

The Catechism...

# The Two Commandments & The Lord's Prayer

## A C A T E C H I S M ;

That is to say, An Instruction to be learned of every Person, before he be brought to be confirmed by the Bishop.

*Question.*

**W**HAT is your Name ?

*Answer,* N. or M.

*Quest.* Who gave you this Name ?

*Answ.* My Godfathers and Godmothers in my Baptism; wherein I was made a member of Christ, the child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of Heaven.

*Quest.* What did your Godfathers and Godmothers then for you ?

*Answ.* They did promise and vow three things in my Name : First, that I should renounce the devil and all his works, the pomps and vanity of this wicked world, and all the sinful lusts of the flesh; Secondly, that I should believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith; And thirdly, that I should keep God's holy Will and Commandments, and walk in the same all the days of my life.

*Quest.* Dost thou not think that thou art bound to believe, and to do as they have promised for thee ?

*Answ.* Yes, verily; and by God's help so I will. And I heartily thank our heavenly Father, that he hath called me to this state of salvation, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. And I pray unto God to give me his grace, that I may continue in the same unto my life's end.

*Catechist.* Rehearse the Articles of thy Belief.

*Answer.*

**I** Believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into Hell; The third day he rose again from the

# The Anglican Catechism: Basic Elements





# The introduction....

**Question.** What dost thou chiefly learn by these Commandments?

**Answer.** I learn two things: my duty towards God, and my duty towards my Neighbour.

**Question.** What is thy duty towards God?

**Answer.** My duty towards God is to believe in him, to fear him, and to love him, with all my heart, with all my mind, with all my soul, and with all my strength; to worship him, to give him thanks, to put my whole trust in him, to call upon him, to honour his holy Name and his Word, and to serve him truly all the days of my life.

- BELIEVE - includes trust in the *character* of God
- FEAR - a 'catch-all' term, encompassing awe, reverence, adoration, honour, worship, confidence, thankfulness, love
- WORSHIP - etymological meaning... 'to give something the honour it is *worth*'.  
*Worthship*
- WORD - Remember John 1 - Jesus is the WORD (not the Bible!).



**Question.** What is thy duty towards thy Neighbour?

**Answer.** My duty towards my Neighbour is to love him as myself, and to do to all men as I would they should do unto me: To love, honour, and succour my father and mother: To honour and obey the Queen, and all that are put in authority under her: To submit myself to all my governors, teachers, spiritual pastors and masters: To order myself lowly and reverently to all my betters: To hurt nobody by word nor deed: To be true and just in all my dealing: To bear no malice nor hatred in my heart: To keep my hands from picking and stealing, and my tongue from evil-speaking, lying, and slandering: To keep my body in temperance, soberness, and chastity: Not to covet nor desire other men's goods; but to learn and labour truly to get mine own living, and to do my duty in that state of life, unto which it shall please God to call me.

- 'DO TO ALL MEN...' The Golden Rule: common to almost every religion and moral code.
- QUEEN - 'Supreme Governor' of the church. (A modern, monarchical role)
- SUBMISSION - 'to place oneself under the authority of another'. Examples: Elisha/Elijah. Moses/Joshua. Jesus/Disciples. Priests/Bishop. Not a easy concept for western minds!
- ORDER MYSELF LOWLY - an attitude of submission, reverence. Knowing that / am not the Centre of the Universe.
- LABOUR - 'He who will not work shall not eat' (2 Thes 3.10). Note: 'will not', not 'cannot'.



**Catechist.** My good child, know this, that thou art not able to do these things of thyself, nor to walk in the commandments of God, and to serve him, without his special grace; which thou must learn at all times to call for by diligent prayer. Let me hear therefore if thou canst say the Lord's Prayer.

**Answer.** OUR Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

- ‘SPECIAL GRACE’. Remember: GRACE is God giving us what we DON’T deserve. MERCY is God *withholding* punishment we DO deserve.
- DILIGENT PRAYER...how to benefit from ‘special grace’.
- And now....the LORD’S PRAYER....



Our Father who art in heaven

Not  
'my'  
Father

Source of life,  
&  
caring parent

Reigning on  
high, over all  
creation



Hallowed be thy name

Holy...set  
apart.  
Awesome.  
Revered.  
Honoured.

A name, in Hebrew  
culture, *describes*  
the very essence of a  
person



Thy Kingdom come, thy will  
be done in earth as it is in heaven

A prayer...a petition...for the state of  
'earth' to be made like heaven.



Give **us** this day our daily bread



Not a prayer for personal gain...  
but a prayer for all humanity



Forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass  
against us.

The Lord's  
Prayer

Knowing WE are  
forgiven helps us  
release others from  
our resentment &  
hatred

a broader, kinder  
word than 'sins'



Lead us not into temptation



The Lord's  
Prayer

Pope Francis:

“...not a good translation because it speaks of a God who induces temptation. I am the one who falls. It's not him pushing me into temptation to then see how I have fallen. A father doesn't do that...”



But deliver us from evil.

The Lord's  
Prayer



What evil? The Devil? Evil Spirits? Or the evils of hunger, poverty, greed and war?



For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen

From a Greek manuscript, but not in older versions of  
the bible since discovered.



In summary, our holy heavenly parent, inspires us to

- bring heaven to earth
- share the worlds resources
- be forgiven and forgiving
- be free of temptation and evil



# Next Time...

Identity and  
commitment

Belief and  
Faith

Naming and  
Promising

The Creed



The Ten  
(Commandments)

The Two  
Commandments  
& The Lord's  
Prayer

The  
Sacraments



Prayer

Law and  
Behaviour

Grace and  
strength

