

1. What is the Law

1. The Law is what we are to do and not to do. The Law condemns and accuses every sinner.

2. What is the Gospel?

2. The Gospel is the good news that Jesus died on the cross to save sinners.

3. What is the most important function of God's Law?

3. The most important function of the Law is to condemn us as sinners and teach us that we cannot save ourselves.

4. What are the three uses of the Law?

4. The three uses of the Law are CURB, MIRROR, and GUIDE.

5. What is the summary of the Law?

5. The summary of the Law is LOVE.

6. What is the summary of the 1st Table of the Law?
What is the summary of the 2nd Table of the Law?

6. The summary of the first table of the Law is, “love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind and with all your strength. The summary of the second table of the Law is, “love your neighbor as yourself.”

7. What is sin?

7. Sin is rebellion against God, turning away from his Word, unbelief, and every thought, word, and deed which is against God's Law.

8. What is sin's terror called?

8. Sin's terror is called contrition.

9. What are the two ways God has given us the Law?

9. God has given us the Law written on our hearts and in the Holy Scriptures.

10. Is there Law in the New Testament?

10. Yes, there is Law in the New Testament.

11. Is there Gospel in the Old Testament?

11. Yes, there is Gospel in the Old Testament.

12: What is the first promise of the Gospel in the Old Testament?

12. The first promise of the Gospel in the Old Testament is in Genesis 3:15.

13. What does it mean to be brought to repentance and faith in Christ?

13. Repentance is the acknowledgment or belief that one is a sinner.

14. Repentance requires what two things?

14. Repentance requires contrition and faith.

15. Why is the term “beggar” a good description of a Christian?

15. Like a beggar, a Christian believes that he is a sinner who is totally dependent upon the mercy of God in Christ.

16. In what way did Jesus keep the LAW perfectly?

16. **Jesus kept the Law perfectly in two fundamental ways:**
1. He never broke the commandments. He was sinless.
2. He bore the punishment of our sin for us.

17. How can **our righteousness** exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and the Pharisees?

17. Our righteousness can only exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees if it is Jesus' righteousness. His righteousness is a gift of grace to us.

18. Who is the only true God?

18. The only true God is the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

19. Why did God create the heavens and the earth?

19. God created the heavens and the earth because his nature is love.

20. What does it mean that man is made in "the image of God"?

20. To be made in "the image of God" means to have the natural ability to fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

21. How did we lose the image of God?

21. We lost the image of God when we sinned. We deserve damnation for our sin.

22. How is the image of God restored?

22. The image of God is restored in Christ in our Baptism.

23. How did man fall into sin?

23. Man fell into sin by turning away from God's Word of love that gave Him life.

24. Sin came into the world through whom?

24. By his original sin Adam became a sinner. We are all sinners because his sin and corruption is passed on to us.

25. What is
the first
promise of
salvation?

25. The first promise of salvation is in the Lord's Word to the serpent, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed. He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel" (Genesis 3:15).

26. Who is
Jesus Christ?

26. Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary. He is the second person of the Holy Trinity.

27. Why did
the Son of
God become
man?

27. The Son of God became man to die upon the cross. He became man to redeem us to God by taking our sin upon Himself and suffering the punishment that we deserved.

28. What does
"redeem"
mean?

28. "Redeem" means to buy back.

29. What does it mean when we say, “Jesus died for us” or “Jesus died for me”?

29. “Jesus died for us” or “for me” means that He died in our place, taking the punishment demanded of us by the Law.

30. Why did Jesus rise from the dead and what does this mean for us?

30. Jesus rose from the dead precisely because His death paid the price for sin demanded by the Law. The victory over sin is ours through faith in Christ.

31. Explain the meaning of the phrase, “The Lord is our righteousness.”

31. Jesus, the Lord, is “our righteousness” because He fulfilled the whole will and Law of God for us in His obedient suffering and death upon the cross.

32. Who is the Holy Spirit and what is his work?

32. The Holy Spirit is God, the third person of the Holy Trinity. His work is to bring Christ to us and us to Christ.

33. What are the
“spiritual things”
through which the
Holy Spirit
accomplishes his
work?

33. The preaching and teaching of the Gospel, Holy Baptism, Holy Absolution, and Holy Communion are the concrete “spiritual things” through which the Holy Spirit does His work of sanctification.

34. How are the
Holy Scriptures
a gift of the
Holy Spirit?

34. The Scriptures are a gift of the Holy Spirit because He inspired the apostles, prophets, and evangelists to write them. This means that they are the very Word of God, “inspired” by the Holy Spirit and “inerrant.”

35. What does
“inspired”
mean?

35. Holy men of God were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

36. What does
“inerrant”
mean?

36. The Holy Scriptures are incapable of error.

37. How is the Office of the Holy Ministry a gift of the Holy Spirit?

37. The Office of the Holy Ministry is a gift of the Holy Spirit because Christ gave this office to the church, in order that His Word might be preached and His sacraments administered.

38. What is the purpose of the Office of the Holy Ministry?

38. Through these gifts of Christ the Holy Spirit works faith in Christ for the forgiveness of sins, creates the holy Christian Church, and bestows all the blessings of salvation in Christ.

39. Explain how “the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting” are all fruit of the Holy Spirit.

39. They are the result of the preaching of the Gospel, Holy Baptism, Holy Absolution, and the Lord’s Supper. The preaching of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments of Christ create the holy Christian Church and the communion of saints through the forgiveness of sins.

40. What does the word, “sanctify” mean?

40. To sanctify is to make holy.

41. What are the
“means of grace”
or rather, the
“means of the
Spirit”?

41. The means
of Grace are
preaching and
the sacraments.

42. Where is
the true church
of Christ to be
found?

42. The true church is
found where the Word
is preached in its purity
and the sacraments are
administered according
to Christ’s command.

43. What is
prayer?

43. Prayer is calling
upon God on the
basis of His promises
to us in Christ. Prayer
is the voice of faith.

44. Why does
a Christian
pray?

44. A Christian
prays because of
God’s promises
to him.

45. How can a Christian be certain that God hears and answers their prayers?

45. We can be certain that God hears and answers our prayer because we have His command to pray and His promise to hear us.

46. Why is the life of prayer described as a “holy life” or “holy living”?

46. The life of prayer is described as a “holy life” because it is the life of faith in God’s Word.

47. What does the Word of God do to your heart?

47. The Word of God cleanses our hearts, minds, and wills when it is received and believed. By God’s Word alone, the very Gospel of Christ, we learn to call upon the promises of God in prayer and live by faith in those promises every day of our lives in the freedom and joy of Christ’s forgiveness.

48. How did Jesus teach his disciples to pray?

48. Jesus taught His disciples to pray by giving them the Lord’s Prayer.

49. In what ways are learning by heart Bible verses, catechism, liturgy, hymns, and prayers helpful to us in our prayers and meditation?

49. Memorizing Bible verses, sections from the catechism and liturgy, and stanzas from hymns are helpful to us in prayer because they contain the very promises of God's Word upon which both our faith and prayers are based. God's Word always draws us outside ourselves to find our help in Christ alone.

50. What criteria makes a sacrament?

50. Four things make a sacrament:

1. Instituted by Jesus.
2. Forgives sins
3. Earthly element
4. Specific Word of God

51. What is the specific command from God to Baptize?

51. God's specific command concerning Baptism is: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

52. What specific Word from God is combined with the water in Holy Baptism?

52. The word from God that is combined with the water in Baptism is the name of the Holy Trinity: I baptize you "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

53. What benefits does God pledge to give us in Holy Baptism?

53. In Holy Baptism God “works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as His Words and promises declare.”

54. How can water do such great things?

54. The “great things” of Baptism are the gifts of the forgiveness of sins, rescue from death and the devil, and eternal salvation to all who believe this. The Word of God gives Baptism its power to do these great things.

55. What great things?

55. Specifically, it forgives sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal life to all who believe.

56. What gives the water the power?

56. The Word of God and the Command of God give the water the power.

57. Who is revealed to us in Jesus' Baptism?

57. The Triune God is revealed to us in the Baptism of Jesus.

58. Jesus was Baptized to “fulfill all righteousness.” What does that mean?

58. Jesus fulfilled all righteousness by becoming our sin-bearer, the very Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world by offering up His own life in death for us.

59. Why did the disciples want to send the little children away from Jesus?

59. The disciples wanted to send the little children away from Jesus because they did not believe that they were old enough to understand or believe in Him.

60. Why does Jesus take the little children up in his arms and bless them?

60. Jesus blessed them to teach the disciples that faith and salvation are gifts of God, rather than our own accomplishments. Children are held up as the pattern for God's gift of faith and salvation in Baptism.

61. What does this teach us about Holy Baptism?

61. Just as a child receives life and is born into this world as a gift, so the sinner receives salvation and is born again in Baptism as a gift.

62. What does it mean to live in our Baptism every day of our lives?

62. To live in our Baptism means to live in daily repentance, confessing our sins and clinging to God's Word of forgiveness in Christ.

63. What are the two kinds of confession commanded by God that are necessary part of Christian faith and life?

63. The two kinds of confession commanded by God are the general confession of sins that we make before Him, as in the Lord's Prayer, and the confession of sins we make to our brother whom we have sinned against.

64. In what way is confession of sins "necessary"?

64. Our confessions are made before God and one another because we believe in Christ for the forgiveness of sins. To refuse to confess one's sin is to deny one's faith in Christ.

65. Why do Lutherans retain the practice of Private Confession and Absolution?

65. Private Confession is offered among Lutherans for the sake of the opportunity for troubled Christians to hear the Absolution. Private Confession is not a good work that merits God's grace. We are not required to go to confession and enumerate all our sins.

66. What was it in the father that called the Prodigal Son home?

66. The love of the father called the prodigal son home to his father. He remembered that he was his father's son and that this relationship with his father was a gift of undeserved love.

67. Why did David need a minister/pastor like Nathan?

67. David was an impenitent sinner. He was denying his sin and need for the Gospel. David needed a minister to preach to him repentance and the forgiveness of sins.

68. How do the terms, "Gospel," "Holy Absolution," and "Preaching" involve the same thing?

68. The Gospel, Holy Absolution, and preaching all involve the proclamation of the forgiveness of sins for Jesus' sake.

69. What does the word of the Gospel actually give?

69. The word of the Gospel, in whatever context it is proclaimed, actually gives and conveys the forgiveness of sins, new life, and salvation.

70. Who is always at work through the word of the Gospel, and for what purpose?

70. The Holy Spirit is always at work through the Gospel to lead us to Christ, creating and strengthening our faith in Him.

71. In whose place and by whose command do our pastors preach the Gospel and administer the sacraments to us?

71. Pastors preach the Gospel and administer the sacraments to us in the stead and by the command of Christ. The pastor's only authority is the Word of God.

72. Why is this important for us to believe?

72. We need preachers of the Word of God in order that we might continually hear the call to repentance and faith in Christ. **We cannot minister to ourselves.** Christ gave us pastors in order that we might have the certainty and comfort of the Word of God from outside ourselves.

73. What does Christ require of his pastors?

73. Christ requires His ministers to preach the Gospel faithfully and administer the sacraments according to His institution for the salvation of sinners.

74. What does Christ require of those who hear the Word and receive the sacraments?

74. Those who hear and believe the Gospel are required to receive their ministry of Word and sacrament eagerly and support them with their gifts of love and prayer.

75. What did the children of Israel celebrate in the Passover?

75. In the Old Testament Passover the children of Israel were delivered by the Lord from slavery and death in Egypt by the blood of the Passover lamb that was slaughtered and eaten.

76. What two great actions constituted the celebration of the Passover?

76. The two great actions of the Passover were the shedding of the lamb's blood and the eating of the Passover meal.

77. How does the Passover find its fulfillment in Christ?

77. The Passover is fulfilled in Christ. He is the true Passover Lamb. His blood was shed upon the cross to redeem us from sin and death, and in the Lord's Supper we feast upon Him for the forgiveness of all of our sins, eternal life and salvation.

78. What is the Lord's Supper?

78. The Lord's Supper is the true body and blood of Christ under the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and to drink.

79. Why was it instituted?

79. The Lord's Supper was instituted so that we might partake *with certainty* in all the benefits of Jesus' death upon the cross. The words "given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins" show us that the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us in the Sacrament.

80. Do you believe that the true body and blood of Christ are in the sacrament?

80. Yes, Christ's true body and blood are in the Sacrament.

81. What convinces you to believe this?

81. The words of Christ, “this is My body which is given for you...this cup is the New Testament in My blood which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” The bread and wine are not symbols of Christ’s body and blood; they are Christ’s true body and blood because of His word and promise.

82. Who is worthy or prepared to receive the Sacrament?

82. A person is worthy or prepared to receive the Sacrament, not because of his merit or good works, but solely by faith in Christ and His words, “given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.”

83. What does it mean to “examine yourself” before partaking of the Sacrament?

83. To examine oneself before partaking of the Sacrament simply means to reflect upon one’s faith in Christ, “Am I a sinner? Am I sorry that I have sinned against God? Is Christ my only Savior from sin? Does He give me His body and blood for my salvation in the Sacrament? Do I desire to receive His forgiveness, help, and comfort?” The Christian who answers “yes” to these questions is worthy to receive the Sacrament.

84. What should encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?

84. The Christian’s need should encourage him to receive the Sacrament frequently. *His flesh* is sinful and corrupt. *The world* in which he lives is full of sin and trouble that threaten his faith. *The devil* is constantly about him with his temptations. The Lord’s Supper is medicine, help, comfort, and strength against the devil, the world, and our flesh.

85. Why do we practice closed communion?

85. We practice closed Communion in order to care for the spiritual welfare of every communicant. We desire every communicant to partake of the Sacrament firmly believing the Words of Christ, so that they do not eat and drink to their condemnation.

86. To whom is our table open?

86. The Lord's Supper is open to those (a) who have been baptized; (b) who confess faith in Christ alone for salvation; (c) who confess faith in the real presence of Christ's body and blood in the Sacrament for the forgiveness of sins; (d) who are penitent sinners; and (e) who confess the faith of the church at whose altar they are communing.

87. What is the basic structure of the Divine Service?

87. The basic structure of the Divine Service revolves around the two great readings of the Gospel: the Holy Gospel for the day and the Words of Institution.

88. What is the purpose of preaching?

88. In the sermon the pastor preaches repentance and faith in Christ based upon the words and works of Jesus, so that the baptized can faithfully eat of the Sacrament.