

CONFESSING OUR FAITH

westminster larger catechism

Q 30. Doth God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery?

A God doth not leave all men to perish in the estate of sin and misery,¹ into which they fell by the breach of the first covenant, commonly called the covenant of works;² but of his mere love and mercy delivereth his elect out of it, and bringeth them into an estate of salvation by the second covenant, commonly called the covenant of grace.³

1. 1 Thess. 5:9. 2. Gen. 3:17; Rom. 5:12,15; Gal. 3:10,12. 3. Titus 3:4–7; Gal. 3:21; Rom. 3:20–22; 2 Thess. 2:13–14; Acts 13:48; Eph. 1:4–5.

Q 31. With whom was the covenant of grace made?

A The covenant of grace was made with Christ as the second Adam, and in him with all the elect as his seed.¹

1. Gal. 3:16; Rom. 5:15; Rom. 16:21; Isa. 53:10–11; Isa. 59:20–21.

Q 32. How is the grace of God manifested in the second covenant?

A The grace of God is manifested in the second covenant, in that he freely provideth and offereth to sinners a Mediator,¹ and life and salvation by him;² and requiring faith as the condition to interest them in him,³ promiseth and giveth his Holy Spirit⁴ to all his elect, to work in them that faith,⁵ with all other saving graces;⁶ and to enable them unto all holy obedience,⁷ as the evidence of the truth of their faith⁸ and thankfulness to God,⁹ and as the way which he hath appointed them to salvation.¹⁰

1. Gen. 3:15; Isa. 42:6; John 3:16; John 6:27; 1 Tim. 2:5. 2. 1 John 5:11–12. 3. John 3:16, 36; John 1:12. 4. Isa. 59:21; Luke 11:13; John 14:16–20; 1 Cor. 12:13; Rom. 8:9; Rom. 8:4, 11, 14–16. 5. 2 Cor. 4:13; 1 Cor. 12:3,9; Eph. 2:8–10; Acts 16:14; 2 Pet. 1:1. 6. Gal. 5:22–23. 7. Ezek. 36:27; Eph. 2:10. 8. James 2:18, 22. 9. 2 Cor. 5:14–15. 10. Eph. 2:10; Titus 2:14.

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