

The Principles of Christian Religion

**A Study through the Baptist
Catechism using Benjamin
Beddome's *Scriptural Exposition***

Outline of the BC

- I. Introductory Questions: 1-6
- II. What We are to Believe: 7-43
- III. What Duty God Requires: 44-114
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Outline of Questions 23-43

Question 23	Redemption Administered	<i>Pactum Salutis</i>	From the Father
Questions 24-31	Redemption Accomplished	<i>Historia Salutis</i>	Through the Son
Questions 32-43	Redemption Applied	<i>Ordo Salutis</i>	By the Holy Spirit

Outline of Questions 32-43

- Application of Redemption (Q. 32-33)
 - Effectual Calling (Q. 34)
 - Benefits in this Life (Q. 35)
 - Justification (Q. 36)
 - Adoption (Q. 37)
 - Sanctification (Q. 38)
 - Attendant Benefits (Q. 39)
 - Benefits at Death (Q. 40)
 - Benefits at the Resurrection (Q. 41)
 - [Unbelievers at Death (Q. 42)]
 - [Unbelievers at the Day of Judgment (Q. 43)]

Question and Answer 41

Q. 41: What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection?

A. At the resurrection believers, being raised up in glory,¹ shall be openly acknowledged, and acquitted in the Day of Judgment,² and made perfectly blessed, both in soul and body, in the full enjoyment of God³ to all eternity.⁴

¹ 1 Corinthians 15:43

² Matthew 25:23; Matthew 10:32

³ 1 John 3:2; 1 Corinthians 13:12

⁴ 1 Thessalonians 4:17,18

Question and Answer 41

- Introduction to the Resurrection
 - The Greco-Roman culture of Paul's day had a hard time accepting the doctrine of the resurrection.
 - Acts 17:32; I Cor. 15:12
 - Why?
 - This was due to the influence of a Platonic philosophy which considered everything spiritual to be inherently good and everything physical to be inherently bad.
 - The ultimate goal of existence was believed to be to escape the body and be pure spirit.
 - » E.g., the Gnostic Gospel of Judas

Question and Answer 41

- Introduction to the Resurrection
 - 2,000 some years later, we still haven't quite escaped the influences of this dualism.
 - We still think and speak of our ultimate hope and eternal state in terms of a bodiless, ethereal existence in a non-physical, purely spiritual realm.
 - We disparage our bodies, treating them as though they don't really matter and acting as if our souls are the only thing that's really important.

Question and Answer 41

- Introduction to the Resurrection
 - But the Biblical perspective is quite different.
 - God made both the body and the soul and declared them both “very good” (Gen. 1-2).
 - Sin corrupts both the body and the soul.
 - Death, the separation of body and soul, is unnatural and the result of sin.
 - II Cor. 5:1-4
 - Our ultimate hope is the reuniting of our glorified bodies and souls.
 - Rom. 8:23-25

Question and Answer 41

1. The Resurrection in General

- It is possible that there should be a resurrection (Acts 26:8).
- It is certain that there shall be a resurrection (Dan. 12:2).
- There has already been a resurrection (Matt. 27:52).
 - What was this?
 - A “Zombie Apocalypse”?
 - An “auxiliary testimony” to what Christ accomplished in His death and resurrection
 - Probably not a final resurrection (cf. Lazarus)

Question and Answer 41

1. The Resurrection in General

- This work is ascribed to the Father (2 Cor. 4:14).
- And to the Son (John 5:22).
- And to the Spirit (Rom. 8:11).
- And the saints shall rise first (1 Thess. 4:16).

Question and Answer 41

2. The Resurrection Body

- The same bodies will be raised again (Job 19:26).
 - It is a resurrection of our current bodies, not a recreation of entirely new bodies.
 - Cf. Christ's body before and after resurrection
 - How is this possible?
- But they will be very different from what they are now (1 Cor. 15:37, 38, 42).
 - I Cor. 15:35-53

Question and Answer 41

2. The Resurrection Body

- They will be free from all natural weaknesses (1 Cor. 15:43).
- They will be free from all moral defilements (Rev. 20:6).
- They will be endowed with activity and vigour (1 Cor. 15:44).
- They will be rendered incorruptible and immortal (1 Cor. 15:53).

Question and Answer 41

2. The Resurrection Body

- They will in all these respects resemble the glorious body of Christ (Phil. 3:21).
 - What do we know of Christ's resurrection body?
 - It could be seen and touched, it could eat, etc.
 - But it could also, apparently, do some more "supernatural" kinds of things (Luke 24:31-43; John 20:19, 26).
- And those who are found alive at Christ's second coming will undergo a change equivalent to the resurrection (1 Cor. 15:51).

Question and Answer 41

3. The Day of Judgment

- The saints will be gathered together at the day of judgment (Psa. 50:5).
- And this will be the work of the angels (Matt. 24:31).
- They will be separated from the wicked (Matt. 25:32).
- And this will be a final separation (Luke 16:26).

Question and Answer 41

3. The Day of Judgment

- They will accompany Christ to the judgment (Jude 14).
- And be assessors with him in it (Matt. 19:28).
- And testify their approbation of all his proceedings (Rev. 19:1,2).

Question and Answer 41

3. The Day of Judgment

- The saints will be openly acknowledged in the day of judgment (Matt. 10:32).
- And openly acquitted (Matt. 25:23).
- And openly rewarded (ibid).
- Their good works will then be remembered (Matt. 25:35).
- And their evil ones forgotten (Jer. 50:20).

Question and Answer 41

- Excursus: The Saint's on Judgment Day
 - Wait for Question 43.

Question and Answer 41

4. The Eternal State

- Heaven will be the place of the saints' residence (2 Kings 2:11).
 - What do we mean by "heaven" as our final dwelling-place?
 - Rev. 21:1, 2
- It is prepared for them (John 14:2).
- And promised to them (Tit. 1:2).

Question and Answer 41

4. The Eternal State

- In heaven they will see God (Matt. 5:8).
 - Often called “the Beatific Vision”
 - Best understood as beholding the incarnate Son? (John 14:8-9)
- This will be a transforming vision (1 John 3:2).
- And an abiding one (1 Thess. 4:17).
- This is enough to comfort them under all the sorrows and afflictions of life (1 Thess. 4:18).