THE CHILDREN'S SCRIPTURE CATECHISM

Based on the Catechism for Young Children

Scripture Texts Prepared by Stephen O. Stout D. Min., Th.M., D. Min., Ph. D.

EXPLANATION OF THE CHILDREN'S SCRIPTURE CATECHISM

A NEED ARISES

For many generations, children have been taught the basics of Christian doctrine through the *Catechism for Young Children*, which in turn is based upon the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*. While these Catechisms have been excellent tools for teaching theological truth, one immediately notices that the *Catechism for Young Children* contains few scriptural references, although many of the answers are quotes or paraphrases of Scripture. While the theology of that Catechism is biblically sound, it seems to be more important that children "hide the Word in their heart" rather than memorizing bare theological statements, as biblical as they may be. A child needs to know the source of his or her belief system does not come from Westminster Abbey, but from the Words of God, a fact the first chapter of the Westminster Confession states emphatically.¹

So why not have the best of both worlds--both sound theological deduction with answers that are as scriptural as possible? To that end, a catechizing tool emerged which did not supplant the *Catechism for Young Children* but enhanced it by making every answer a quotation from the Words of God, insofar as possible. So, the need for scripture memory gave birth to the Children's Scripture Catechism.

BIBLICAL RATIONALE FOR SCRIPTURE CATECHISMS:

The ancient form of catechizing, or teaching by asking questions and providing answers, is embedded deep in covenant history, when the children catechized the fathers in the Passover liturgy by asking, "What does this rite mean to you?" Moses gives a specific catechetical answer: "It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, who passed over the houses of the sons of Israel in Egypt when He smote the Egyptians, but spared our homes" (Exod 12:26–27). The proper response to this first catechism is noted, that the people bowed low and worshiped. This is certainly the intended and desired effect of all God's revelation, since the "knowledge of the truth leads unto godliness" (Titus 1:1).

The Lord Jesus Christ masterfully used the catechetical method, constantly asking questions ("Who proved to be neighbor to him?") and then supplying the answers ("The one who showed mercy."). Surely His people should imitate not only His example but also His methods if we are to become skilled workers of His Words.

Furthermore, Paul mentions that the Romans believers had been committed to the "form of doctrine," where the Greek word *tupos* describes an exact original that should be imitated precisely (Rom 6:17). Clearly the concept of catechizing derives from the verb *katecho*, when believers are commanded "to hold (*katechete*) to the traditions," just as the apostle delivered them (1 Cor 11:2). It is likely that the confession of 1 Timothy 3:16 answers the question, "What happened to Christ Jesus?" From these indications, it is evident that the apostolic church circulated scriptural catechisms to teach New Covenant truth before the New Testament writings were collected and canonized.

BIBLICAL RATIONALE FOR TEACHING SCRIPTURE BY SCRIPTURE

But even these pre-New Testament Catechisms suffered from a weakness characterizing every Catechism, which is the framing the Words of God in the words of man. The same could be said of the science of Theology, that it is man's attempt to systematize and explain God's truth. While that is certainly necessary, it opens itself to the danger that the explanations of the theologian (or the sermons of the preacher) become elevated to the level of Scripture itself, or worse yet, become more important than the Word of God. For proof, consider how difficult it is to amend a timeworn confession of faith. The same criticism can been leveled at Christian hymnody, that the lyrics tend to be expressions of human experience rather than reflections of God's revelation (Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs).

While the value of a catechism is it teaches abstract doctrinal truth in a systematic manner, the best way to

¹ ("We may be moved and induced by the testimony of the Church to an high and reverent esteem of the Holy Scripture . . . ; yet, notwithstanding, our full persuasion and assurance of the infallible truth, and divine authority thereof, is from the inward work of the Holy Spirit, bearing witness by and with the word in our hearts" (WCF 1:5).

teach biblical truth is, of course, to use the very Words of the Scriptures itself. The key passage on biblical education, Deut 6:7–9, commands the father to teach the very Words of God to his sons by talking of them when he sits, walks, reclines, and arises, binding them on his hands and forehead and writing them on the doorposts of the house. This method places Biblical education in the Covenant home, where the Words of God are modeled and displayed so that the child will learn those Words in everyday experiences. But even the Words, as important as they are, are not an end in themselves, but Deut 6:8 describes the words as a "sign," pointing the child toward the Great Covenant God, teaching His promises of blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience.

In this case, why not have a Catechism that answers theological questions by Scripture itself? That is the intent of the Children's Scripture Catechism.

PRINCIPLES USED IN THE CHILDREN'S SCRIPTURE CATECHISM:

1. The intent of the printed answers of *Catechism for Young Children* was meticulously followed as much as possible: no doctrinal changes were made to the Covenantal and Calvinistic system of doctrine taught by that Catechism.

2. Scripture citations were selected with reference first to the prooftexts supplied by the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*.

3. Where the proof-texts from the *Shorter Catechism* seemed inadequate for this purpose, cross-referencing to similar verses was used to locate a more appropriate text.

4. The verses are not quoted *verbatim*: only the pertinent aspect which answers the Question is given, not because the modifiers are unimportant (indeed, every Words of God is true and equally inspired), but because the editor assumed that younger children need to know the kernel of truth rather than the surrounding shell. The catechizer should check the verse in context and add these phrases, if deemed necessary.

5. Verses are cited with brevity in mind, following the guideline: "The shorter the better," as the editor tried to imagine what a three year old could memorize.

6. Although most citations favor the King James and New American Standard Versions of the English Bible, more often than not personal translations were made from the Hebrew and Greek to insure a more precise answer to the question.

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS:

The letter \mathbf{Q} : stands for "Question," and the actual text of the *Catechism for Young Children* is used, with a few minor variations.

The letter **A**: stands for "Answer," and it too is quoted directly from the *Catechism for Young Children*. These are left untouched because they may include theological concepts broader than one verse of scripture can illustrate, or which convey doctrinal deductions based on the scope of Scripture rather than on specific scriptural reference (such as Q:122).

The letter S: stands for "Scripture," and it indicates a new addition to the question, or more often, a replacement for the original answer.

It is this last aspect which constitutes the significant change to this time-tested tool of Christian education, and the editor presents it in the hope that both the parent and child will learn theological concepts by memorizing actual scriptural citations which answer the catechetical question. In so doing, may the Covenant family bow and together worship the great God of covenant mercies.

THE CHILDREN'S SCRIPTURE CATECHISM

PART 1: THE CREATOR GOD (Q. 1-21)

- *Q.1: Who created you?* S: God created me (Gen 1:27).
- *Q.2: What else did God create?* S: "God created all things" (Eph 3:9).
- *Q.3: Why did God create you and all things?* S: "To the praise of His glory" (Eph 1:12).
- *Q.4: How can you glorify God?* S: "By loving Him and keeping His commandments" (Deut 10:12).
- *Q.5: Why ought you to glorify God?* S: "For God alone is holy and fills me with gladness" (Rev 15:4; Acts 4:17).
- *Q.6: Are there more gods than one?* S: "There is only one true God" (John 17:3).
- *Q.7: In how many persons does this one true God exist?* A: In three Persons.
- *Q.8: Who are the three persons of the one true God?* S: "The Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit" (Matt 28:19).
- *Q.9: What is God?*

S: "God is a Spirit" (John 4:24) and "does not dwell in temples made with hands" (Acts 17:24).

Q.10: Where is God?

S: "He fills the heaven and earth" (Jer 23:23).

Q.11: Can you see God?

A: "No man can see God" (Exod 33:20), but "God sees me" (Gen 16:13).

- *Q.12: Does God know all things?* A: "God knows it all" (Ps 139:4).
- *Q.13: Can God do all things?* A: "Nothing is impossible with God" (Luke 1:37).
- *Q.14: Where do you learn how to love and obey God?* S: "Search the Scriptures: in them you have eternal life" (John 5:39).
- Q.15: Who wrote the Bible?

S: "Men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God" (2 Peter 1:21).

- *Q.16: Who were our first parents?* S: "Adam and Eve" (Gen 3:20).
- Q.17: Of what were our first parents made?

- S: "God formed Adam of dust of the ground, and made Eve from the rib of Adam" (Gen 2:7, 22).
- Q.18: What did God give Adam and Eve besides bodies?S: "God breathed into Adam, and he became a living soul" (Gen 2:7).
- *Q.19: Have you a soul as well as a body?* S: Yes, I must "have faith to the saving of my soul" (Heb 10:39).
- *Q.20: How do you know you have a soul?* S: For the Bible tells me I must "love God with all my soul" (Deut 6:5).
- *Q.21: In what condition did God make Adam and Eve?* S: "In righteousness and holiness of truth" (Eph 4:24).

PART 2: GOD'S COVENANT WITH ADAM (Q. 22-42)

- *Q.22: What is God's covenant?* A: An agreement between God and His people.
 - S: "God makes His covenant between He and you to be a God to you" (Gen 17:7).
- *Q.23: What covenant did God make with Adam?* S: "God blessed them and said, 'Be fruitful and rule over the earth" (Gen 1:28).
- Q.24: What was Adam bound to do by this covenant of works?A: To obey God perfectly.S: "From the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat" (Gen 2:17).
- *Q.25: What did God promise Adam in this covenant?* S: "From any tree of the garden you may freely eat, and live forever" (Gen 2:16; 3:22).
- *Q.26: What did God threaten Adam in this covenant?* S: "In the day you eat, you shall surely die" (Gen 2:17).
- Q.27: Did Adam keep this covenant?

S: No: "Adam sinned against the covenant" (Hosea 6:7).

- Q.28: What is sin?
 - A: Sin is any lack of conformity to, or transgression of the law of God.
 - S: "Each of us has turned to his own way" (Isa 53:6).

Q.29: What is meant by lack of conformity?

- A: Not being or doing what God requires.
- S: "We all fall short of the glory of God" (Rom 3:23).
- Q.30: What is meant by transgression?
 - A: Doing what God forbids.

S: "Sin is lawlessness" (1 John 3:4).

Q.31: What was the sin of our first parents?

S: "They took the fruit and ate" (Gen 3:6).

Q.32: Who tempted them to this sin?

S: "The serpent deceived Eve" (2 Cor 11:3) and "she gave to her husband" (Gen 2:6).

- *Q.33: What happened to our first parents when they sinned?* S: "They hid themselves from God, and He drove them from the garden" (Gen 3:8, 24).
- Q.34: Did Adam act for himself alone in the covenant of works?A: No, he acted for all his seed, including me.S: "In Adam all die" (1 Cor 15:22).
- *Q.35: What effect had Adam's sin on all mankind?* S: "By nature, we are children of wrath" (Eph 3:2).
- *Q.36: What does this "Original Sin" which we inherit from Adam mean?* S: "That I was conceived in sin" (Psalm 51:5).
- *Q.37: What does every sin deserve?* S: "The wages of sin is death " (Rom 6:23).
- *Q.38: Can anyone go to heaven with this sinful nature?* A: No: my heart must be changed before I can be fit for heaven.
 - S: "Nothing unclean shall ever come into it" (Rev 21:27).
- *Q.39:* What is this change of heart called?
 - A: Regeneration.
 - S: I "must be born again" (John 3:7).
- *Q.40: Who can change a sinner's heart?* S: "The Lord says, 'I will give you a new heart" (Ezek 36:26).
- *Q.41: Can anyone now be saved though the covenant of works?* S: No, "since by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified" (Gal 3:16).
- *Q.42: Why can no one be saved through the covenant of works?* S: Because "sin, taking opportunity though the Law, deceived me" (Rom 7:11).

PART 3: GOD'S COVENANT WITH JESUS (Q. 43-71)

- Q.43: With whom did God the Father make the Covenant of Grace?A: With Christ, His eternal Son, who came down from heaven to do the will of Him who sent Him (John 6:38).
- *Q.44: Whom did Christ represent in the Covenant of Grace?* S: Jesus "will save His people from their sins" (Matt 1:21).
- *Q.45: What did Christ undertake in the Covenant of Grace?* S: "He was delivered for our transgressions and raised for our justification" (Rom 4:25).
- *Q.46: Did the Lord Jesus Christ ever commit the least sin?* S: No, He is "holy, innocent, and undefiled" (Heb 7:26).
- *Q.47: How could the Son of God suffer?* S: "He partook of flesh and blood, that through death He might make the devil powerless" (Heb 2:14).

Q.48: What is meant by the Atonement?

A: Christ satisfying divine justice, by His sufferings and death for sinners.

S: "God made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Cor 5:21).

Q.49: What did God the Father undertake in the Covenant of Grace?

- A: To justify and sanctify those for whom Christ should die.
- S: "Whom He predestined, these He also called, justified, and glorified" (Rom 8:30).
- *Q.50: What is justification?*
 - A: Justification is God's forgiving sinners and treating them as if they had never sinned.
 - S: "Through Christ forgiveness of sins is proclaimed and everyone who believes is justified" (Acts 13:38–39).
- Q.51: What is sanctification?
 - A: It is God's making sinners holy in heart and conduct.
 - S: "This is the will of God, your sanctification" (1 Thess 4:3).
- Q.52: For whom did Christ obey and suffer?

S: "To all whom Thou hast given Him, He may give eternal life" (John 17:2).

Q.53: What kind of life did Christ live on earth?

S: "He was despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief" (Isa 53:3).

Q.54: What kind of death did Christ die?

S: "He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death of a cross" (Phil 2:8).

Q.55: Who will be saved?

S: Those who show "repentance unto God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ" (Acts 20:21).

- Q.56: What does it mean to repent?
 - A: To be sorry for sin, and to hate and forsake it because it is displeasing to God.
 - S: "Tear your heart and return to the Lord" (Joel 2:12-13).
- Q.57: What does it mean to believe or have faith in Christ?
 - S: "Not having my own righteousness, but that which is from God through faith in Christ" (Phil 3:9).
- Q.58: Can you repent and believe in Christ by your own power?S: No: God the Holy Spirit grants repentance unto life and faith in Christ (Acts 11:18; Phil 1:29).
- Q.59: How can I get help of the Holy Spirit?

A: "The heavenly Father gives the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him" (Luke 11:13).

- Q.60: How long ago is it since Christ died?
 - A: Subtract 33 from this year!
 - S: "At the right time, Christ died for the ungodly" (Rom 5:6).
- *Q.61: How were pious people saved before the coming of Christ?*

S: "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him unto righteousness" (Rom 4:3).

Q.62: How did they show their faith?

S: "By faith, Moses kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood" (Heb 11:28).

Q.63: What did these sacrifices represent?

S: "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29).

- Q.64: What offices has Christ? A: Christ has three offices.
- Q.65: What are they?

A: The offices of prophet, priest, and king.

- *Q.66: How is Christ a prophet?*
 - A: By teaching us the will of God.
 - S: "The word which you hear is the Father's who sent Me" (John 14:24).
- *Q.67: How is Christ a priest?* S: In that "Christ died for our sins" (1 Cor 15:3) and "He always lives to make intercession for us" (Heb 7:25).
- *Q.68: How is Christ a king?* S: "He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet" (1 Cor 15:25).
- *Q.69: Why do you need Christ as a prophet?* S: He makes known to me all things He heard from His Father (John 15:15).
- *Q.70: Why do you need Christ as a priest?*S: "For while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom 5:8).
- Q.71: Why do you need Christ as a king?S: So I may "reign in life through Jesus Christ" and "be saved to His heavenly kingdom" (Rom 5:21; 2 Tim 4:18).

PART 4: ON THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (Q. 72-104)

- Q.72: How many commandments did God give on Mount Sinai?S: "Moses wrote the 10 commandments which the Lord spoke to him" (Deut 10:4).
- Q.73: That are the 10 commandments sometimes called? A: The Decalogue (that means, "10 Words").
- Q.74: What do the first four commandments teach?A: "What does the Lord require of you but to walk in all His ways?" (Deut 10:12).
- Q.75: What do the last 6 commandments teach?S: "This is His commandment, that we love one another" (1 John 3:23).
- *Q.76: What is the sum of the 10 commandments?* A: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and your neighbor as yourself" (Luke 10:27).
- Q.77: Who is your neighbor?

A: I am to show mercy to all my fellow men (Luke 10:37).

- *Q.78: Is God pleased with those who love and obey Him?* S: Yes; for God says, "I love those who love me" (Prov 8:17).
- *Q.79: Is God displeased with those who do not love and obey Him?* S: Yes, "God is angry with the wicked every day" (Ps 7:11).

Q.80: What is the first commandment?

S: "You shall have no other gods before Me" (Exod 20:4).

Q.81: What does the first commandment teach us?

S: "You shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him only" (Matt 4:10).

Q.82 What is the second commandment?

S: "You shall not make for yourself an idol; you shall not worship them, for I the Lord am a jealous God" (Exod 20:4–5).

Q.83: What does the second commandment teach us?

S: "That true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth" (John 4:23) and "flee from idolatry" (1 Cor 10:14).

Q.84: What is the third commandment?

S: "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not leave him unpunished who takes His Name in vain" (Exod 20:7).

- *Q.85: What does the third commandment teach us?* S: To "give unto the Lord the glory due unto His Name" (Ps 29:2).
- Q.86: What is the fourth commandment?

S: "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy: six days you shall labor and do all your work; but the seventh day is a Sabbath of the Lord your God; . . . for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth; therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy" (Exod 20:8-11).

- *Q.87: What does the fourth commandment teach us?* S: "You shall keep My Sabbaths" (Lev 19:30).
- Q.88: What day of the week is the Christian Sabbath?S: "On the first day of the week, the disciples came together" (Acts 20:7).
- Q.89: Why is it called the Lord's Day?

A: Because on the first day, Jesus rose from the dead (John 20:19).

Q.90: How should the Sabbath be spent?

S: "If you call the Sabbath a delight, not doing your own ways, then you will take delight in the Lord" (Isa 58:13).

- Q.91: What is the fifth commandment?S: "Honor your father and mother, that your days may be long in the land which the Lord your God gives you" (Exod 20:12).
- *Q.92: What does the fifth commandment teach us?* S: "Obey your parents in the Lord" (Eph 6:1).
- *Q.93: What is the sixth commandment?* S: "You shall not murder" (Exod 20:13)
- *Q.94: What does the sixth commandment teach us?* S: "Do not the sun go down on your anger" (Eph 4:26).

- *Q.95: What is the seventh commandment?* S: "You shall not commit adultery" (Exod 20:14).
- *Q.96: What does the seventh commandment teach us?* S: "To flee youthful lusts, but follow righteousness" (2 Tim 2:22).
- *Q.97: What is the eighth commandment?* S: "You shall not steal" (Exod 20:15).
- *Q.98: What does the eighth commandment teach us?* A: "Don't steal, but work to share with him who has need" (Eph 4:28).
- Q.99: What is the ninth commandment?S: "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor" (Exod 20:16).
- Q.100: What does the ninth commandment teach us? S: "Laying aside lies, speak truth" (Eph 4:25).
- *Q.101: What is the tenth commandment?* S: "You shall not covet . . . anything that belongs to your neighbor" (Exod 20:17).
- *Q.102: What does the tenth commandment teach us?* S: "I have learned to be content" (Phil 4:11).
- *Q.103: Can any man keep these Ten Commandments perfectly?* S: "There is not a righteous man on earth who does good and who never sins" (Eccl 7:20).
- *Q.104: Of what use are the Ten Commandments to us?* S: "The Law is my tutor to lead me to Christ" (Gal 3:24).

PART 5 ON THE LORD'S PRAYER (Q: 105-121)

- *Q.105: What is prayer?*
 - A: Prayer is asking God for things that He has promised to give. S: "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thess 5:17).
- Q.106: In whose Name should we pray?

S: Jesus, said, "Whatever you ask the Father in My Name, He will give to you" (John 16:23).

- *Q.107: What has Christ given us to teach us how to pray?* S: "Pray in this way," The Lord's Prayer (Matt. 6:9).
- Q.108: Repeat the Lord's Prayer:

S: "Our Father who art in heaven; hallowed be Thy Name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen" (Matt 6:9–13).

- Q.109: How many petitions are there in the Lord's prayer? A: Six.
- *Q.110: What is the first petition?* S: "Hallowed be Thy Name." (or, "May Your Name be holy.")

- *Q.111: What do we pray for in the first petition?* S: That "that all flesh will bless His holy name forever and ever" (Psalm 145:21).
- *Q.112: What is the second petition?* S: "Thy Kingdom come." (or, "May Your Kingdom come")
- *Q.113 What do we pray for in the second petition?* S: "Pray that the word of the Lord may spread rapidly" (2 Thess 3:1).
- Q.114: What is the third petition?S: "Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven." (or, "May Your will be done....")
- Q.115: What do we pray for in the third petition?A: That men on earth may serve God as the angels do in heaven.S: "Bless the Lord, all His works in all places" (Psalm 103:22).
- *Q.116: What is the fourth petition?* S: "Give us this day our daily bread."
- *Q.117: What do we pray for in the fourth petition?*S: That "God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Phil 4:19).
- *Q.118: What is the fifth petition?* S: "Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors."
- Q.119: What do we pray for in the fifth petition?A: That God would pardon our sins for Christ's sake, and enable us to forgive those who have injured us.S: "If you forgive men, your Father will forgive you" (Matt. 6:14).
- *Q.120: What is the sixth petition?*S: "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil."
- Q.121: What do we pray for in the sixth petition?S: That God would not let any sin rule over me (Psalm 119:133) but "crush Satan under my feet" (Rom 16:20).

PART 6: ON THE SACRAMENTS (Q: 122-136)

- *Q.122: How many sacraments are there?* A: Two.
- Q.123: What are the sacraments?

S: "Those who received his word were baptized and gave themselves to the breaking of bread" (Acts 2:41–42).

- *Q.124: Who appointed these sacraments?* S: "The Lord Jesus said, `Do this"" (1 Cor 11:23–24).
- *Q.125: Why did Christ appoint sacraments?* A: As signs of the covenant between God and His own (Gen 17:11).
- Q.126: What sign is used in baptism?

S: "I baptize you with water" (Matt 3:11).

Q.127: What does baptism signify?

S: "The blood of Christ will cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God" (Heb 9:14).

Q.128: In whose Name are we baptized?

S: "In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matt 28:20).

Q.129: Who is to be baptized?

S: "Repent and be baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ . . . for the promise is for you and your children" (Acts 2:38–39).

Q.130: Why should infants be baptized?

A: Because they have a sinful nature and need a Savior.

S: "He was baptized, he and all his household" (Acts 16:33).

Q.131: Does Christ care for little children?

S: Yes, for He says, "Permit the children to come to me, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Luke 18:16).

- *Q.132: To what does your baptism bind you?* S: That I should walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4).
- Q.133: What is the Lord's Supper?

S: "As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes" (1 Cor 11:26).

- *Q.134: What does the bread represent?* S: "Taking bread, He said, 'This is My body which is given for you'" (Luke 22:19).
- *Q.135: What does the wine represent?* S: "Taking a cup, He said, 'Drink from it, for this is My Blood of the covenant'" (Matt 26:27–28).
- Q.136: Who should partake of the Lord's Supper?

A: Only those who repent of their sins, believe in Christ for salvation, and love their fellow men. S: "Let us keep the feast not with wickedness, but with sincerity and truth" (1 Cor 5:8).

PART 7: ON THE LAST THINGS (Q. 137-145)

- *Q.137: Did Christ remain in the tomb after His crucifixion?* S: No, "He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Cor 15:4).
- *Q.138:* Where is Christ now?

S: "Christ entered into heaven itself to appear in the presence of God for us" (Heb 9:24).

- Q.139: Will Christ come again?
 - A: Yes, at the last day Christ will come to judge the world.
 - S: "Behold! He is coming, and every eye will see Him!" (Rev. 1:7).
- Q.140: What becomes of men at death?

S: The body will return to the earth as dust, and the spirit will return to God who gave it (Eccl 12:7).

Q.141: Will the bodies of the dead be raised to life again?

S: Yes, "in the twinkling of an eye, the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised" (1 Cor 15:52).

Q.142: What will become of the wicked in the Day of Judgment?

S: "Angels will take the wicked and cast them into the furnace of fire" (Matt 13:50).

Q.143: What is hell?

S: "A place of torment, the eternal fire prepared for the devil" (Luke 16:28; Matt. 25:41).

Q.144: What will become of the righteous?

S: "We shall always be with the Lord" (1 Thess 4:17).

Q.145: What is heaven?

S: "We look for a new heaven and new earth, in which righteousness dwells" (2 Peter 3:13).

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