

## Theology Simply Explained — WSC39 What God Requires of Us

Pastor walks his children through Westminster Shorter Catechism question 39. What is the duty which God requireth of man?

**The duty which God requireth of man is obedience to His revealed will.**

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So the catechism question and answer for this week are, what is the duty which got required of man and the duty which got required the minute is revealed? Well, You will learn these things. Then you will be ahead of where I was any of your ages. Except for mom, I grew up in a church culture in which There are two things that we'll find out.

We strived after that incompatible or inconsistent with the actual teaching of scripture. One is that we have this duty to sort of tune in God's secret will for our lives that if we were walking with the Lord? Well enough. And we would just know what decisions he wanted us to make all the time, not just in things of righteousness, obviously righteousness.

According to his word is something that you would be able to discern but where to go? What to study, what jobs to take, where to move whom to marry and a thousand other lesser decisions. Like that It was almost like to mess up Deuteronomy 29:29, which is what we were doing.

We were messing that up the secret things belong to those who are really in tune with God so that they will know what to do. And the revealed things belong, only to those other losers, who aren't as spiritual as the ones who have a secret channel, by which to tune in the secret things.

No one would have said that in that way. But that is a pretty accurate description of how spirituality was viewed and it was a consequence of growing up in a, in a church and nomination called the EPC where there is a charismatic, sort of element in their thinking, which in God's mercy, is one of the things that the ARP voted last week to write to, and talk to the EPC about that.

The Senate is concerned about, but if you have a better view of Scripture, the view of course, that is actually in Deuteronomy 29:29. You see the secret things belong to God, but the real things belong to us and our children that we may do all his law, his laws as fatherly instruction and recognizes that.

God is a good father who tells us what his expectations. Are There are things that he is going to do, but we don't need to know what all those things are because he is the one who's going to do them. And there are things that he wants us to do.

And he tells us what those are because he wants us to do them. So so that's one thing. The the other mistaken way of thinking, from when I was a kid growing up and a well-meaning, but not very well. Instructed, church situation, was that ordinary obedience in the course of life was, okay?

But people who really wanted to serve God, had to do things, like, give up everything, they that they have and go overseas and be a missionary that somehow being a godly upright. Husband wife, father mother child employee employer that those things are not as spiritual or good as some of these other pioneering type works in which you set aside ordinary obedience for this extraordinary obedience That of course, is to forget that you can't be more righteous in God has called us to be and marriage and the family and daily employment are institutions of God and there is no, actually no such thing as children of the first, Adam, as offspring of the first, Adam as ordinary obedience, all obedience for us as extraordinary and can only come from and through Union with the last Adam, the Lord Jesus.

And by his spirit to play his mind and his life and his character to us. So the duty which got required the man is obedience to his revealed will, which is first of all, to believe in the Lord, Jesus Christ. So repentance and faith to turn from your sin to Christ.

Because not only is forgiveness something that you can get from Christ alone, but obedience is also something that you can get only by faith only with union with cry, only from Union with Christ, Whatever does not proceed from faith is sin, and it is glorifying and honoring to God to be upright, and marriage.

And in parenting and in childing and as an employee or an employer. So that you see in Ephesians 5 and 6, diffusions 5 starts, a thread of thought about being light against darkness and division, 6 picks that thread back up in describing the spiritual warfare that believers are engaged in and the place where the spiritual warfare takes.

Place the place where we are light against darkness, is in ordinary participation in the congregation and monitoring one, another in Psalms, in spiritual songs, which is mechanism by, which that God makes His spirit to fill us, instead of our being controlled by the lusts of our fleshliness has happens.

When someone is drunk and loses, all proper self-control to become controlled by their impulses Instead of that. The Lord fills us with His Spirit, by our ordinary participation in the congregational worship. Even the singing time, especially the singing time, we'd monitor one, another in Psalms, and spiritual songs. And we learn to submit to the Word of God.

And one another's lips, which we had known in Ephesians from chapter 4, when he explain the reason for the ministry of the pastor teachers, so that we would all admonish one another, with the word and then being admonished by the word and learning to submit to the Word of God on one another's, lips, Ephesians, 5:21 we go on and we find out that godliness light in the midst of darkness.

Winning the spiritual war. That takes place. Especially in the everyday live submitting to husbands and husbands giving themselves up for the sanctification of their wives and children obeying your parents parents, when not provoking children to wrath bringing them up, the discipline, instruction of the Lord, and employees and employers obeying, and submitting to, and serving Christ in their every day work.

And that is to say not just ordinary life but including ordinary life all of life according to the commandment of God. That is what God wants us to do. Especially flowing from worshiping him rightly which can only happen when you have turned from sin and trusted in Christ and are coming to God through Christ.

So God has told us what we are supposed to do, It is really not very complex, although it is very difficult and that is to First of all, obey the gospel, repent and believe in Jesus. And then second of all obey the law obey, all of his commandments, all of his instruction for the right way of living, which can only happen by faith.

So that's the duty, which God requires of man. You don't have to figure out the future. You're not going to miss God's plan for your life. If a magical light from heaven, doesn't shine down on the right thing to do, or the right person to choose or whatever. You don't have to figure all those things out, the duty, which

God required.

The man is obedience to his revealed will turning from sin. Trusting in Jesus. And then, walking, by faith in Jesus, according to his word, especially coming out of the corporate worship that he has designed, for the purpose of filling us with his spirit, making his word to dwell on us richly and then enabling us to walk by His commandments in our ordinary every day.

Life.