

**Lord's Day 2**  
**The Heidelberg Catechism**  
**Israel's Messiah Uses the Law to Reveal our Sin**  
Romans 3:1-20

**1. The Law of God Reveals Sin**

- a. God chose Israel, from Abraham's family, as a means of solving the problem of our rebellion in Adam.
  - i. Genesis 3:15; 12:1-3
  - ii. Galatians 3:8 - "preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham"
  
- b. But Israel, of course, also shared in Adam's sin. The law therefore served to bring into focus Israel's sin, making clear the problem of sin and death in which all of humanity participates.
  - i. Romans 3:9
  - ii. Romans 3:20

**2. Israel's Messiah Uses the Law to Reveal our Sin**

- a. The opening words of the answer to Q&A 4: "Christ teaches us...."
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b. Whether revealing our sin or describing the joyful life of gratitude, the law always addresses God's people in the context of his covenant grace.
  - i. Romans 1:1-7 - Jesus the Messiah, our Lord
  - ii. Deuteronomy 5:6
  - iii. Lord's Day 2 comes after Lord's Day 1!

**3. Israel's Messiah Reveals the Severity of the Problem**

- a. In Adam, we are dead in our sin (Ephesians 2:1), having "a natural tendency to hate God and my neighbor." Sin is a matter of the heart, a failure to love.
  - i. Matthew 22:36-40
  - ii. Deuteronomy 6:5; Leviticus 19:18
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b. Lest we misunderstand, look ahead to Lord's Day 3, Q&A 8.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- c. This is good news: your status in Christ *can not* depend upon you, and therefore *does not* depend upon you.