

Lord's Day 10

Heidelberg Catechism

The Second Part – Of Man's Deliverance – Of God the Father

Question 27

What dost thou mean by the providence of God?

Answer

The almighty and everywhere present power of God,¹ whereby, as it were by His hand, He upholds and governs heaven, earth, and all creatures;² so that herbs and grass, rain and drought,³ fruitful and barren years, meat and drink,⁴ health and sickness,⁵ riches and poverty,⁶ yea, and all things come, not by chance, but by His fatherly hand.⁷

Question 28

What advantage is it to us to know that God has created, and by His providence doth still uphold all things?

Answer

That we may be patient in adversity;⁸ thankful in prosperity;⁹ and that in all things which may hereafter befall us, we place our firm trust in our faithful God and Father,¹⁰ that nothing shall separate us from His love;¹¹ since all creatures are so in His hand, that without His will they cannot so much as move.¹²

10 Rom. 5:3-6

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us. For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

11 Rom. 8:38, 39

For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

12 Job 1:12

And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord.

Job 2:6

And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life.

Matt. 8:31

So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine.

Isa. 10:15

Shall the axe boast itself against him that heweth therewith? Or shall the saw magnify itself against him that shaketh it? As if the rod should shake itself against them that lift it up. Or as if the staff should lift up itself, as if it were no wood.

1 Acts 17:25-28

Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

2 Heb. 1:3

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high:

3 Jer. 5:24

Neither say they in their heart, Let us now fear the LORD our God, that giveth rain, both the former and the latter, in his season: he reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest.

4 Acts 14:17

Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

5 John 9:3

Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

6 Prov. 22:2

The rich and poor meet together: the LORD is the maker of them all.

Job 1:21

And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.

7 Matt. 10:29

Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.

Matt. 10:30

But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Eph. 1:11

In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

8 Rom. 5:3

And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

Ps. 39:10

Remove thy stroke away from me: I am consumed by the blow of thine hand.

9 Deut. 8:10

When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the LORD thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.

1 Thes. 5:18

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.