

Heidelberg Catechism

Lord's Day 26

Overview/Purpose

Questions 69, 70, and 71 focus our attention on the sacrament of Baptism. Question 69 provides us with a definition and design of Baptism, question 70 discusses the chief end of Baptism, and the words employed by Christ in question 71 contain the proof and assurance of questions 69 and 70. Additionally, Christ's words found in Matthew 28:19 "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" define for us the proper application and use of this sacrament.

Method

Following the Trivium, the grammar stage calls for rote memorization. Constant drilling and recitation is absolutely necessary and will require direct parental participation.

Suggested Materials For Parents

See "The Commentary of Dr. Zacharias Ursinus on the Heidelberg Catechism", pgs 356-364.

Word Definitions

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| • Admonished | • Assured | • Holy Baptism |
| • One Sacrifice | • Christ | • Cross |
| • Real Advantage | • Appointed | • External Washing |
| • Promise | • Certainly | • Washed |
| • Pollution | • Soul | • Sins |
| • Filthiness | • Body | • Commonly |
| • Washed | • Blood | • Spirit of Christ |
| • Receive | • Remission of Sins | • Freely |
| • Sake | • Christ's blood | • Shed |
| • Sacrifice | • Cross | • Renewed |
| • Holy Ghost | • Sanctified | • Members |

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| • Die unto sin | • Lead | • Holy |
| • Unblamable | • Promised | • Certainly |
| • Wash | • Blood | • Spirit |
| • Baptism | • Institution | • Expressed |
| • Teach | • Nations | • Baptizing |
| • Saved | • Damned | • Promise |
| • Repeated | • Scripture | • Baptism |
| • Washing of regeneration | • Washing away of sins | |

Suggested Activities

- Review word definitions
- Memory game to review word definitions and catechism questions
- Spelling test using the words in this catechism lesson
- Memorize key bible verses
- Service projects to reinforce the lessons found in the catechism questions
- Many opportunities for creativity!

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LORD'S DAY 26

Question 69. How art thou admonished and assured by holy baptism, that the one sacrifice of Christ upon the cross is of real advantage to thee?

Answer. Thus: That Christ appointed [a] this external washing with water, adding thereto this [b] promise, that I am as certainly washed by his blood and Spirit from all the pollution of my soul, that is, from all my sins, as I am [c] washed externally with water, by which the filthiness of the body is commonly washed away.

Question 70. What is it to be washed with the blood and Spirit of Christ?

Answer. It is to receive of God the remission of sins, freely, for the sake of Christ's blood, which he [d] shed for us by his sacrifice upon the cross; and also to be renewed by the Holy Ghost, and sanctified to be members of Christ, that so we may more and more die unto sin, and [e] lead holy and unblamable lives.

Question 71. Where has Christ promised us, that he will as certainly wash us by his blood and Spirit, as we are washed with the water of baptism?

Answer. In the institution of baptism, which is thus expressed: [f] "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost [g]," "he that believeth, and is baptized, shall be saved; but he that believeth not, shall be damned." This promise is also repeated, where the scripture calls baptism the [h] washing of regeneration, and the washing [i] away of sins.

[a]: Mat. 28:19; Acts 2:38

[b]: Mark 16:16; Mat. 3:11; Rom. 6:3

[c]: Mark 1:4; Luke 3:3

[d]: Heb. 12:24; 1Pet. 1:2

[e]: John 1:33; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:11

[f]: Mat. 28:19

[g]: Mark 16:16

[h]: Tit. 3:5

[i]: Acts 22:16