

Theology Simply Explained — WSC48 “Living Before God's Face”

Pastor walks his children through Westminster Shorter Catechism question 48—especially explaining how **all of life is lived before God's face, and therefore must be unto God's glory, according to God's law, and in relationship with Him.**

Q48. 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)

Our shorter. Catechism lesson this week 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 taketh notice of and as much displeased with the sin, Of having every any other God. I have an interesting proof text for you. I doubt that it's a proof text that was actually attached. To the catechism by the assembly.

But it is a proof text that I have in my mind. Right here. this question answered is Esther 7, verse 8. This is when Queen Esther has held a banquet for And the king and for Haman. And the she has told the king that someone is trying to destroy her and her people.

And the King is very enraged and he says, who could have done this and she says it's him, it's Haman. The. Russia's out of the room in his Fury. And Haman starts to. before her and plead for his life. And just then. The King comes back into the room.

And that's Esther 7 verse 8. When the king returned from the palace Garden to the place of the banquet of wine. Heyman had fallen across the couch where Ezra Ezra was, then the king said, will he also assault the queen while I am in the house? There's the word left, the king's mouth, they covered haman's face.

And that was it for Heyman. Well. If it's true for an earth again. That he is much provoked. When the attack upon him and attack an attack upon his Queen is an attack upon him. Is that much worse in his presence? How true it is, for the King of Kings.

And the words before me in the first commandment remind us, That we are always in his presence. That all of our sin is not just done against him. But as done in his face or to his face, another Another text that helps us, may help us think about the same thing.

Is Nimrod. Who founded? Babble. And is called a mighty Hunter. And, Some translations will say before, Yahweh But literally, it says, in the face of Yahweh Not in the eyes of Yahweh. Not that the Lord considers him a mighty. But in his face, for his own Glory against God.

just as everything. In nimrod's character and Nimrods working in Babel. itself was all in God's face. The way we would say like in your face. Or maybe we wouldn't say that. But the way people say that, So what are we especially taught by these words before me in the first commandment these words before me?

Like, we really have. Other gods before me. In my in my face. In my house in my presence right in front of me. They teach us that God, who seeth all things? Taketh notice of and as much displeased with, The sin of having any other God. Now, for us, my dear children, We will be very forgetful of the fact that we are before the Lord's face.

If we are not continually interacting with the Lord, And so it is important that we Develop a life habit. A mental habit, a hard habit. Of asking God, for the things we need. Devoting to God the things we do, like Bach at the top of every piece and then at the bottom of every piece, once he's done, writing it.

you know, for the glory of God that we get in the habit of it, everything we do offering to him. A service unto him for his glory. That we are always asking him for help whenever we sin. Now, we immediately ask him for forgiveness. Never receive any good thing or Are unable to do any good thing.

We thank him. for That we Keep in our hearts and on our minds, not just as a matter of being mindful. you know, being thoughtful and careful about intentional about our whole life. But relationally interacting with him. So that we will remember that we are before him.

So again, the question is, what are we specially taught by these words? Before me in the first commandment. And the answer is these words before me in the first commandment, teach us that God, who seeth, all things taketh notice of, and as much displeased with The sin of having any other God.