

Theology Simply Explained — WSC45 “First Beings First”

Pastor walks his children through Westminster Shorter Catechism question 45—especially explaining how the placement of the first commandment indicates that our relation to God is foundational to every other part of our existence.

Q45. Which is the first commandment? ***The first commandment is, Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.***

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

The shorter catechism lesson for this week is number 44. What does the preface to the Ten Commandments? Teach us. The preface to the Ten Commandments teacheth us that because God is the Lord and our God and Redeemer.

Therefore, We are bound to keep all his Commandments. And so, the preface to the Ten Commandments puts Our obedience in its context, and one of the first things that we see, And the preface to the Ten Commandments is that although all men are obligated to keep them. Only redeemed men have ability.

To keep them. That the Ten Commandments are kept first and foremost by those. Who have the Lord as their God? Who have been redeemed? Who have been brought into Covenant with him? This. One of the. Reasons that it's such a disadvantage or so. Harmful. to be ironically called adoptist.

Because when you teach your children or maybe even when you think about yourself, you don't teach your children to keep the Commandments because They already belong to God because he's already brought them into Covenant with himself. Because he has already declared himself to be. Their Redeemer and therefore not making it unnecessary but all the more obligating them To repent of their sins and trust in him.

But this is the only way that The Lord's Commandments are actually kept can actually be kept and so, for instance, if any of you older children are talking to one of the younger children, About something that they have just done wrong and you describe it to them. And you ask them which of the Commandments, this, this violates and uh they get it, or they don't get it and you have to tell them which and explain it to them and you get to the part.

Now, why? Should you obey the Commandments? The answer is not just Because God is your creator. That's a fine answer. Six, seven billion people on this planet or more. But the answer for a child in our house or any Covenant House, any Christian family is because God is your God.

God is your Redeemer? He set you apart to himself. And he has presented himself to you in the gospel. He has delivered you out of the world. And here's the one. Who gives himself to you offers himself to you? To deliver you from your sin. And from your flesh.

Just as he had delivered them out of Egypt and yet the Deliverance out of Egypt was not the greatest Deliverance that they needed, was it? Slavery in Egypt was not their biggest problem slavery to sin. Was their biggest problem? But here the God, who is commanding them unto righteousness?

Presents them how presents himself to them, how As their God, their Redeemer. And he presents the Commandments to them. Now, As the Commandments of the one who has delivered them from Egypt and is delivering them from sin, calling them to repentance. By the Ten Commandments that are given and especially calling them to By the preface.

That is appended to them. And of course, Faith being Necessary to the Component of keeping the first four Commandments especially and necessary for the keeping really of any of them. And so, here are reasons that we are bound. To keep all God's Commandments first because he's God. He is in charge of everything.

We have to obey him second because he is the Lord Yahweh Jehovah. He is the Creator and the sustainer of all things. And so not only does he have authority over all the creatures, all the creatures are dependent upon him. Third. He is our God. He has brought us into Covenant with him.

So, while he is, God over all and creator of all and sustainer of all Yahweh. He is Covenant, God, a few of some And so we are much more thereby obligated. And finally, because he is Our Redeemer. Therefore, we are much more enabled and much more desirous. To keep his Commandments.

To keep all of his Commandments. So what does the prophets to the Ten Commandments? Teach us. The preface to the Ten Commandments teacheth us that because God is the Lord. And our God and Redeemer. Therefore, we are bound. To keep all his Commandments.