

✿ Sunday School

Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day #2

3. Q. From where do you know your sins and misery?
A. From the law of God.¹
4. Q. What does God's law require of us?
A. Christ teaches us this in a summary in Matthew 22—
Love the Lord your God
with all your **heart** and with all your **soul**
and with all your **mind** and with all your **strength**.²
This is the **first** and **greatest commandment**.
And the **second** is like it:
love your neighbor as yourself.
All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two
commandments.³
5. Q. Can you keep all this perfectly?
A. **No**,⁴ I am inclined by nature to hate God and my neighbor.⁵

→Question #3: The Test of Our Condition

Heidelberg: the “Church’s Book of Comfort” is grace-heavy: **27** days on Grace, **21** days on our response of Gratitude for that grace, and **3** days on our Guilt.

DeYoung: The first thing we need in order to experience the comfort of the gospel is to be made uncomfortable with our sin...In order to have comfort, we must first see our sin-induced misery.

1Tim. 1:8 Now we know that the law is good...

The Gospel doesn't come to you and say “keep these laws and you will be saved.” Rather it says “you can't keep these laws, therefore you need to be saved.”

DeYoung: Christianity is about a God who saves people who don't keep the moral code. The law doesn't inspire me to be a better me or find the god within me. The law beats me down and shows me how miserable I am.

¹ Romans 3:20; 7:7-25

² Deuteronomy 6:5; Matthew. 22:37-40; Mark 12:29-31

³ Leviticus 19:18

⁴ Romans 3:10, 23; 1 John 1:8, 10

⁵ Genesis 6:5; 8:21; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 7:23; 8:7; Ephesians 2:3; Titus 3:3.



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Review: the 3-fold use of the Law.

1st Use: Universally Condemns; Chastens us to Christ (HCLD#2)

2nd Use: Restrains evil in the world.

3rd Use: Rule of Life for the Christian [1 Jn. 5:3; Ps. 19:7-14 (10)].

→Question #4: The Righteous Requirements of the Law

What does it mean to love God:

With all your Heart...all your Soul...all your Mind...all your Strength?

What does it mean to Love our neighbor as ourselves?

→Questions #5: Our Total Inability to Fulfill What the Law Requires.

No, (or “in no wise”) or “in no way...”

By nature...Inclined, bent, we are, by nature, God-haters and neighbor haters.

DeYoung: My own efforts to be a good are, in comparison to what God requires of me, positively miserable. I'll be damned, discouraged, and dismayed if being a follower of Jesus means nothing but a new set of things I'm supposed to do for Him. Instead, my following Jesus should be, first of all, a declaration of all that He has done for me.

1. Rom. 3:20 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

Rom. 7:7 What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.”

2. Deut. 6:5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

3. Lev. 19:18 You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

4. Rom. 3:10, 23 as it is written: “None is righteous, no, not one...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

5. Gen. 6:5 The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Gen. 8:21 ...the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done.

Jer. 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?

Rom. 8:7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

Eph. 2:3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

Titus 3:3 For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.

