# The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 6. How many persons are there in the Godhead? 07/29/2020

# Bibliography

- Beeke, Joel R. & Ferguson, Sinclair B. *Reformed Confessions Harmonized*. Baker Books, 1999.
- Calhoun, David. <u>Reformation & Modern Church History: Lesson 18, The Westminster</u>
  <u>Assembly.</u> Covenant Theological Seminary, 2006.
- Gonzalez, Justo L. <u>The Story of Christianity. Volume 2: The Reformation to the Present Day.</u> HarperSanFranciso, 1985.
- Presbyterian Church in America. <u>The Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms</u>. The Christian Education and Publications Committee of the Presbyterian Church in America, 2007.
- Smith, Morton H. <u>Harmony of the Westminster Confession and Catechisms</u>. Tolle Lege Press, 2010.
- Ward, Rowland S. <u>A Short Introduction to the Westminster Assembly and its Work</u>. Tulip Publishing, 2019.
- Watson, Thomas. <u>A Body of Divinity</u>. Reformed Church Publications, 2009.
- Williamson, C.I. <u>The Westminster Shorter Catechism For Study Classes</u>. P&R Publishing, 2003.

### Contact

dbcummings@prochristo.com

## Q&A

Q. 6. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. There are **three persons** in the Godhead; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are **one God**, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

#### Three Persons

There is one God

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one." (Deuteronomy 6:4 ESV)

The Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God

And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:16-17 ESV)

#### Three Persons

• The Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ... (Matthew 28:19 ESV)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:14 ESV)

... according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood:

May grace and peace be multiplied to you. (1 Peter 1:2 ESV)

## Q&A

Q. 6. How many persons are there in the Godhead?

A. There are three persons in the Godhead; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, **equal in power and glory**.

... as King

Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.

The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness; (Psalm 45:6 ESV)

... as Creator

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1 ESV)

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. (Genesis 1:1-3 ESV)

... in eternity past

And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. (John 17:5 ESV)

... in our duty

But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God." (Acts 5:3-4 ESV)

• ... in Christ's identity

To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen. (Romans 9:5 ESV)

• ... in Christ's deity

For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily ... (Colossians 2:9 ESV)

• ... in our unity with Christ

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen. (Jude 24-25 ESV)