

Theology Simply Explained — WSC48 Learning from the Words "Before Me"

Pastor walks his children through Westminster Shorter Catechism question 48: What are we specially taught by these words before me in the first commandment? **These words before me in the first commandment teach us that God, who seeth all things, taketh notice of, and is much displeased with, the sin of having any other god.**

(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)

This week's catechism question is, what are we? Especially taught by these words before me in the first commandment.

And the answer is these words before me and the first commandment, teach us that God, who seeth, all things take notice of. And as much this pleased with the sin of having any other God? Yes, ma'am. What number page. 971 Shorter kitty shorter. Catechism number 48. Go, thank you.

Now when God says, you shall have no other God's. Before me, the Israelites are more certain than they ever have been in their lives or ever will be after that they are before. God for they are at the foot of the mountain. That is shaking and burning and who smoke is going up?

Like a furnace and God's presence has announced been announced by a trumpet that gets louder and louder. Even though it was deafening when it began, and after he announces the Ten Commandments they tell Moses, We'd rather not be before God. You go up. You be before God and here, what he says, and come down and tell us.

But in the first commandment he tells us that we are always before him. You may not be making where we are to shake and to burn and to smoke and to have the sound of the trumpet. But he has as present to us all the time everywhere in our lives in your bedroom by yourself.

If you walk off somewhere in the property and no one else can see you and no one else can hear you. You are before. God. And he uses preposition that is similar to in meaning, the preposition that has made out of the toward ver preposition character article lumid letter and the word face lift nay, but it is not lift nay.

It is one. That means something even more immediately unto him. So that if we have any other God whatsoever, If we are trusting in anything, the way we should trust in him, if we find something to be our purpose and our living for it, the way we should live for him.

If we are delighting in it, the way we should be delighted in Him that he receives it as a personal attack directly inflicted upon him in his presence. That's the idea of that preposition especially in the context of Israel at the bottom of the mountain. As you see how personally our God takes our sin because this is how personally our God created us to exist, unto him in His presence for him, doing receiving everything, as a gift, from him, and as an assignment from him and doing everything as unto him.

And would we for the God who has created us to be like that with him. But we have another God, right there before him and that way. And so the question and answer our accurate but they hardly convey, the intensity of what this extra phrase for actually it's a word.

I think the word me is or it's not a word me it's a suffix. Don't have the Hebrew in front of me, just now, pretty sure though. These words before me and the first commandment, teach us that God, who seeth, all things take a notice of and, as much displeased with the sin of, having any other God.