

The top left corner features a solid grey rectangle. The top right corner is decorated with several overlapping triangles in various shades of blue, creating a geometric pattern.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Q. 8. How doth God execute his decrees?
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Q&A

Q. 8. How doth God execute his decrees?

A. God executeth his **decrees** in the works of creation and providence.

Decrees

- ... legal declaration

At the same time Tattenai the governor of the province Beyond the River and Shethar-bozenai and their associates came to them and spoke to them thus: "Who gave you a decree to build this house and to finish this structure?" (Ezra 5:3 ESV)



Q&A

Q. 8. How doth God execute his decrees?

A. God executeth his decrees in the works of **creation** and providence.



Creator

- ... Creator/creature distinction

Let them praise the name of the Lord!

For he commanded and they were created.

And he established them forever and ever;

he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away. (Psalm 148:5-6 ESV)



Creator

- ... unlike anyone or anything else

*To whom then will you compare me,
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.*

*Lift up your eyes on high and see:
who created these?*

*He who brings out their host by number,
calling them all by name;
by the greatness of his might
and because he is strong in power,
not one is missing. (Isaiah 40:25-26 ESV)*



Creator

- ... incarnate in Christ Jesus

And the men marveled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?"
(Matthew 8:27 ESV)



Q&A

Q. 8. How doth God execute his decrees?

A. God executeth his decrees in the works of creation and **providence**.



Providence

- ... his rule cannot be questioned

*for his dominion is an everlasting dominion,
and his kingdom endures from generation to generation;
all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing,
and he does according to his will among the host of heaven
and among the inhabitants of the earth;
and none can stay his hand
or say to him, "What have you done?"* (Dan. 4:34b-35 ESV)

Providence

- ... for our benefit

And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

*"Why did the Gentiles rage,
and the peoples plot in vain?
The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers were gathered together,
against the Lord and against his Anointed'—*

for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. (Acts 4:24–28 ESV)



Providence

- ... our repentance

Then Job answered the Lord and said:

*"I know that you can do all things,
and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.
'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?'
Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand,
things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.
'Hear, and I will speak;
I will question you, and you make it known to me.'
I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,
but now my eye sees you;
therefore I despise myself,
and repent in dust and ashes." (Job 42:1-6 ESV)*