of institution* read?

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He brake it and gave it to His disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.

After the same manner also He took the cup when He had supped, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: Take, drink ye all of it; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins. This do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.

382. Who has ordained and instituted this Sacrament? Our Lord Jesus Christ.
383. On what night did He institute it? "The same night in which He was betrayed."
384. What feast had He celebrated on that evening with His disciples? The Passover. (Ex. 12.)
385. Of whom was the paschal lamb a type? Of Christ, the Lamb of God.
386. What Sacrament was henceforth to take the place of the Passover? The Lord's Supper.
387. What did the Lord take and bless? Bread, prepared of flour, and wine, of the fruit of the vine. Matt. 26:29.
388. To whom did He give the bread and the wine? To His disciples.

389. What did He say when He gave the bread? "Take, eat; this is My body."
390. What did He say when He gave the wine? "Take, drink ye all of it; this is My blood." Mark 14:24.
391. What, then, did He give His disciples together with the bread and the wine? His body and blood.
392. What kind of body does Christ give us in the Sacrament? His *true* body.
393. How do you know this? He says, "This is My body, *which is given for you.*"
394. What kind of blood does He give us? His *true* blood.
395. How do you prove this? He says, "This is My blood, *which is shed for you.*"
396. In what words does Paul declare that the body of Christ is united with the bread? "The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?" 1 Cor. 10:16.
397. What does he likewise say of the cup and the blood of Christ? "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ?"
398. What does the word "communion" mean? Fellowship, or the state of being together.
399. How do the Reformed churches deny such communion? By saying that the bread and wine merely represent Christ's body and blood.
400. By what fact can we prove that the words "This is My body" cannot mean "This represents My body"? They are the words of a divine testament.
401. What kind of speech is never used in a will or testament? Figurative speech.
402. How, then, must we take the words of a testament? In their *proper* sense.
403. What does the Roman Catholic Church teach concerning the bread and wine in the Sacrament? That they are changed into the body and blood of Christ.
404. Why cannot this be true? Because the Bible teaches that the bread and wine are the *communion* of the body and blood of Christ.

- 405. For what use does Christ give us His body and blood under the bread and wine? To eat and to drink.
- 406. How many communicants are to eat and to drink? All of them. Mark 14:23.
- 407. When only is the Lord's Supper properly celebrated? When it is administered according to Christ's institution.
- 408. What is the meaning of the words, "This do in remembrance of Me"? Proclaim and remember My death.
- 409. How long is Christ's death to be proclaimed and remembered by this Sacrament? Till He comes to Judgment.
- 410. What is intimated by the words "*As oft as ye drink it*"? That we should receive the Lord's Supper frequently.
- 411. What should induce us to receive the Lord's Supper often? Christ's command, Christ's promise, and our need.

## **SECONDLY, THE BENEFIT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

- 412. By what words does Christ show us the benefit of such eating and drinking? By the words, "*Given and shed for you for the remission of sins.*"
- 413. What was given for us? Christ's body.
- 414. What was shed for us? His blood.
- 415. For what purpose was this done? For the remission of sins.
- 416. What other blessings attend the forgiveness of sins? Life and salvation.
- 417. How does Christ offer these blessings to us? Through these words in the Sacrament.
- 418. And what seal does He affix to these words? His body and blood.
- 419. What effect has this on our faith? It strengthens our faith. (Illustration: Gen. 45:25-28.)
- 420. If faith is strengthened, what will be increased accordingly? Our hope and love.
- 421. Why, then, do you wish to go to the Sacrament? That I may be strengthened in faith, hope, and love.

### THIRDLY, THE POWER OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

422. How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things? It is not the eating and drinking indeed that does them.
423. What is it that does them? The words "*Given and shed for you for the remission of sins.*"
424. What is the importance of these words besides the bodily eating and drinking? They are the chief thing in the Sacrament.
425. Why? Because by them forgiveness is offered in the Holy Supper.
426. Who receives and enjoys what these words say and express? He that believes them.

### FOURTHLY, THE SALUTARY USE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

427. Who, then, receives such Sacrament worthily? He who has faith in these words, "*Given and shed for you for the remission of sins.*"
428. Is also he who is weak in faith worthy and well prepared? Yes, indeed.
429. Why should he especially come to the Lord's Table? That his weak faith may grow stronger.
430. To what is the weak in faith compared? To a bruised reed and a smoking flax. Is. 42:3.
431. How does the Lord treat the bruised reed? He does not break it, but strengthens it.
432. What does He do with the smoking flax, or wick? He does not quench it, but kindles it into a flame.
433. Who, however, is unworthy, or unprepared? He that does not believe these words or doubts.
434. Why is this person unworthy, or unprepared? Because the words "*For you*" require all hearts to believe.
435. What sin does he commit who does not believe these words? He rejects the blessing that is contained in them.

436. What, therefore, must a man do before communing? "*Let a man examine himself.*" 1 Cor. 11:28.
437. How many searching questions must be put to himself? Three.
438. Which is the first question? Do I truly repent of my sins?
439. Which is the second question? Do I believe in Jesus Christ?
440. Which is the third question? Do I purpose to amend my sinful life?
441. What does Paul say of the man who has thus examined himself? "So let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup."
442. To whom must the Lord's Supper be denied? To those who *cannot* or *will not* examine themselves. 1 Cor. 11:28; Matt. 5:23, 24; 2 Tim. 2:19; Matt. 7:6; Acts 2:42.
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443. What does Peter call the chief parts of Christian doctrine? The sincere milk of the Word. 1 Pet. 2:2.
444. For what purpose should we desire the milk of the Word? That we may grow thereby. (Luke 10:38-42.)
445. How do we grow spiritually? As we increase in faith, hope, and love.
446. What does Peter refer to by the word "sincere"? To the purity of the Word.
447. To what Church ought we, therefore, always to adhere? To the Church of the pure Word and confession. John 8:31, 32.
448. What churches must we avoid? Such as teach false doctrines. Matt. 7:15; 1 John 4:1; Rom. 16:17.
449. From what societies, too, must we keep away? From such as teach a Christless religion. John 14:6; Gal. 5:4; 2 Cor. 6:14-18.
450. In what words does Christ admonish us to be faithful to Him. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." Rev. 2:10.
451. When, then, must be our firm resolve? "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering." Heb. 10:23.

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