

# CONFESSING OUR FAITH

## westminster larger catechism

### **Q 126. What is the general scope of the fifth commandment?**

**A** The general scope of the fifth commandment is, the performance of those duties which we mutually owe in our several relations, as inferiors, superiors, or equals.<sup>1</sup>

1. Eph. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:17; Rom. 12:10; Rom. 13:1, 7; Eph. 5:22, 24; 6:1, 4–5, 9.

### **Q 127. What is the honor that inferiors owe to their superiors?**

**A** The honor which inferiors owe to their superiors is, all due reverence in heart,<sup>1</sup> word,<sup>2</sup> and behavior;<sup>3</sup> prayer and thanksgiving for them;<sup>4</sup> imitation of their virtues and graces;<sup>5</sup> willing obedience to their lawful commands and counsels;<sup>6</sup> due submission to their corrections;<sup>7</sup> fidelity to,<sup>8</sup> defense,<sup>9</sup> and maintenance of their persons and authority, according to their several ranks, and the nature of their places;<sup>10</sup> bearing with their infirmities, and covering them in love,<sup>11</sup> that so they may be an honor to them and to their government.<sup>12</sup>

1. Mal. 1:6; Lev. 19:3. 2. Prov. 31:28; 1 Pet. 3:6. 3. Lev. 19:32; 1 Kings 2:19. 4. 1 Tim. 2:1–2. 5. Heb. 13:7; Phil. 3:17. 6. Eph. 6:1–2, 5–7; 1 Pet. 2:13–14; Heb. 13:17; Rom. 13:1–5; Prov. 4:3–4; 23:22; Ex. 18:19, 24. 7. Heb. 12:9; 1 Pet. 2:18–20. 8. Titus 2:9–10. 9. 1 Sam. 26:15–16; 2 Sam. 18:3; Est. 6:2. 10. Matt. 22:21; Rom. 13:6–7; 1 Tim. 5:17–18; Gal. 6:6; Gen. 45:11; 47:12. 11. Gen. 9:23; 1 Pet. 2:18; Prov. 23:22. 12. Ps. 127:3–5; Prov. 31:23.

### **Q 128. What are the sins of inferiors against their superiors?**

**A** The sins of inferiors against their superiors are, all neglect of the duties required toward them;<sup>1</sup> envying at,<sup>2</sup> contempt of,<sup>3</sup> and rebellion<sup>4</sup> against, their persons<sup>5</sup> and places,<sup>6</sup> in their lawful counsels,<sup>7</sup> commands, and corrections;<sup>8</sup> cursing, mocking,<sup>9</sup> and all such refractory and scandalous carriage, as proves a shame and dishonor to them and their government.<sup>10</sup>

1. Matt. 15:4–6; Rom. 13:8. 2. Num. 11:28–29. 3. 1 Sam. 8:7; Isa. 3:5. 4. 2 Sam. 15:10, 1–12. 5. Ex. 21:15. 6. 1 Sam. 10:27. 7. 1 Sam. 2:25. 8. Deut. 21:18–21. 9. Prov. 30:11, 17. 10. Prov. 19:26.

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