The Orthodox Catechism (1680) Lesson 4: The Judge on Trial Sunday School, 2/20/21, 9am

Introduction:

- Of Man's Misery, Of Man's Redemption, Of Man's Thankfulness
- Guilt, Grace, Gratitude

I. Review of Guilt

- A. Law as a mirror
- B. Perfect obedience required
- C. Inability
- D. Root or our corruption

<u>God is just in all His actions and interactions with His</u> <u>creation!</u>

II. Justice Defined

- A. Sin marred views of justice
- B. The presuppositions of justice
- C. The foundation of justice

III. Justice Questioned (Question 9)

- A. Created innocent
 - 1. Four-fold state of man

Pre-Fall Man	Post-Fall Man	Reborn Man	Glorified Man
able to sin	able to sin	able to sin	able to not sin
able to not sin	unable to not sin	able to not sin	unable to sin

- B. Outside influence
- C. Freely choosing to sin
- D. Corruption rolls down hill

IV. Justice Due (Question 10)

Wrath defined

A.

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B. Temporal judgements

- 1. Guilt
- 2. Pollution
- 3. Suffering
- 4. Death!
- 5. Postponed Judgements?

C. Eternal judgement

1.

B.

Eternal means eternal

V. Justice vs Mercy (Question 11)

- A. War of the attributes
- Joined in the shadow of the Cross

Question 9:

Does not God, then, do injury to man who in the law requires that of him which he is not able to perform?

Answer:

No. God made man such a one as he might perform it (a), but man, by the impulsion of the devil (b) and his own stubbornness bereaved himself and all his posterity of those divine graces (c).

- (a) Gen. 1:31; Eph. 4:24, Eccl. 7:29
- (b) Gen. 3:13; John 8:44
- (c) Rom. 5:12-21

Question 10:

Does God leave this stubbornness and falling away of man unpunished?

Answer:

No. He is angry in a most dreadful manner (a), for the sins wherein we are born and which we ourselves commit. In a most just judgment, He punishes them with present and everlasting punishments as he pronounces: "Cursed is he that does not confirm all the words of this law to do them" (b).

- (a) Ex. 34:7; Ps. 5:4-6; Nah. 1:2; Rom. 1:18; Eph. 5:6; Heb. 9:27
- (b) Gal. 3:10; Deut. 27:26

Question 11:

Is not God therefore merciful?

Answer:

Yes, very much so! He is merciful (a), but He is also just (b), wherefore His justice requires that the same which is committed against the divine majesty of God should also be recompensed with extreme, that is, everlasting punishment both in body and soul.

(a) Ex. 34:6-7; Ps. 103:8-9

(b) Ex. 34:7; Deut. 7:9-11; Ps. 5:4-6; Heb. 10:30-31; Matt. 25:35-46