

CONFESSING OUR FAITH

westminster larger catechism

Q 108. What are the duties required in the second commandment?

A The duties required in the second commandment are, the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire, all such religious worship and ordinances as God hath instituted in his Word;¹ particularly prayer and thanksgiving in the name of Christ;² the reading, preaching, and hearing of the Word;³ the administration and receiving of the sacraments;⁴ church government and discipline;⁵ the ministry and maintainance thereof;⁶ religious fasting;⁷ swearing by the name of God,⁸ and vowing unto him;⁹ as also the disapproving, detesting, opposing all false worship;¹⁰ and, according to each one's place and calling, removing it, and all monuments of idolatry.¹¹

1. Deut. 12:32; Deut. 32:46–47; Matt. 28:20; 1 Tim. 6:13–14; Acts 2:42. 2. Phil. 4:6; Eph. 5:20. 3. Deut. 17:18–19; Acts 15:21; 2 Tim. 4:2; James 1:21–22; Acts 10:33. 4. Matt. 28:19; 1 Cor. 11:23–30. 5. Matt. 18:15–17; Matt. 16:19; 1 Cor. 12:28; 1 Cor. 5. 6. Eph. 4:11–12; 1 Tim. 5:17–18; 1 Cor. 9:7–15. 7. Joel 2:12–13; 1 Cor. 7:5. 8. Deut. 6:13. 9. Ps. 76:11; Isa. 19:21; Ps. 116:14, 18. 10. Acts 17:16–17; Ps. 16:4. 11. Deut. 7:5; Isa. 30:22.

Q 109. What are the sins forbidden in the second commandment?

A The sins forbidden in the second commandment are, all devising,¹ counseling,² commanding,³ using,⁴ and anywise approving, any religious worship not instituted by God himself;⁵ the making any representation of God, of all or of any of the three persons, either inwardly in our mind, or outwardly in any kind of image or likeness of any creature whatsoever;⁶ all worshiping of it,⁷ or God in it or by it;⁸ the making of any representation of feigned deities,⁹ and all worship of them, or service belonging to them;¹⁰ all superstitious devices,¹¹ corrupting the worship of God,¹² adding to it, or taking from it,¹³ whether invented and taken up of ourselves,¹⁴ or received by tradition from others,¹⁵ though under the title of antiquity,¹⁶ custom,¹⁷ devotion,¹⁸ good intent, or any other pretense whatsoever;¹⁹ simony;²⁰ sacrilege;²¹ all neglect,²² contempt,²³ hindering,²⁴ and opposing the worship and ordinances which God hath appointed.²⁵

1. Num. 15:39. 2. Deut. 13:6–8. 3. Hos. 5:11; Mic. 6:16. 4. 1 Kings 11:33; 1 Kings 12:33. 5. Deut. 12:30–32; Lev. 10:1–2; Jer. 19:5. 6. Deut. 4:15–16; 17–19; Acts 17:29; Rom. 1:21–23, 25. 7. Gal. 4:8; Dan. 3:18. 8. Ex. 32:5. 9. Ex. 32:8. 10. 1 Kings 18:26, 28; Isa. 65:11. 11. Acts 17:22; Col. 2:21–23. 12. Mal. 1:7–8, 14. 13. Deut. 4:2. 14. Ps. 106:39. 15. Matt. 15:9. 16. 1 Pet. 1:18. 17. Jer. 44:17. 18. Isa. 65:3–5; Gal. 1:13–14. 19. 1 Sam. 13:11–12; 1 Sam. 15:21. 20. Acts 8:18–19. 21. Rom. 2:22; Mal. 3:8. 22. Ex. 4:24–26. 23. Matt. 22:5; Mal. 1:7, 13. 24. Matt. 23:13. 25. Acts 13:44–45; 1 Thess. 2:15–16.

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