

CATECHISM

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A
CATECHISM

or

Brief Lessons from the
Holy Scriptures

in

Question and Answer
as taught by Mennonites.

*“Other foundation can no man lay than that is
laid, which is Jesus Christ.” I Cor. 3:11.*

Revised 1934

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Mennonite Church of North America

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PREFACE

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A number of years ago the Board of Education of the General Conference of the Mennonite Church of North America was instructed to undertake a revision of the English Catechism. The Board assigned this task to the undersigned, who with the very efficient assistance of Rev. P. P. Tschetter of Freeman, S. Dak., prepared a revision for the consideration of this Board and the Conference.

At its Bluffton, Ohio, session in August, 1933, the Conference ordered its publication upon the approval of the Educational and Publication Boards; and that before this is done opportunity be given for any suggestions to be made.

Numerous suggestions have been received and incorporated in the revision. The present booklet is the product of this work. It is sent forth with the prayer that its diligent use may be a means in God's hands of leading youth to Christ, and that its careful scrutiny may inspire servants of God to the production of yet another greatly improved manual of redemptive truth.

P. R. Schroeder.

Freeman, S. Dak., April 9, 1934.

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IN JESUS' NAME

Brief Lessons from the Holy Scriptures in Question and Answer

INTRODUCTION

Q. 1. What should be our chief aim in this life?

Ans. To live in God's fellowship, enjoy his favor, and obtain eternal happiness thereafter.

I Cor. 1, 9. God is faithful, by whom—

Jn. 15, 5. I am the vine, ye—

I Jn. 1, 6. 7. If we say that we—

I Jn. 2, 17. And the world passeth away,—

Q. 2. Must we not provide for the needs of the body?

Ans. Yes: but in a Christian manner, so that we seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Matth. 6, 31-34. Therefore take no thought—

Psalms 37, 4. Delight thyself also—

Rom. 13, 14. But put ye on—

Q. 3. What is the Kingdom of God?

Ans. The essential qualities of the Kingdom of God are righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit; at present

it consists of the whole body of believers, promoting the redemptive purposes of God; in its fulness it is the coming universal kingdom of righteousness under Christ, "and when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all."

Lk. 17, 20. 21. And when he was demanded—
Rom. 14, 17. 18. For the kingdom of God—
James 2, 5. Hearken, my beloved brethren,—
Dan. 7, 14. And there was given him dominion—

Mt. 6, 10. Thy kingdom come—

I Cor. 15, 23-28. But every man in his—

Q. 4. How do we become members of it?

Ans. By faith in God through Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Matth. 18, 3. And said, Verily I say—

John 17, 3. And this is life—

Heb. 11, 6. But without faith—

Q. 5. Is it enough to profess faith with the lips?

Ans. No; faith without works is dead; faith must work by love.

James 2, 26. For as the body without—

Gal. 5, 6. For in Jesus Christ—

PART ONE

THE CREATION

Chapter 1

God the Creator and Preserver of all Things.

Q. 6. Who created all things?

Ans. God the Lord, "In the beginning God created the Heavens and the Earth."
(R. V.)

Gen. 1, 1. In the beginning God—

Hèb. 11, 3. Through faith we understand—

Q. 7. How can we know that there is a God?

Ans. Nature, the conscience and the testimony of the Holy Scriptures teach us that there is a God.

Job 38, 4. Where wast thou when—

Rom. 1, 19. 20. Because that which may be—

Rom. 2, 15. Which show the work of the law—

I.

Knowing God through Nature and the Conscience.

Q. 8. How does nature teach us that there is a God?

Ans. All created things teach us that there must necessarily be a God, who created all things.

Job 12, 7-10. But ask now the beasts—

Acts 17, 24-28. God that made the—

Q. 9. What does Paul say on this subject?

Ans. He says: "Because that which may be known of God, is manifest in them: for God hath showed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and God-head; so that they are without excuse." Rom. 1, 19-20.

Q. 10. How does the conscience teach us that there is a God?

Ans. Our conscience bears witness of God, by reminding us of our responsibility to the unwritten law of God in our heart.

Rom. 2, 15. Which show the work—

Ps. 32, 3-4. When I kept silence—

Ps. 139, 7-13. Whither shall I go from—

II.

Knowing God through the Holy Scriptures.

Q. 11. What do the Holy Scriptures testify of God?

Ans. That God is a Spirit; that He is Love; that He is one, everlasting, unchangeable, omnipresent, all-seeing, all-knowing, all-wise, all-powerful, holy, righteous, unfathomable, benevolent, gracious, merciful, and long-suffering, etc. Jn. 4, 24. God is a Spirit—
I Jn. 4, 8. He that loveth not—

Deut. 6, 4. Hear, O Israel: The Lord—
Psalm 90, 2. Before the mountains were—
James 1, 17. Every good gift and—
Psalm 139, 7-10. Whither shall I go from—
Jer. 23, 23. 24. Am I a God at hand—
Rom. 16, 27. To God only wise—
Gen. 17, 1. I am the Almighty God—
Isa. 6, 3. And one cried unto another—
Num. 23, 19. God is not a man—
Deut. 32, 4. He is the Rock—
Rom. 11, 33. O the depth of the—
Psalm 193, 8. The Lord is merciful—

III

The Holy Scriptures.

Q. 12. What are we to understand by the Holy Scriptures?

Ans. The writings of the Old and New Testament, called the Bible.

Q. 13. Are these writings the Word of God?

Ans. They are: All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.

II Tim. 3, 16. All Scripture is given—

Q. 14. Were the Scriptures not written, by the will of men?

Ans. By no means: "Holy men of God spoke, and also wrote, as they were moved by the Holy Spirit."

II Peter 1, 21. For the prophecy came not—

Rev. 1, 11. Saying, I am Alpha—

Q. 15. Are the Holy Scriptures the infallible truth?

Ans. They are: for all things therein foretold of Christ have been literally fulfilled.

Matth. 26, 56. But all this was done—

Luke 24, 26. 27. Ought not Christ to—

Q. 16. Is it profitable for us to diligently read the Holy Scriptures?

Ans. It is: for if we from childhood knew the Holy Scriptures, they are able to make us wise unto Salvation; but we have to pray to God for the Holy Spirit to enlighten our understanding.

II Tim. 3, 15. And that from a child—

Eph. 1, 18. The eyes of your understanding—

Chapter 2

God Revealed as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Q. 17. What do the Holy Scriptures further teach concerning God?

Ans. That God revealed Himself therein as the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Matt. 28, 19. Go ye therefore—

II Cor. 13, 14. The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ—

Q. 18. What do the Holy Scriptures testify of God the Father?

Ans. That He is the true Father over all called children, in Heaven and upon Earth; that He is the Father of all believers, and that He is, in a special manner, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Eph. 3, 15. Of whom the whole—

I Cor. 8, 6. But to us there is—

II Cor. 1, 3. Blessed be God—

Q. 19. What is said in the Holy Scriptures of Christ, the Son of God?

Ans. That He is the true, eternal, and only begotten Son of God.

Psalms 2, 7. I will declare the decree—

Rom. 8, 32. He that spared not—

John 1, 14. And the Word was—

Q. 20. Is Jesus Christ the Son of God, from all eternity?

Ans. Yes, He had been with the Father before the world was; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. John 17, 5. And now, O Father—
Micah 5, 2. But thou, Bethlehem—

Q. 21. Is He also true God?

Ans. Yes: He is the true God, and eternal life.
I John 5, 20. And we know that—

Q. 22. What do the Holy Scriptures teach us concerning the Holy Spirit?

Ans. That He is a person equal with the Father and the Son, sent from the Father by the Son, thus coming from the Father and the Son and is one with them.
John 15, 26. But when the Comforter—

Q. 23. Is the Holy Spirit also called God?

Ans. Yes: For when Ananias had lied to the Holy Spirit, Peter said: Thou has not lied unto men, but unto God.
Acts 5, 3-4. But Peter said, Ananias—

Q. 24. Are then the Father, Son and Holy Spirit three Gods?

Ans. No, there is only one God: manifesting Himself in three persons.
Deut. 6, 4. Hear, O Israel: The Lord—
Mk. 12, 29. And Jesus answered him—
Matt. 28, 19. Go ye therefore—
II Cor. 13, 14. The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ—

Chapter 3

How God Created Everything.

Q. 25. By whom did God create all things?

Ans. He created all things by Jesus Christ: by whom He also made the world.
John 1, 1-3. In the beginning was—
Eph. 3, 9. And to make all men—
Heb. 1, 2. Hath in these last days—

Q. 26. Did the Holy Spirit also have a part in the work of the creation?

Ans. Yes: by the Word of the Lord were the Heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. Psalm 33, 6.
Gen. 1, 2. And the earth was without—

Q. 27. In how many days did God create all things?

Ans. In six days God made Heaven and Earth and all things, and rested on the seventh day, and blessed and sanctified it. Gen. 1 and 2.
Ex. 20, 11. For in six days—

I

The Creation of Man.

Q. 28. What are we taught of man's creation?

Ans. "God created man in His own image: in the image of God created He him."
Gen. 1, 27.

Q. 29. How many human beings did God create, in the beginning?

Ans. Only two: Adam and Eve. From them all mankind has descended.
Acts 17, 26. And hath made of one—

Q. 30. From what was Adam created?

Ans. From the dust of the ground; and God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.
Gen. 2, 7. And the Lord God formed—

Q. 31. How was Eve formed?

Ans. The Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept; and God took one of his ribs and made a woman from it, and brought her unto him.
Gen. 2, 21-22. And the Lord God caused—

Q. 32. Where did the Lord God place our first parents, Adam and Eve?

Ans. In the garden of Eden.
Gen. 2, 8. And the Lord God planted—

II

The Angels

Q. 33. Are there also created beings in Heaven?

Ans. Yes: the angels.
Heb. 1, 6. 7. And again, when he—
Heb. 1, 14. Are they not all—

Q. 34. What are angels?

Ans. They are ministering spirits.
Heb. 1, 7. And of the angels he saith—

Q. 35. To what end did God create the Holy Angels?

Ans. To praise and extol God Almighty, and minister to the good of His children.
Isa. 6, 1-3. In the year that king—
Matth. 18, 10. Take heed that ye despise—
Psalm 34, 7. The angel of the Lord—

Q. 36. Did the angels stay true?

Ans. Not all: some turned against God, and are kept in everlasting chains under darkness, unto the judgment of the great day.
Jude 6. And the angels which—

Q. 37. How are these called?

Ans. Evil spirits, or devils.
Luke 7, 21. And in that same hour—
Mk. 5, 12. And all the devils—

Q. 38. What are their nature and actions?

Ans. They are enemies of God, and seek the eternal destruction of mankind.
I Peter 5, 8. Be sober, be vigilant—
Luke 22, 31. And the Lord said, Simon—
John 8, 44. Ye are of your father—

Chapter 4

God Cares for, and Rules the World.

Q. 39. How does God provide for His creatures?

Ans. He causes the grass to grow for the beast, and corn for man. He gives all life and breath, and all things.

Psalm 104, 14. He causeth the grass—

Psalm 145, 15. The eyes of all wait—

Acts 17, 25. Neither is worshipped with—

Q. 40. Can nothing live without God's care?

Ans. So: for if He takes away their breath, they perish.

Psalm 104, 29. Thou hidest thy face—

Q. 41. Does God govern all things that He created?

Ans. Yes: He governs the nations upon the earth, and He will reign forever and ever.

Psalm 67, 4. O let the nations be glad—

Q. 42. Can we understand God's care and government?

Ans. No: God's ways are past finding out, and His judgments are unsearchable.

Rom. 11, 33. O the depth of the—

Psalm 147, 5. Great is our Lord—

Q. 43. What does all this teach us?

Ans. That we should trust in God, our Creator, preserver, and ruler, cast all our cares upon Him, and seek His kingdom and righteousness, in the hope that all things shall be added unto us.

Matth. 6, 33. Seek ye first the—

I Peter 5, 7. Casting all your care—

PART TWO

THE FALL OF MAN INTO SIN

I

The Condition of Man Before the Fall.

Q. 44. What was man's condition in Paradise?

Ans. It was glorious and blessed.
Gen. 1, 28-29. And God blessed them—

Q. 45. Was man created good?

Ans. Yes: God made man upright—He created man in His own image.
Eccl. 7, 29. Lo, this only have I—
Gen. 1, 27. So God created man—

Q. 46. In what does the image of God consist?

Ans. The image of God consists therein, that man is created in righteousness and true holiness.
Eph. 4, 24. And that ye put on—

Q. 47. Did Adam and Eve abide in that blessed condition?

Ans. No, they sinned and fell away from God—they and all their posterity.
Rom. 5, 12-19. Wherefore as by one—

II

The Fall of Man

Q. 48. By what act did our first parents sin towards God?

Ans. In disobedience to God's command, they ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, which God had forbidden when He said: "Thou shalt not eat thereof; for in the day thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die."

Gen. 2, 17. But of the tree—

Gen. 3, 3. But of the fruit—

Q. 49. What induced them to commit this sin?

Ans. An evil spirit, through the serpent, beguiled our first mother.

Gen. 3, 1-13. Now the serpent—

I Tim. 2, 14. And Adam was not—

Q. 50. Who is this evil spirit?

Ans. He is the Devil and Satan, who is a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth.

Rev. 12, 9. And the great dragon—

John 8, 44. Ye are of your father—

Q. 51. By what did Satan beguile Eve?

Ans. He said: ye shall not surely die—ye shall be as God, knowing good and evil.

Gen. 3, 4-5 (R. V.) And the serpent said—

Q. 52. Why did they so readily believe?

Ans. They became desirous through the deception of Satan to become wise and like God.

Gen. 3, 5. For God doth know—

Gen. 3, 6. And the woman saw—

James 1, 13-14. Let no man say—

III

The Results of the Fall.

Q. 53. What were the results of their disobedience?

Ans. Sin and Death came into the world.

Q. 54. What do we understand by sin?

Ans. First, the sinful condition of man; and then, the sins of omission and commission as a result of the sinful condition.
Gen. 8, 21. The imagination of man's heart—
Psalm 51, 5. Behold, I was shapen—
Jer. 17, 9. The heart is deceitful—
Matth. 7, 16-20. Ye shall know them—
Matth. 12, 33-35. Either make the tree—
Matth. 15, 18-19. But those things—

Q. 55. How did this reveal itself in Adam's posterity before the flood?

Ans. All flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth, so that the Lord had to destroy them from the earth. Only Noah and his house found grace.
Gen. 6, 12-13. And God looked—
Gen. 6, 8. But Noah found grace—

Q. 56. Is there no one on earth without sin?

Ans. No; that which is born of the flesh is flesh. No one is without sin, except the Son of God who was conceived of the Holy Spirit.
John 3, 6. That which is—
Luke 1, 35. And the Angel—
Heb. 7, 26. For such an high—

Q. 57. What does the Bible say about death?

Ans. It speaks of

a) physical death

Gen. 5, 8, 11. etc. "and he died."

b) spiritual death.

Gen. 2, 17. But the tree—

Eph. 2, 1 And you— 5. Even when we—

c) a death unto sin for the Christian.

Rom. 6, 1-23. What shall we—

Col. 3, 3. For ye are dead—

I Peter 2, 24. Who His own—

d) the second death.

Rev. 20, 14-15. And death and—

Q. 58. What do we understand by death?

Ans. a) By physical death we mean the end of this earthly life, the separation of body and spirit, and an entering upon a state that is in keeping with the deserts of this life.

Eccl. 12, 7. Then shall the—

Luke 16, 19-26. There was a—

b) By spiritual death we mean the end of spiritual discernment, the separation of God and man, and an entering upon a state of darkness.

Gen. 2, 17. But of the—

I Cor. 2, 14. But the natural—compare John 3, 3.

Eph. 4, 18. Having the—

Matth. 4, 16. The people which—

c) By death unto sin we mean an end of the life of sin, a separation from the world and its lusts, and fellowship with God.

I Cor. 6, 11. And such some—

John 17, 14-18. I have given—

Rom. 6, 13. Neither yield—18-19. Being then made—

d) By the second death we mean the end of the power of the Evil One, the separation of him from all chance to deceive and molest, and the eternal outer darkness.

Rev. 20, 10. And the devil—14. and death and—

Q. 59. What do we learn from this?

Ans. From this we learn, that by nature we are prone to evil, and are children of wrath; and realizing our sinful condition, we must seek God's grace and mercy.

Eph. 2, 2-3. Wherein in time past—

PART THREE

THE REDEMPTION

SECTION I (Redemption:—Divine Provision)

Chapter I

God's Plan of Redemption.

Q. 60. Did the Lord God suffer man to remain in such a deplorable condition?

Ans. No: He redeemed His people.
Luke 1, 68. Blessed be the Lord—

Q. 61. How did He redeem them?

Ans. By giving His only begotten Son.
John 3, 16. For God so—
Rom. 8, 32. He that spared not—

Q. 62. How could God give His Son?

Ans. He had to partake of flesh and blood; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is the devil.
Heb. 2, 14-15. Forasmuch then as—

Q. 63. Was there no other way to redeem us?

Ans. No: No one could, by any means, redeem his brother.
Ps. 49, 7. None of them—
Heb. 7, 26-27. For such an high priest—
Rev. 5, 3-4. And no man—

Q. 64. Was only One, our Savior, to die for all?

Ans. Yes: for as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Rom. 5, 19. For as by one—

I

The Promise to Adam and the Patriarchs.

Q. 65. How could man know that a Redeemer was to come and atone for sin?

Ans. The Lord made this known to Adam; for He said to the serpent: The seed of the woman (Christ) shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.
Gen. 3, 15. And I will put—

Q. 66. Has this promise reference to Christ?

Ans. Yes; to Christ, the Crucified One.
Col. 2, 15. And having spoiled—
I John 3, 8. He that committeth—
Rev. 13, 8. And all that dwell—

Q. 67. Did the faithful before the flood, believe in this promise?

Ans. Yes: by faith Abel offered unto God. So were Enoch and Noah of the faith.
Heb. 11, 4-7. By faith Abel—

Q. 68. To whom did God make this promise more clearly?

Ans. To Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, when he said: In thee, and in thy seed, shall

all families of the earth be blessed.

Gen. 12, 3. And I will bless—

Gen. 26, 4. And I will make—

Gen. 28, 14. And thy seed shall—

Gal. 3, 16. Now to Abraham—

II

The Law as a Schoolmaster unto Christ.

Q. 69. By what means did God nurture the people of Israel before the advent of Christ?

Ans. He gave them the law of Moses: especially the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai, written upon two tables of stone.

Ex. 20. And God spake—

Q. 70. What are the Ten Commandments?

Ans. And God spake all these words, saying: I am the Lord thy God, who have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

I.

Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

II

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them nor serve them; for I the Lord thy God am a

jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; and shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments.

III

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His name in vain.

IV

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

V

Honor thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI

Thou shalt not kill.

VII

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII

Thou shalt not steal.

IX

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

X

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

Q. 71. What is the sum of these ten Commandments?

Ans. The first table commands us to love God with all the heart, with all the soul and with all the mind. The second table teaches us that we are to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Matth. 22, 37-40. Jesus said unto him—

Q. 72. Has the law only respect to actions?

Ans. No, it has special respect to the inward movings or desires of the heart.

I Tim. 1, 5. Now the end—

Jer. 31, 33. But this shall be—

I Sam. 16, 7. But the Lord—

Q. 73. Does the law forbid secret lusts?

Ans. By all means; for it is written: Thou shalt not covet.

Rom. 7, 7. What shall we—

Q. 74. Has anyone ever fully kept the law?

Ans. No; they are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no not one.

Rom. 3, 12. They are all—

Q. 75. For what purpose was the law given?

Ans. That it was to be a schoolmaster, till Christ appeared; and that man might have a knowledge of sin.

Gal. 3, 24. Wherefore the law—

Rom. 3, 20. Therefore by the deeds—

Q. 76. Can salvation be obtained by keeping the law?

Ans. No; “By the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight.”

Rom. 3, 20. Therefore by the—

III

Predictions Concerning Christ

Q. 77. Did the prophets predict concerning the coming of Christ?

Ans. Yes, all the prophets from Samuel, and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have foretold of these days.

Acts 3, 24. Yea, and all—

Q. 78. What did Moses say of the Savior?

Ans. He said: The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of the brethren, like unto me;

unto Him ye shall hearken.

Deut. 18, 15. The Lord—

Q. 79. Are there any predictions in the Psalms concerning Christ?

Ans. Not only the writings of Moses and the prophets, but also the psalms prophesy concerning Christ.

Luke 24, 44. And he said—

See Psalms 2, 8, 16, 22, etc.

Chapter 2

Redemption through Christ.

I

The Birth of Jesus Christ.

Q. 80. When did the Savior appear in this world?

Ans. When the time, which had been predicted, was fully come, God sent his Son.

Gen. 49, 10. The sceptre shall—

Luke 2, 1. And it came—

Gal. 4, 4. But when the—

Q. 81. How did He partake of flesh and blood?

Ans. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and was born of the virgin Mary; and He was named Jesus.

Matth. 1, 18-25. Now the birth—

Luke 1, 35. And the Angel answered—

Q. 82. Where was the Savior born?

Ans. At Bethlehem, in Judea.

Mic. 5, 2. But thou Bethlehem—

Luke 2, 4. And Joseph—

Q. 83. How was His birth?

Ans. Poor and despised in a stable at Bethlehem.

Luke 2, 7. And she brought—

Q. 84. Where was He brought up?

Ans. At Nazareth.

Luke 4, 16. And He came—

II

The Baptism and Public Ministry of Our Lord.

Q. 85. When was Christ proclaimed as the Son of God?

Ans. At the age of thirty, when He was baptized of John. For a voice from heaven said: This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.

Matth. 3, 17. And lo a voice—

Luke 3, 22. And the Holy Spirit—

Q. 86. Whereby did the Lord Jesus show that He is the Savior of the world?

Ans. By His doctrines and miracles; for He taught as one having authority, and not as the scribes, and He performed many miracles.

Mark 1, 22. And they were—

John 11, 47. Then gathered—

Q. 87. What was the substance of His preaching?

Ans. Repent ye and believe the gospel.

Mark 1, 15. And saying—

Q. 88. What miracles did the Lord perform?

Ans. He opened the eyes of the blind, made the lame walk, cleansed the lepers, unstopped the ears of the deaf; loosed the tongues of the dumb; He raised the dead, and did many other miracles.

Luke 7, 19-22. And John calling—

III

The Suffering and Death of our Redeemer.

Q. 89. What did the Lord Jesus finally do for us?

Ans. He died for our sins according to the Scriptures.

I Cor. 15, 3. For I delivered—

Q. 90. What is the real significance of the death of the Lord?

Ans. It is an offering for the sins of the whole world by which He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified.

Heb. 10, 14. For by one—

Q. 91. When did His sufferings begin?

Ans. In the night, in which He was betrayed by Judas, in the Garden of Gethsemane, His soul became exceeding sorrowful, even unto death.

Matth. 26, 36-38. Then cometh Jesus—

Q. 92. Why had He to suffer such agony?

Ans. The Lord had laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

Is. 53, 6-7. All we like sheep—

II Cor. 5, 21. For He hath made—

Q. 93. What followed His agony of soul?

Ans. He suffered Himself to be taken, condemned, and to be delivered over unto death by Pontius Pilate, a Gentile judge. Matth. 26 and 27.

Q. 94. What death did the Savior die?

Ans. He was crucified outside the gates of Jerusalem, between two murderers.
John 19, 17-18. And He bearing—

Q. 95. Why was it necessary for the Savior to die on the cross?

Ans. That He might redeem us from the curse by taking the accursed place in our stead; as it is written, "Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree."
Gal. 3, 13. Christ hath redeemed—
Deut. 21, 22-23. And if a man—

Q. 96. Was the Lord Jesus buried?

Ans. Yes: they laid Him in a new tomb, hewn out in a rock.
Matth. 27, 60. And laid it—

IV

Christ's Resurrection and Ascension.

Q. 97. Did the Lord remain in the tomb?

Ans. No; He arose on the third day, according to the Scriptures.
Luke 24, 34. Saying the Lord—
I Cor. 15, 4. And that He—
Ps. 16, 10. For thou wilt—

Q. 98. Of what does His resurrection assure us?

Ans. That we are justified through His blood; for He was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.
Rom. 4, 25. Who was delivered—

Q. 99. Where did the Lord Jesus remain after His resurrection?

Ans. He showed Himself alive to His disciples, being seen of them forty days, speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

Acts 1, 3.—To whom also—

Q. 100. What took place at the end of the forty days?

Ans. Jesus led His disciples out as far as Bethany on Mount Olivet, and there ascended into heaven.

Luke 24, 50-51. And He led—

Acts 1, 9-10. And when He—

Q. 101. What did the Lord Jesus obtain for us by His ascension?

Ans. By His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Heb. 9, 12. Neither by the—

I John 2, 1. My little children—

V

The Redeemer's Threefold Office.

Q. 102. The Lord Jesus having accomplished the work of redemption, in what offices are we to consider Him?

Ans. As our Prophet, High-Priest, and King.

Q. 103. In what does His prophetic office consist?

Ans. He teaches us the way of salvation, prophesies future events, and confirms the same by miracles: for this was the

office of a prophet under the Old Testament dispensation.

Deut. 18, 15. The Lord thy—

Matth. 5, 18, 19. For verily I—

Matth. 20, 18-19. Behold, we go—

Q. 104. What did the Savior do as High-priest?

Ans. As a High-priest He gave Himself as an offering; intercedes for His people; and blesses His own.

Eph. 5, 2. And walk in—

Heb. 9, 26. For then must—

John 17. These words spake—

Rom. 8, 34. Who is he—

Luke 24, 50. And He led—

Eph. 1, 3. Blessed be the—

Q. 105. In what does Christ's office as King consist?

Ans. He gives commands and laws. He governs His people; He puts all His enemies under His feet; He protects and rewards His own.

John 13, 34. A new commandment—

Jer. 23, 5. Behold the days come—

I Cor. 15, 25. For He must reign—

Matth. 25, 34. Then shall the King—

Q. 106. What kind of a kingdom has Jesus?

Ans. At present He has a spiritual kingdom of grace in the believers. In the future He will reign with His own on earth. And finally, when all things shall have been subdued unto Him, He Himself will become subject to the Father. See question 3.

VI

The Sending of the Holy Spirit.

Q. 107. What gift did the Lord Jesus bestow upon His own, after His ascension?

Ans. He gave them the Holy Spirit, according to His promise.

John 14, 16. And I will—26. But the Comforter—

Acts 1, 4-5. And being assembled—

Q. 108. When did this happen?

Ans. On the day of Pentecost.

Acts 2, 1-4. And when the—

Q. 109. Was the Holy Spirit given to the apostles only?

Ans. Peter said: The promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off.

Acts 2, 39. For the promise—

Q. 110. Does every Christian have the Holy Spirit?

Ans. Yes: if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His.

Eph. 1, 13. 14. In whom ye also—

Rom. 8, 9. But ye are—

Q. 111. What effect does this have on the body of the believer?

Ans. This makes his body to be the temple of God.

I Cor. 2, 16. Know ye not—

I Cor. 6, 19-20. What? know ye—

Q. 112. What is the work of the Holy Spirit in the believer?

Ans. He testifies of Jesus; He comforts him; He sanctifies him; He leads him into all truth; and through the Holy Spirit, the love of God is shed abroad into his heart.

John 15, 26. But when the—

I Cor. 6, 11. And such were—

II Thess. 2, 13. But we are—

I Peter 1, 2. Elect according—

Rom. 5, 5. And hope maketh—

Q. 113. Are we enjoined to be filled with the Spirit?

Ans. Yes. Paul says: Be filled with the Spirit.

Eph. 5, 18-20. But be not—

Q. 114. Who were chosen for offices in the first church?

Ans. Such as were full of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 6, 3. Wherefore, brethren, look—

Acts 11, 22-24. Then tidings of—

Q. 115. What did the Holy Spirit enable especially the apostles to do?

Ans. He endowed them to lay down the fundamental principles of the church, and to write the New Testament.

Acts 2, 4. And they were—

John 14, 26. But the Comforter—

Q. 116. What is the work of the Holy Spirit for the world?

Ans. He reproves the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment.

John 16, 8-11. And when He—

VII.

Grace for All.

Q. 117. Was God's message of salvation only for the people of Israel?

Ans. No: the Word of God was first to be spoken to the Jews; but afterwards to the Gentiles.

Acts 13, 46. Then Paul and—

Q. 118. Is it the will of God that all men should be saved?

Ans. Yes: God will have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

I Tim. 2, 4. Who will have—

Q. 119. Have all been redeemed?

Ans. Yes: Christ gave Himself a ransom for all.

I Tim. 2, 6. Who gave Himself.

Rom. 5, 18. Therefore as by—

Q. 120. Do all accept this redemption?

Ans. No: not all are obedient to the gospel.

Rom. 10, 16. But they have—

II Thess. 1, 8. In flaming fire—

Q. 121. What do we learn of God's provision for our redemption?

Ans. That God has fully provided for our redemption through the death of Christ on Calvary, that it is His only plan, sufficient for all of man's needs and free to all who will accept it.

SECTION 2

(Redemption:—Human Response)

Chapter 3

Faith in Christ.

I

Saving Faith.

Q. 122. What is the true way to salvation?

Ans. Faith in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, as our Saviour, and in His shed blood. John 20-31. But these are written—
Matth. 16, 16-17. And Simon Peter answered—
Rom. 3, 25. Whom God hath set—

Q. 123. What is true faith?

Ans. It “is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” Heb. 11, 1.

Q. 124. Do we earn salvation by faith?

Ans. No: but faith embraces the finished work of Christ, whereby we get salvation and eternal life.
John 3, 36. He that believeth on—

Q. 125. What does true faith imply?

Ans. Real repentance and sorrow for sin; that we become convinced of our sinfulness, and repent thereof.
Mk. 1, 15. And saying, The time—
Rom. 7, 24. O wretched man—

Q. 126. What further change is brought about in one's heart by true faith?

Ans. He is converted from the error of his way unto Christ the shepherd and bishop of our souls.

James 5, 20. Let him know, that he—

I Peter 2, 25. For ye were as sheep—

Lk. 15, 17-19. And when he came to—

II

The New Birth and a Godly Life.

Q. 127. What is this change of heart called in the New Testament?

Ans. It is called Regeneration—New Creation.

John 3, 3. Jesus answered and said—

Gal. 6, 15. For in Christ Jesus—

Titus 3, 5. Not by works of—

John 6, 28-29. Then said they unto him—

Heb. 5, 9. And being made perfect—

Q. 128. Who produces or brings about regeneration in us?

Ans. God himself brings about regeneration in us, by His Word and Spirit, unto the obedience of Christ.

I Peter 1, 3. Blessed be the God—

James 1, 17. Every good gift and—

John 3, 5. Jesus answered, Verily—

II Cor. 10, 5. Casting down imaginations—

Q. 129. Is it necessary, then, that everyone who desires to be a true Christian be regenerated (“born again”)?

Ans. Yes, for without regeneration no one can see the kingdom of God.

John 3, 3-5. Jesus answered and said—

Q. 130. Does regeneration produce a godly life?

Ans. Yes: whosoever is born of God, does not commit sin.

I Jn. 3, 9. Whosoever is born of God—

Q. 131. Can we not, of our own strength, avoid sin, and do good?

Ans. No; for Christ says: Without me, ye can do nothing.

Jer. 13, 23. Can the Ethiopian change—

John 15, 5. I am the vine—

Q. 132. Is holy living possible only through Christ and His grace?

Ans. Yes; for Christ is made of God unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.

I Cor. 1, 30. But of him are ye—

III

Justification

Q. 133. What is justification?

Ans. It is the act of God whereby He pronounces the sinner, who believes in His Son, free from all guilt, and righteous in His sight.

Rom. 4, 5. But to him that—

II Cor. 5, 21. For he hath made him—

Q. 134. How then are we justified?

Ans. We are justified freely without any merit of our own, by God's grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

Rom. 3, 24. Being justified freely—

Gal. 2, 16. Knowing that a man—

Q. 135. What does justification benefit us?

Ans. That we have peace with God, are His children, and are free from the service of sin, and are to follow after and perfect holiness.

Rom. 5, 1. Therefore being justified—

Rom. 8, 16. The Spirit itself beareth—

John 8, 36. If the Son therefore—

Heb. 12, 14. Follow peace with all men—

II Cor. 7, 1. Having therefore these promises—

IV

Sanctification

Q. 136. What is sanctification?

Ans. To be sanctified is to be freed from the dominion of sin, and to persevere in well-doing.

Rom. 6, 22. But now being made free—

Q. 137. Must a Christian be sanctified, or become holy?

Ans. Yes: for as He who called us is holy, so we must be holy, in all manner of living.

I Peter 1, 15. But as he which hath—

Q. 138. Who produces, or works sanctification in us?

Ans. We are sanctified and justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

I Cor. 6, 11. And such were some of you—

V

The Church of God.

Q. 139. What is the Church of God?

Ans. The collective body of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ.

I Cor. 1, 2. Unto the Church of God—

Q. 140. How does Christ view His Church?

Ans. As His body. He is the head of the body, the Church.

Col. 1, 18. And he is the head—

Q. 141. Are all who profess to belong to the Church of God, true members of the body of Christ?

Ans. No: they only are true members, who by faith in Christ have become the children of God.

Gal. 3, 26. For ye are all children—

Q. 142. Are there to be teachers and ministers in the Church?

Ans. Yes: the teachers are to preach the word diligently and exhort; but the Church is to hear and obey the word—

II Tim. 4, 2. Preach the word—

Titus 1, 5. For this cause left I thee—

Heb. 13, 7. Remember them which have—

VI

Baptism

Q. 143. What did the Lord Jesus command concerning baptism?

Ans. He said to His disciples: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Matth. 28, 19.

Q. 144. What did Christ say of the importance of baptism?

Ans. He said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."

Mark 16, 16.

Matth. 28, 18-20. And Jesus came and—

Q. 145. Who are to be baptized?

Ans. All who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and are converted unto Him.

Acts 2, 38. Then Peter said unto them—

Mk. 16, 16. He that believeth and—

Q. 146. What is the purpose of baptism?

Ans. It identifies the believer with his Lord. It is also an ordinance of Christ serving as a sign of being spiritually born of God, of putting on Christ, and of being united with the Church. It is the evidence of a covenant with Christ.

Gal. 3, 26-27. For ye are all the—

I Cor. 12, 13. For by one Spirit are we—

Q. 147. What does baptism teach us?

Ans. It teaches us that we are buried with Christ by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead, by the glory of the Father, even so we should also walk in newness of life.

Rom. 6, 4-5. Therefore we are buried—

I Peter 3, 21. The like figure whereunto—

VII

The Lord's Supper

Q. 148. When and by whom was the Lord's Supper instituted?

Ans. By the Lord Jesus Himself, in that night when He was betrayed.

Matth. 26, 26-28. And as they were eating—

Q. 149. How did He institute it?

Ans. With bread and the fruit of the vine.

Lk. 22, 19-20. And he took bread—

I Cor. 11, 23-25. For I have received—

Matth. 26, 29. But I say unto you—

Mk. 14, 25. Verily, I say unto you—

Q. 150. For what purpose was the Lord's Supper instituted?

Ans. To commemorate the sufferings and death of Christ; as a token of communion with Christ, and communion of believers with each other; and as a prophecy of His coming again.

Lk. 22, 19. And he took bread—

I Cor. 11, 25, 26. After the same manner—

I Cor. 10, 16-17. The cup of blessing—

Q. 151. Is the Lord's Supper to be often commemorated?

Ans. Yes: according to the example of the first Christians.

Acts 2, 41-42. Then say that gladly—

Q. 152. Who is to commemorate it?

Ans. All believers who have been baptized and are penitent in heart.

Acts 2, 41-42. Then they that gladly—

Q. 153. How shall the members of His body come to the Lord's Supper, so that they may be blessed in partaking of it?

Ans. In repentance and faith, with true love to Christ and the brethren, and good will toward all men, and above all, with an earnest determination to follow the Lord with a new sincerity and zeal, and to be faithful to Him unto the end through good days and evil days.

Matth. 5, 23. 24. Therefore if thou bring—
I Cor. 11, 27-28. Wherefore whosoever shall eat—

Q. 154. What are we thereby to show forth?

Ans. We are thereby to show forth the Lord's death till he comes.

I Cor. 11, 26. For as often as ye eat—

Chapter 4

The Life and Conduct of the Believer.

Q. 155. What should be the believer's conduct in his daily walk and life?

Ans. As the redeemed of the Lord, he should serve God, in holiness and righteousness, which is acceptable to him, and let his good works shine before men. Lk. 1, 74-75. That he would grant—
Matth. 5, 16. Let your light so shine—

Q. 156. What new commandment did the Lord Jesus give us?

Ans. He said: "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." John 13, 34.

Q. 157. What kind of an example did the Lord Jesus give His disciples regarding the importance of humility, service, and the daily cleansing from sin?

Ans. He washed their feet and said: "If I, then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you." John 13, 14-15.

I

Attitude to Enemies, Revenge, and Suffering.

Q. 158. What should be our attitude toward our enemies?

Ans. Christ said: "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father in Heaven." Matth. 5, 44, 45.

Q. 159. What ought we to do, if we are injured by any one?

Ans. We are not to render evil for evil, or railing for railing.

I Peter 3, 9. Not rendering evil for—

Rom. 12, 17-21. Recompense to no man—

Q. 160. Should a true Christian suffer patiently?

Ans. Yes: for it is written: For even hereunto were ye called; because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps. I Peter 2, 21.

Matth. 10, 22. And ye shall be hated—

Q. 161. How does Christ comfort His own in their sufferings?

Ans. He says: Blessed are ye, when men revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Matth. 5, 11-12.

II

Government and Oath.

Q. 162. How shall a Christian conduct himself towards the authorities of his country?

Ans. "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power, but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God." Rom. 13, 1.

Q. 163. What does Christ say concerning the taking of oaths?

Ans. He says: "But I say unto you, swear not at all—let your communications be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay; for whatsoever is more than these, cometh of evil." Matth. 5, 34-37. But I say unto you—

Q. 164. Is this said of all oaths?

Ans. Yes: for James says: "But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath." James 5, 12.

Q. 165. What did the Lord Jesus say of idle words?

Ans. "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give an account thereof in the day of judgment." Matth. 12, 36.

III

Domestic Life of the Christian.

Q. 166. Who instituted marriage?

Ans. The Lord God Himself, with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.
Gen. 2, 24. Therefore shall a man—
Gen. 2, 18. And the Lord God said—

Q. 167. What individuals may unite in marriage?

Ans. Those not too near in blood-relationship, and of the same faith.
Leviticus 18 and 20. And the Lord spake—
I Cor. 7, 39. The wife is bound by—

Q. 168. May married persons be divorced?

Ans. No: they shall not be divorced, save for the cause of fornication.
Matth. 9, 3-9. The Pharisees also came—
Matth. 5, 32. But I say unto you—

Q. 169. How should married persons conduct themselves towards each other?

Ans. Husbands are to love their wives as their own bodies; and the wives are to submit themselves unto their husbands.
Eph. 5, 22-28. Wives submit yourselves—

Q. 170. What are parents to do for their children?

Ans. They are to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
Eph. 6, 4. And ye fathers, provoke not—

Q. 171. How are children to behave toward their parents?

Ans. They are to obey their parents in all things. Honor thy father and mother which is the first commandment with promise.
Col. 3, 20. Children, obey your parents—
Eph. 6, 1-2. Children obey your parents—

Q. 172. What have men-servants and maid-servants to observe toward their superiors?

Ans. That they in all things, obey their

earthly masters; not with eye-service, as men-pleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God; then they shall receive of the Lord, the reward of the inheritance.

Col. 3, 22-24. Servants, obey in all things—

Q. 173. How are superiors (heads of families) to be disposed toward their domestics?

Ans. They should remember the admonition: Forbearing threatening; knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with Him. Eph. 6, 9.

IV

Prayer.

Q. 174. By what means do we obtain all things from God?

Ans. By prayer. Ask and it shall be given unto you.

Matth. 7, 7. 8. Ask, and it shall be—

Q. 175. What does the Lord Jesus teach us about secret prayer?

Ans. Secret praying should be done in the closet with definite expectation of an answer.

Matth. 6, 6. But thou, when thou prayest (notice singular pronoun).

Q. 176. What does the Lord Jesus teach us about public prayer?

Ans. Public praying should be done without

vain repetitions as the heathen do. For our Father knoweth what things we have need of, before we ask Him.

Matth. 6, 7-8. But when ye pray (notice plural pronoun).

Q. 177. How are we to call upon God, the Father?

Ans. In the name of Jesus, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

John 14, 13. And whatsoever ye shall ask—

Q. 178. How did the Lord Jesus teach us to pray?

Ans. 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen. Matth. 6, 9-13.

The Lord's Prayer in Outline.

I. The Address. "Our Father who art in heaven."

II. The Seven Petitions.

A. For Blessings.

a. Spiritual.

1. **The Name of God.** "Hallowed be thy name."

2. **The Kingdom of God.** "Thy kingdom come."

3. **The Will of God.** "Thy will be done, as it is in heaven."

b. Material.

4. **Bread.** "Give us this day our daily bread."

B. For Protection.

5. **From Guilt.** "Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."

6. **From Temptations.** "Lead us not into temptations."

7. **From Evil.** "Deliver us from evil."

III. The Doxology. "For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen."

Q. 179. Does God at all times, hear our prayer?

Ans. This is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us. Still He does sometimes delay to grant our petitions, in order to strengthen our faith. I Jn. 5, 14. And this is the confidence—Matth. 15, 22-28. And, behold, a woman—

Q. 180. Are we also to call upon the Lord Jesus?

Ans. Yes: they all shall honor the Son, as they honor the Father, and call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jn. 5, 23. That all men should honor—I Cor. 1, 2. Unto the Church of God—

Q. 181. How do we call upon the name of the Lord Jesus?

Ans. As the mediator between God and man, who gave himself a ransom for all. I Tim. 2, 5. 6. For there is one God—

Q. 182. What part does the Holy Spirit have in our prayer?

Ans. He helpeth our infirmities: He teaches us how to pray; He maketh intercession for the saints, according to the will of God.

Rom. 8, 26-27. Likewise the Spirit also—

Q. 183. What should we bear in mind in every prayer?

Ans. Thanksgiving. But in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. Phil. 4, 6.

Eph. 5, 20. Giving thanks always for—

Ps. 50, 23. Whoso offereth the sacrifice of thanksgiving (R. V.)

V

Knowing and Doing.

Q. 184. Is it necessary that we should know what is good?

Ans. Yes: but knowledge without the proper application of it in our lives puffeth up; charity edifieth.

I Cor. 8, 1. Now as touching things offered—

Q. 185. In what spirit should we possess all knowledge?

Ans. We should be humble and unassuming; for if a man thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. Gal. 6, 3.

Q. 186. What benefit do we derive from knowledge?

Ans. We must know the will of God, that as children of the light we may walk after God in righteousness and true holiness. I Thess. 5, 4-11. But ye, brethren, are not—Eph. 4, 17-32. This I say, therefore,—I Tim. 3, 15. But if I tarry long—

Q. 187. Does mere knowledge then not suffice?

Ans. No: we must be doers of the word. James 1, 22. But be ye doers—

Q. 188. What is the duty of Christians in all they do, in word and deed?

Ans. All things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them. Matth. 7, 12. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him. Col. 3, 17.

Q. 189. What should we say when we have done all things?

Ans. We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do. Lk. 17, 10. So likewise ye, when ye—

VI

Church Discipline

Q. 190. If a brother or sister of the church should fall in sin, how should such a one be dealt with?

Ans. We are to restore such a one in the spirit of meekness. Gal. 6, 1. Brethren, if a man be—Matth. 18, 15. Moreover if thy brother—

Q. 191. But if the offender will not receive correction?

Ans. He shall be dealt with a second time in the presence of one or two witnesses.
Matth. 18, 16. But if he will not—

Q. 192. But what are we to do with him, who refuses admonition, or persists to live in gross sin?

Ans. He is to be excommunicated from the Church, and we are to have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet we shall count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.
Matth. 18, 17. And if he shall neglect—

I Cor. 5, 11. But now I have written—
II Thess. 3, 6-15. Now we command you—

Q. 193. What if he repents?

Ans. Sufficient to such a man is this punishment, which was inflicted by many; we must the more forgive, and comfort him.
II Cor. 2, 6. 7. Sufficient to such a man—

Q. 194. What do we learn of man's responsibility to God's plan of redemption?

Ans. That it must be received by faith, and confessed openly through the ordinance of the Christian Church, maintained through prayer and meditation on God's Word and practiced daily in the domestic and public life of the believer.

SECTION 3

(Redemption—Consummation)

Chapter 5

Future Destiny of Man

I

Death

Q. 195. What is the end of this natural life?

Ans. The end of this natural life is death.
Eccl. 12, 7. Then shall the—
Heb. 9, 27. And as it is—

Q. 196. Have all to die?

Ans. It is appointed unto men once to die.
Heb. 9, 27. And as it is—

Q. 197. Are there any exceptions?

Ans. There were two. Enoch and Elijah.
Gen. 5, 24. And Enoch walked—
II Kings 2, 11. And it came—

Q. 198. Will there be exceptions in the future?

Ans. Those who are alive and remain at the
sound of the last trumpet.
I Cor. 15, 51-52. Behold, I shew—
I Thess. 4, 17. Then we which—

Q. 199. Does the soul die with the body?

Ans. No: the soul is immortal.
Matt. 10, 28. And fear not—

Q. 200. What becomes of the soul after death?

Ans. This is shown in the example of the
rich man and Lazarus.
Luke 16, 19-26. There was a—

II

Second Coming.

Q. 201. Who said that Christ would come again?

Ans. a. Jesus. John 14, 3. And if I go—
 b. Angels. Acts 1, 10-11. And while they—
 c. Apostles. Heb. 9, 27-28. And as it is—

Q. 202. When will He come again?

Ans. The day or the hour is unknown except unto God.
 Matth. 24, 36. But of that day—
 25, 13. Watch therefore, for—

Q. 203. What are some signs of His coming again?

Ans. a. The falling away from the Faith.
 II Thess. 2, 2-3. That ye be not soon—
 b. Being deeply absorbed in the things of this world.
 Matth. 24, 37-39. But as the days of—
 c. The gospel preached to all the world.
 Matth. 24, 14. And this gospel—
 d. Grievous times.
 II Tim. 3, 1-13. This know also—
 Matth. 24, 12. And because iniquity—

Q. 204. What will His Second Coming mean for His own?

Ans. They will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall they ever be with the Lord.
 I Thess. 4, 14-17. For if we believe—

Q. 205. What effect should this have on us?

Ans. We should watch and pray and purify

ourselves and be ready.

Matth. 24, 42. Watch therefore—

Lk. 12, 35-40. Let your loins be—

Lk. 21, 36. Watch ye therefore—

I Jn. 3, 3. And every man—

III

Resurrection.

Q. 206. Will the bodies of the dead rise again?

Ans. Yes: there will be a resurrection of the just and the unjust.

Acts 24, 15. And have hope—

Q. 207. What are we told of the resurrection of the just?

Ans. They will arise to life; meet the Lord in the air at His Second coming and reign with Him.

John 5, 29. And shall come—

I Thess. 4, 14-17. For if we—

Rev. 20, 6. Blessed and holy—

Q. 208. What are we told of the resurrection of the unjust?

Ans. They will arise a thousand years later unto damnation.

Rev. 20, 5. But the rest— 12. And I saw—

John 5, 28-29. Marvel not—

Q. 209. Who will call them from the graves?

Ans. Our Lord Jesus.

John 5, 28-29. Marvel not—

IV

Judgment.

Q. 210. Why is judgment necessary?

Ans. Judgment is necessary in order that the righteousness of God be vindicated; that all righteousness be rewarded; and that all evil be exposed and awarded its corresponding destiny.

Psalm 103, 6. The Lord executeth—

I Tim. 5, 24, 25. Some men's sins are evident—

Rom. 2, 5, 6. But after thy hardness—

Matth. 12, 20. A bruised reed—

I Cor. 4, 5. Therefore judge nothing—

Q. 211. How does the Lord judge believers?

Ans. Believers find their judgment at the cross, in their life as Christians, and at the first resurrection.

Col. 1, 14. Blotting out—

Is. 53, 6. All we like—

Gal. 3, 13. Christ hath—

I Cor. 5, 5. To deliver such—

I Cor. 11, 30-32. For this cause—

Luke 19, 17-19. And He said—

II Cor. 5, 10. For we (Christians) must—

Q. 212. Will there be other judgments?

Ans. There will be

a) a judgment of the nations.

Psalm 2, 8-12. Ask of me—

Dan. 2, 43-44. And whereas—

Dan. 7, 13-14. I saw in—

Matth. 25, 31-32. When the Son—

Rev. 11, 15. And the seventh—

Rev. 19, 11-21. And I saw—

b) a judgment of the dead.

John 5, 28-29. Marvel not—

II Thess. 1, 5-10. Which is a—

Rev. 11, 18. And the nations—

Rev. 20, 11-13. And I saw—

c) Judgment of Satan and the Angels.

Rev. 20, 10. And the devil—

II Peter 2, 4. For if God—

I Cor. 6, 3. Know ye not—

Q. 213. Will God have any respect of persons?

Ans. There is no respect of persons with God. He will reward every man according to his works.

Rom. 2, 6-11. Who will render—

Q. 214. Will men be judged only according to their works?

Ans. No; they will also be called to give account for every secret thought and motive, and for every idle word.

I Cor. 4, 5. Therefore judge nothing—

Rom. 2, 16. In the day—

Matth. 12, 36. But I say—

Rev. 20, 13. And the sea—

V

Conclusion.

Q. 215. What shall be the portion of the believers?

Ans. They will enter into eternal life, and be acquitted of all sin—and are before the throne of God and serve Him day and night in His temple; and He that sitteth upon the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more; neither thirst any more, neither shall the sun light on them nor any heat; for the Lamb which is in the

midst of the throne shall feed them, and lead them unto living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

Rev. 7, 15-17. Therefore are they—

Q. 216. What will be the fate of the ungodly?

Ans. They shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.

II Thess. 1, 9. Who shall be—

Q. 217. What do we then learn about the consummation of redemption and future judgments?

Ans. That there is a time coming, in which God will judge everyone according to his deserts. That the Lord will appear in a time and hour unknown to man; that the dead in Christ will be raised incorruptible; that the redeemed that remain will be changed, and that both will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air. So will they ever be with the Lord. We should therefore watch and be ready at the coming of the Lord.

I Cor. 15, 52. In a moment—

I Thess. 4, 16. For the Lord himself—

Conclusion.

Q. 218. What do we learn about this plan of redemption?

Ans. It was planned before the world began. In the fullness of time Christ came to fulfill it. It is for all who will accept it. God will complete it by taking unto

Himself those who receive it, and by banishing forever from His presence those who reject it. Then when all things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him that put all things under Him, that God may be all and in all.

Eph. 1, 4. According as he hath—

Gal. 4, 4. But when the fulness—

John 5, 29. And shall come forth—

I Cor. 15, 24-28. Then cometh the end—

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty: Maker of heaven and earth: and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy General Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*That is, "Continued in the state of the dead, and under the power of death, until the third day."

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