

# **CATECHISM FOR YOUNG CHILDREN**

## ***An Introduction to the Shorter Catechism***

---

**Who made you?**

A. God.

---

**What else did God make?**

A. God made all things.

---

**Why did God make you and all things?**

A. For his own glory.

---

**How can you glorify God?**

A. By loving him and doing what he commands.

---

**Why ought you to glorify God?**

A. Because he made me and takes care of me.

---

**Are there more gods than one?**

A. There is only one God.

---

**In how many persons does this one God exist?**

A. In three persons.

---

**What are they?**

A. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

---

**What is God?**

A. God is a Spirit, and has not a body like men.

---

**Where is God?**

A. God is everywhere.

---

**Can you see God?**

A. No; I cannot see God, but he always sees me.

---

**Does God know all things?**

A. Yes; nothing can be hid from God.

---

**Can God do all things?**

A. Yes; God can do all his holy will.

---

**Where do you learn how to love and obey God?**

A. In the Bible alone.

---

**Who wrote the Bible?**

A. Holy men who were taught by the Holy Spirit.

---

**Have you a soul as well as a body?**

A. Yes; I have a soul that can never die.

---

**How do you know that you have a soul?**

A. Because the Bible tells me so.

---

**What is Sin?**

A. Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of the law of God.

---

**What is meant by want of conformity?**

A. Not being or doing what God requires.

---

**What is meant by transgression?**

A. Doing what God forbids.

---

**What does every sin deserve?**

A. The wrath and curse of God.

---

**What is a change of heart called?**

A. Regeneration.

---

**Who can change a sinner's heart?**

A. The Holy Spirit alone.

---

**With whom did God the Father make the covenant of grace?**

A. With Christ, his eternal Son.

---

**Whom did Christ represent in the covenant of grace?**

A. His elect people.

---

**What did Christ undertake in the covenant of grace?**

A. To keep the whole law for his people, and to suffer the punishment due to their sins.

---

**Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever commit the least sin?**

A. No; he was holy, harmless, and undefiled.

---

**How could the Son of God suffer?**

---

A. Christ, the Son of God, became man that he might obey and suffer in our nature.

---

**What is meant by the Atonement?**

A. Christ's satisfying divine justice, by his sufferings and death, in the place of sinners.

---

**What justification?**

A. It is God's forgiving sinners, and treating them as if they had never sinned.

---

**What is sanctification?**

A. It is God's making sinners holy in heart and conduct.

---

**For whom did Christ obey and suffer?**

A. For those whom the Father had given him.

---

**Who will be saved?**

A. Only those who repent of sin, believe in Christ, and lead holy lives.

---

**What is it to repent?**

A. To be sorry for sin, and to hate and forsake it because it is displeasing to God.

---

**What is it to believe or have faith in Christ?**

A. To trust in Christ alone for salvation.

---

**Can you repent and believe in Christ by your own power?**

A. No; I can do nothing good without the help of God's Holy Spirit.

---

**How can you get the help of the Holy Spirit?**

A. God has told us that we must pray to him for the Holy Spirit.

---

**How were people saved before the coming of Christ?**

A. By believing in a Savior to come.

---

**How did they show their faith?**

A. By offering sacrifices on God's altar.

---

**What did these sacrifices represent?**

A. Christ, the Lamb of God, who was to die for sinners.

---

**What offices has Christ?**

A. Christ has three offices.

---

**What are they?**

A. The offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king.

---

**How is Christ a prophet?**

A. Because he teaches us the will of God.

---

**How is Christ a priest?**

A. Because he died for our sins and pleads with God for us.

---

**How is Christ a king?**

A. Because he rules over us and defends us.

---

**Why do you need Christ as a prophet?**

A. Because I am ignorant.

---

**Why do you need Christ as a priest?**

A. Because I am guilty.

---

**Why do you need Christ as a king?**

A. Because I am weak and helpless.

---

**What is prayer?**

A. Prayer is asking God for things which he has promised to give.

---

**In whose name should we pray?**

A. Only in the name of Christ.

---

**How many sacraments are there?**

A. Two.

---

**What are they?**

A. Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

---

**Who appointed these sacraments?**

A. The Lord Jesus Christ.

---

**Why did Christ appoint these sacraments?**

A. To distinguish his disciples from the world, and to comfort and strengthen them.

---

**In whose name are we baptized?**

A. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

---

**To what does your baptism bind you?**

A. To be a true follower of Christ.

---

**What is the Lord's Supper?**

A. The eating of bread and drinking of wine in remembrance of the sufferings and death of Christ.

---

**What does the bread represent?**

A. The body of Christ, broken for our sins.

---

**What does the wine represent?**

A. The blood of Christ, shed for our salvation.

---

**Who should partake of the Lord's Supper?**

A. Only those who repent of their sins, believe in Christ for salvation, and love their fellow men.

---

**Did Christ remain in the tomb after his crucifixion?**

A. No; he rose from the tomb on the third day after his death.

---

**Where is Christ now?**

A. In heaven, interceding for sinners.

---

**Will he come again?**

A. Yes; at the last day Christ will come to judge the world.

---

**What becomes of men at death?**

A. The body returns to dust, and the soul goes into the world of spirits.

---

**Will the bodies of the dead be raised to life again?**

A. Yes; "The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised."

---

**What will become of the wicked in the day of judgment?**

A. They shall be cast into hell.

---

**What is hell?**

A. A place of dreadful and endless torment.

---

**What will become of the righteous?**

A. They shall be taken to heaven.

---

**What is heaven?**

A. A glorious and happy place, where the righteous shall be forever with the Lord.

---