

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
 - A. The Law and our Inability: 44-89
 - B. The Gospel and the Means of Grace: 90-114

Question and Answer 13

Q. 13: How did God create man?

A. God created man, male and female, after His own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with dominion over the creatures.¹

¹ Genesis 1:26-28; Colossians 3:10; Ephesians 4:24

Question and Answer 13

- John Murray
 - "... [I]n the production of the heavens and the earth there is a sequence and progression. They did not come to be by a single all-embracing fiat. There is ordered process moving to the climax of man's formation, to man as the crown of God's handiwork. The platform of life for man is prepared by successive steps and life itself appears to an appreciable extent in an ascending scale until it reaches its apex in man."

Question and Answer 13

- John Murray

- Indications of the Distinctiveness of Humanity in Creation:

1. “The Unique Engagement of God’s Counsel” (Gen. 1:26; cf. 1:3, 11, 20, 24)
2. “The Nature with which Man is Endowed” (Gen. 1:26; cf. 1:11, 12, 21)
3. “The Lordship with which Man is Invested” (Gen. 1:26)
4. “God’s Procedure in the Formation of Man” (Gen. 2:7)

Question and Answer 13

- Significance?
 - Man is utterly unique among his fellow creatures. He is not just another animal, and his life is incalculably more valuable than plant or animal life (Gen. 9:3-6).

Question and Answer 13

1. "God Created Man"

- There were no men before Adam (1 Cor. 15:45).
- All men are then derived from Adam (Acts 17:26).
 - Thus all racism is invalidated.
- Adam himself derived his being from God (Luke 3:38).

Question and Answer 13

2. “Male and Female”

- God created man male and female (Gen. 5:2).
 - There is a divinely ordained difference.
- There was a difference in the manner of their creation (1 Cor. 11:8).
- And in the order of their creation (1 Tim. 2:13).
- And in the end of their creation (1 Cor. 11:9).
 - Not ultimately, but in their earthly roles.

Question and Answer 13

3. “After His Own Image”

- Man was made after the image of God (Gen. 1:27).
- That image consisted ...
 - In knowledge (Col. 3:10) ...
 - Intellectual and spiritual faculties
 - And in righteousness and holiness (Eph. 4:24) ...
 - Moral uprightness (not just neutrality)
 - And in authority and government (Psa. 8:6).
 - Dominion over creation

Question and Answer 13

3. "After His Own Image"

- This state of man was a very glorious one (Psa. 8:5).
- But it was not an abiding one (Psa. 49:12).
- Did man lose the image of God when he sinned?
 - No: even fallen man is still spoken of in Scripture as made in the image of God (Gen. 9:6; Jam. 3:9).
 - The image of God in man was not lost but corrupted and distorted by sin.
 - In sanctification, that image is being restored (2 Cor. 3:18); in glorification, it will be perfected.