

THE BAPTIST CATECHISM

Week 3: Question 1
John Divito



COMMERCIAL BREAK



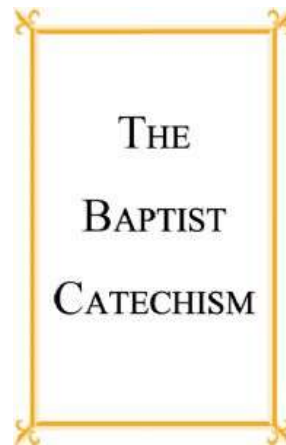
QUESTION 1

WHO IS THE FIRST AND CHIEF BEING?



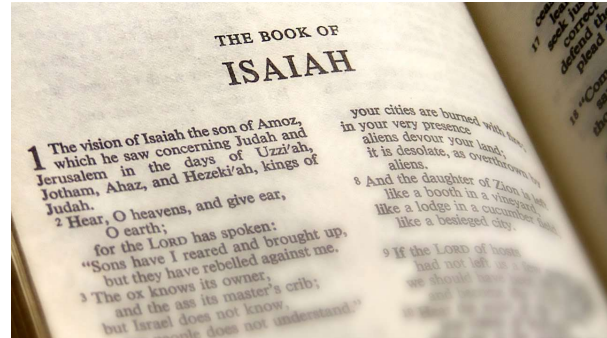
QUESTION 1

- BC vs. WSC
- Twofold Declaration:
 - 1) God is First
 - 2) God is Chief



QUESTION 1

- 1) God is First
- Isaiah 44:6, 48:12-13
- Revelation 1:8 & 17-18;
22:12-13



QUESTION 1

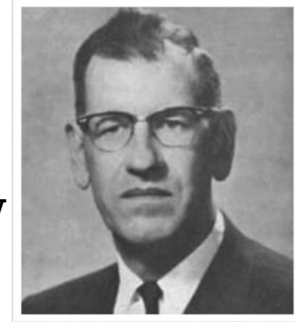
- 1) God is First
- Matthew Henry, "He is God from everlasting, before the worlds were, and will be so to everlasting, when the world shall be no more. If there were not a God to create, nothing would ever have been; and, if there were not a God to uphold, all would soon come to nothing again. He is all in all, is the first cause, from whom are all things, and the last end, to and for whom are all things."



QUESTION 1

- 1) God is First

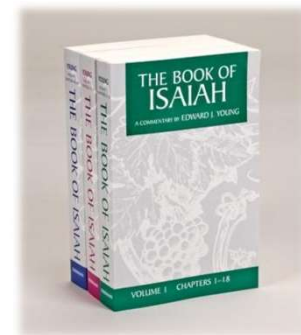
- Edward J. Young, “He is the first in that He is before all creation as well as in the beginning of human history, but He is also the last in that He is above human history. The two expressions are designed to show His eternity and His complete independence of the creation....



QUESTION 1

- 1) God is First

- Edward J. Young (cont'd), “Before human history began He is, and when it shall finish, He is, the unending, eternal, and true God. All the gods of the nations are but idols, ... but these possess no independent existence.”



QUESTION 1

- What Does It Mean for God to be First?
 - God is first in creation: Gen. 1:1
 - God is first in providence: Acts 17:28
 - God is first in love: 1 John 4:19
 - God is first in authority: Ps. 93:1-2



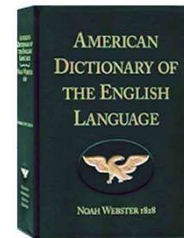
QUESTION 1

- How Should We Respond?
 - Benjamin Beddome: “Should God then be first in our thoughts? Yes. *When I awake I am still with thee*, Psalm 139:18. And first in our esteem? Yes. *Whom have I in heaven but thee*, Psalm 73:25. Should we first give ourselves unto him? Yes. *But first gave their own-selves to the Lord*, 2 Corinthians 8:5. And should he have the first fruits? Yes. *My soul desireth the first ripe fruits*, Micah 7:1.”



QUESTION 1

- 2) God is Chief
 - What does chief mean?
 - Webster's Dictionary: "Principal or most eminent, in any quality or action; most distinguished; having most influence; commanding most respect; taking the lead; most valuable; most important."



QUESTION 1

- 2) God is Chief
 - Ps. 97:9
 - 83:18

10 17 Let them be confounded and troubled
for euer: yea, let them be put to shame and
m perish,

18 That they maie knowe that thou, which
3: art called **Ichouáh**, art alone, *euē* the mo-
n- ste High ouer all the earth.

PSAL. LXXXIIII.

1 *Dauid driuen forthe of his countrey,* 2 *Desireth moste
ardently to come agayne to the Tabernacle of the Lord*



QUESTION 1

- What Does It Mean for God to be Chief?
 - God is the only chief: Ex. 15:11
 - God is chiefest: Ps. 95:1-3
 - God is chief to all in heaven and on earth: Ps. 89:5-6
 - God is chief forever: Ps. 92:8



QUESTION 1

- How Should We Respond?
 - Benjamin Beddome: “Should God then be chiefly loved? Yes. *Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart*, Luke 10:27. And chiefly feared? Yes. *Rather fear him who is able to destroy both body and soul in hell*, Matthew 10:28. And are those happy who are interested in him? Yes. *Happy is that people whose God is the Lord*, Psalm 144:15.”



QUESTIONS?

