

Lord's Day 2

Heidelberg Catechism

The First Part – Of the Misery of Man

Question 3

Whence knowest thou thy misery?

Answer

Out of the law of God.¹

Question 4

What doth the law of God require of us?

Answer

Christ teaches us that briefly, 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; and the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*²

Question 5

Canst thou keep all these things perfectly?

Answer

In no wise;³ for I am prone by nature to hate God and my neighbor.⁴

1 Rom. 3:20

Therefore by the deed of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

2 Luke 10:27

And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself.

3 Rom. 3:10

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

1 John 1:8

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

4 Rom. 8:7

Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

Tit. 3:3

For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.