

CONFESSING OUR FAITH

westminster larger catechism

Q 158. By whom is the Word of God to be preached?

A The Word of God is to be preached only by such as are sufficiently gifted,¹ and also duly approved and called to that office.²

1. 1 Tim. 3:2, 6; Eph. 4:8–11; Mal. 2:7; 2 Cor. 3:6; 2 Tim. 2:2. 2. Jer. 14:15; Rom. 10:15; Heb. 5:4; 1 Cor. 12:28–29; 1 Tim. 3:10; 1 Tim. 4:14; 1 Tim. 5:22.

Q 159. How is the Word of God to be preached by those that are called thereunto?

A They that are called to labor in the ministry of the Word, are to preach sound doctrine,¹ diligently,² in season and out of season;³ plainly,⁴ not in the enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit, and of power;⁵ faithfully,⁶ making known the whole counsel of God;⁷ wisely,⁸ applying themselves to the necessities and capacities of the hearers;⁹ zealously,¹⁰ with fervent love to God¹¹ and the souls of his people;¹² sincerely,¹³ aiming at his glory,¹⁴ and their conversion,¹⁵ edification,¹⁶ and salvation.¹⁷

1. Titus 2:1, 8. 2. Acts 18:25. 3. 2 Tim. 4:2. 4. 1 Cor. 14:9–19. 5. 1 Cor. 2:4. 6. Jer. 23:28; 1 Cor. 4:1–2. 7. Acts 20:27. 8. Col. 1:28; 2 Tim. 2:15. 9. 1 Cor. 3:2; Heb. 5:12–14; Luke 12:42. 10. Acts 18:25; Ps. 119:139; 2 Tim. 4:5. 11. 2 Cor. 5:13–14; Phil. 1:15–17. 12. Col. 4:12; 2 Cor. 12:15. 13. 2 Cor. 2:17; 2 Cor. 4:2. 14. 1 Thess. 2:4–6; John 7:18. 15. 1 Cor. 9:19–22. 16. 2 Cor. 12:19; Eph. 4:12. 17. 1 Tim. 4:16; Acts 26:16–18.

Q 160. What is required of those that hear the Word of God preached?

A It is required of those that hear the Word preached, that they attend upon it with diligence,¹ preparation,² and prayer;³ examine what they hear by the Scriptures;⁴ receive the truth with faith,⁵ love,⁶ meekness,⁷ and readiness of mind,⁸ as the Word of God;⁹ meditate,¹⁰ and confer of it;¹¹ hide it in their hearts,¹² and bring forth the fruit of it in their lives.¹³

1. Prov. 8:34. 2. 1 Pet. 2:1–2; Luke 8:18. 3. Ps. 119:18; Eph. 6:18–19. 4. Acts 17:11. 5. Heb. 4:2. 6. 2 Thess. 2:10. 7. James 1:21. 8. Acts 17:11. 9. 1 Thess. 2:13. 10. Luke 9:44; Heb. 2:1. 11. Luke 24:14; Deut. 6:6–7. 12. Prov. 2:1; Ps. 119:11. 13. Luke 8:15; James 1:25.

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