

**THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM  
1879, E.R. GOOD & BRO**

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**Lord's Day 1: HC-1879 — The True Comfort**

Question & Answer (1 — 2)

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## **LORD'S DAY 1: HC-1879 — The True Comfort**

### **Question & Answer (1 — 2)**

#### **Question 1: What is thy only comfort in life and death?**

**Answer —** That I with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ (1 Cor 6:20)<sup>1</sup>; who with his precious blood hath fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil (1 John 1:7)<sup>2</sup>; and so preserves me that, without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head (John 10:28-29)<sup>3</sup>; yea that all things must be subservient to my salvation (Rom 8:28)<sup>4</sup>; therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life (Rom 8:16)<sup>5</sup> and makes me sincerely willing and ready henceforth to live unto him (Phil 2:13)<sup>6</sup>.

#### **Question 2: How many things are necessary for thee to know, that thou, enjoying this comfort, mayest live and die happy?**

**Answer —** Three. First, how great my sins and miseries are (Rom 7:24)<sup>7</sup>; Second, how I may be delivered from all my sins and miseries (Matt 11:28)<sup>8</sup>; Third, how I shall express my gratitude to God for such deliverance (Ps 16:12)<sup>9</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> 1 Cor 6:20; Ps 73:25,26; Rom 14:7,8; 1 Cor 3:23.

<sup>2</sup> 1 John 1:7; 1 Pet 1:18,19; 1 John 3:8; Heb 2:14-15; Tit 2:14.

<sup>3</sup> John 10:28-29; Lk 21:18; John 6:39.

<sup>4</sup> Rom 8:28

<sup>5</sup> Rom 8:16; 2 Cor 1:22; 2 Cor 5:5.

<sup>6</sup> Phil 2:13; Psalm 110:3; Rom 8:14; Heb 13:21.

<sup>7</sup> Rom 7:24; Rom 3:23; Rom 6:23.

<sup>8</sup> Matt 11:28; John 3:16; John 1:12.

<sup>9</sup> Ps 116:12; 2 Cor 9:15; Psalm 50:15

## **LORD'S DAY 2: HC-1879 — Part I. (LD2-LD4): The Misery of Man**

Question & Answer (3 – 5)

Question 3: **Whence knowest thou thy misery?**

Answer — Out of the law of God (Rom 3:20).<sup>10</sup>

Question 4: **What doth the law of God require of us?**

Answer — Christ teaches us that briefly (in Matt 22:37-40): “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first and great commandment (Rom 13:10)<sup>11</sup>; and the second is like unto it: thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself (Matt 7:12)<sup>12</sup>. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Question 5: **Canst thou keep all these things perfectly?**

Answer — In no wise (1 John 1:8)<sup>13</sup>; for I am prone by nature to hate God (Rom 8:7)<sup>14</sup> and my neighbor (Tit 3:3)<sup>15</sup>.

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<sup>10</sup> Rom 3:20; Rom 7:7; Ex 20:1-17.

<sup>11</sup> Rom 13:10; Deut 6:4-5; 1 Tim 1:5.

<sup>12</sup> 1 John 4:20-21; 1 Cor 13:1-8.

<sup>13</sup> Rom 3:10-12; Jer 13:23.

<sup>14</sup> Ps 14:1; Eph 2:3; Rom 1:30.

<sup>15</sup> Rom 1:31; Gal 5:19-20.

## **LORD'S DAY 3: HC-1879 — The Misery of Man, continued.,**

### Question & Answer (6 – 8)

Question 6: **Did God then create man so wicked and perverse?**

Answer — By no means, but God created man good, and after his own image (Gen 1:27)<sup>16</sup>, in righteousness and true holiness (Eph 4:24)<sup>17</sup> that he might rightly know God his Creator, heartily love him (Col 3:10)<sup>18</sup> and live with him in eternal happiness, to glorify and praise him (Isa 43:7)<sup>19</sup>.

Question 7: **Whence then proceeds this depravity of human nature?**

Answer — From the fall and disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, in Paradise (Rom 5:12)<sup>20</sup>; hence our nature is become so corrupt, that we are all conceived and born in sin (John 3:6)<sup>21</sup>.

Question 8: **Are we then so corrupt that we are wholly incapable of doing any good, and inclined to all wickedness?**

Answer — Indeed we are (Rom 7:18)<sup>22</sup>; except we are regenerated by the Spirit of God (John 3:3).<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> Gen 1:21

<sup>17</sup> Eccl 7:29

<sup>18</sup> 1 Chron 28:9; Rev 22:14

<sup>19</sup> Pro 16:4; 1 Cor 10:31; Ps 16:11

<sup>20</sup> 1 Cor 15:22; Matt 7:18; Gen 3:1-6

<sup>21</sup> Ps 51:5; 53:1; Rom 3:9-12; Job 14:4; Gen 8:21

<sup>22</sup> 2 Cor 3:5; Gen 6:5; Job 15:16

<sup>23</sup> John 3:5-6; Jer 13:23; Eph 2:4-5

## LORD'S DAY 4: HC-1879 — Part I, Continued.,

### Question & Answer (9 – 11)

Question 9: **Doth not God then do injustice to man by requiring from him, in his law, that which he cannot perform? (Gal 3:10)<sup>24</sup>**

Answer — Not at all (Rom 3:20)<sup>25</sup>; for God made man capable of performing it (Eccl 7:29); but man, by the instigation of the devil, and his own willful disobedience (Rom 5:19)<sup>26</sup>, deprived himself and all his posterity of those divine gifts (Rom 5:12)<sup>27</sup>.

Question 10: **Will God suffer such disobedience and rebellion to go unpunished?**

Answer — By no means, but is terribly displeased with our original (Eph 2:3)<sup>28</sup>, as well as actual sins (Ps 7:11)<sup>29</sup>; and will punish them in his just judgement temporally (Gen 19:24)<sup>30</sup>, and eternally (Heb 9:27)<sup>31</sup>; as he hath declared, “Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them” (Gal 3:10).

Question 11: **Is not God then also merciful?**

Answer — God is indeed merciful (Ps 103:8)<sup>32</sup>; but also just (Ps 89:14)<sup>33</sup>; therefore his justice requires that sin, which is committed against the most high majesty of God (Ps. 51:4)<sup>34</sup>, be also punished with extreme, that is, with everlasting punishment, both of body and soul (Hab 1:13)<sup>35</sup>.

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The End

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<sup>24</sup> Rom 3:5-6; 1:32

<sup>25</sup> Rev 15:3

<sup>26</sup> Gen 3:13; 2 Cor 11:3

<sup>27</sup> 1 Cor 15:22

<sup>28</sup> Rom 5:12; Ps 51:5-7

<sup>29</sup> Ps 5:5; Rom 1:18

<sup>30</sup> Gen 6:12-17; Ps 55:23; Deut 28:15

<sup>31</sup> Luke 16:23; John 3:36; Isa 66:24; Rev 14:11; Matt 25:41, 46

<sup>32</sup> Ex 34:6-7; Ps 100:5

<sup>33</sup> Ps 7:11; 97:2

<sup>34</sup> 1 Chron 29:11; Rom 3:26

<sup>35</sup> Rev 14:11; 2 Thes 1:6-10; Matt 25:46