

Theology Simply Explained — WSC58 “The God of All Our Time and Holy Time”

Pastor walks his children through Westminster Shorter Catechism question 58—especially pointing out that by setting apart some of our time as holy unto Him for worship, the Lord lays claim to wise and proper use of all our other time as well. WSC58: What is required in the fourth commandment? *The fourth commandment requireth the keeping holy to God such set times as He hath appointed in His word; expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy sabbath to Himself.*

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

The Catechism question this week is number 58. What is required in the fourth commandment? The answer is the fourth commandment requires the keeping holy to God. Such set times as he has appointed in his word expressly. One whole day in seven to be a holy Sabbath to himself.

This.

This answer is a reminder of the biblical teaching that the Lord is the one who has made us and imaging him serving him, worshiping him glorifying him. As our purpose enjoying him is our designed pleasure. And this applies to our time, he is Lord over our time, We learned this from the creation.

Even before you get to the seventh day, he's the one who created days. Use the one who pauses evening and morning as he goes along. Obviously, not pausing for his own sake. He is not need rest, or even exist in time himself. We are bounded by time. And so the pauses are for our six and he is the one who sets the lights for the governing of days and months and seasons and years.

And so we receive days months seasons years, etc, as assignments from him. The fourth commandment reminds us that by setting apart the one day as holy, he has ordained the or a placed upon us, the obligation of properly ordering the other days in order to keep the Sabbath as holy, you have to figure out how to and plan and execute how to complete all your work and all your labor and the other six days by setting aside, the Sabbath for worship.

The Lord teaches us to fit whatever recreations that we are going to engage in that are good for refreshment of body refreshment of mind, refreshment of emotions. So forth into the other six days, and that we should expect to have that, which is superior from the worship of God, the rejuvenation of our very souls and spending an entire day in communion with God and fellowship with him.

And the day that has been consecrated to him, we're going to be talking about when we there's a separate. Catechism question for how to sanctify the day? How to treat the day is holy, but the fact that he gives us a specific day that it's at, as holy reminds us.

Reminds us that he is, Lord over our time. And so there's actually much that's required and the fourth commandment. The fourth commandment requires seeing the Lord as Lord of all of your time and using that which is not set apart as holy for worship yet in a way that honors him and that has shaped by the priority for worship.

And so when we think about the expressly one whole day and seven to be a holy Sabbath to himself, We're also thinking about things like not just finishing our work but planning what we're going to do the evening before the Sabbath so that we may come to rest and good season and we don't treat the Lord's Day as a day that and you do what you want, as hard as you can right up on until you get to it.

And then turns out, Lord's Day morning, your exhausted and in poor health, and your mind is foggy. Hmm. No. You you prepare for it like an athlete prepares for his holy day, which is game day and he orders his whole week with this arc of while he eats and what he does on the various days and if your college athlete you you plan your classes and your studying in such a way as to be at your peak for game day.

Well, the believer worship something other than athletic competition and he desires to be at his peak for the day that the Lord has set apart as holy so he can give the Lord, the very best. So it is the treatment of all of time, as belonging to God. And then the ordering of our time as and such a way, as to be able to treat holy time.

That has been consecrated and blessed for the purpose of worship to treat it as holy as possible.