

## Chapter 3

### The Second Part: Of Man's Redemption (God the Father)

**Question 25:** What do you believe when you say, "I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth?"

**Answer:** I believe in the everlasting Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who made of nothing heaven and earth, with all that are in them, who likewise upholds and governs the same by His eternal counsel and providence. This God I believe to be my God and Father for Christ's sake, and therefore to trust in Him, and rely on Him, that I do not doubt that He will provide all things necessary both for my soul and body. But also, whatever evils He sends on me in this troublesome life, He will turn out to my safety, because both He is able to do it, being God Almighty, and willing to do it, being a bountiful Father.

**Text:** Psalm 8

**Background:** We will be examining the Bible truths as they are propounded in the catechism which is using the Apostles Creed. Today we consider the first line of the Apostle's Creed.

**Introduction:** We must believe He is! (Heb 11:6)

First things first (Prov 1:7)

The spirit of the age is full of error and people buying into the lies (1 Tim 6:20, 2 Tim 3:4,7)

#### I. Consider our belief in God the Father

- a. Our Earthly Father has impacted our thoughts about fatherhood. For some Christians it is difficult to understand the fatherhood of God.
- b. The Father is eternally Father (without beginning and end) Psalm 90:2
- c. God is our Father only because of Christ (John 20:17)
  - i. If we are in Christ, then we have the very same Father that Jesus Christ has
  - ii. Every believer is an adopted child of God through Christ (Rom 8:15, Gal 4:6)
- d. God is not the Father of all people. Only of those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. (John 8: 48-58)
- e. Jesus' fellowship with the Father was broken on our behalf so he could make our adoption possible. (Mar 14:36, Mar 15:34)

#### II. Consider our belief in God the Father Almighty

- a. Almighty – nothing is impossible for God (Mat 19:26, Mar 10:27, Luke 18:27, Psalm 115:3)
- b. God is all powerful
  - i. In the hearts of men (Pro 21:1, John 6:37)
  - ii. In nature (Job 38, Mat 5:45)
  - iii. In the Gospel (Mat 28:19-20)
- c. The Almighty Father is my Provider
  - i. Not all things I want, but all things that are necessary. (James 4:1-3; 1 Jn 5:14-15)

- ii. All things, even tears will turn out to our advantage! Everything God the Father sends our way is designed to lead us to the conformity of the image of Christ. (Jeremiah 29:11-12; Rom 8:28-29)

**III. Consider our belief in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth**

- a. He is Father- Almighty and these attributes are on full display in His creation
- b. From nothing (ex nihilo) – everything (Ps 33:6,9; Gen 1: 1-3; Acts 4:24)
- c. He precedes time, and is the only creator (Is 57:15)
- d. His creation is purposeful and thoughtful (Isa 46:8-10; Rev 4:11)
- e. We can look to the eschaton when time will be no longer (Rev 10:6)
- f. We can look to the time when there will be a new heaven and new earth (Rev 21:1-2)

**IV. Lessons:**

- a. He that is all powerful and created the world is my Father (for the child of God)
- b. God loves and cares for His children (Psalm 103:13 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him)
- c. When our lives align with God's will for us, we can have great confidence! (Rom 8:31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?)
- d. Our adoption is not based on my merit, but on Christ's atonement. You didn't earn it and you don't have to work to keep it. (John 6:37)
- e. With God as our Father and our adoption secure, we should be bold to live for Him (walk in holiness and boldness)!

**V. Questions:**

- a. What is the difference between a believer's belief in God and someone who acknowledges a supreme being?
- b. How will you respond to life's difficulties in the light of question 25?
- c. How will you respond to life's blessings considering question 25?