

Women's Thursday Bible Class- Larger Catechism-2021 #2 Lesson

Review from last week (recording is available)
We covered Q.122-128

Q. And A. 129 - what required of superiors
What is the principle set forth in this question?

Authority involves and implies _____.

Look at Rom. 13:3-4, Col. 3:18-25 and I Pet. 2:13-17 and Titus 2:1-10,15

Look at each phrase concerning the responsibility required

- not the same in all cases
- true interest in and earnest effort to promote welfare of those under their
- whatever instruction, praise, reproof, protection or provision varies according to the nature of the relation sustained and proper function , for ex..... parents, the church leaders, the state

Why should superiors set a good example to persons under their authority?

Q. And A. 130. - sins of superiors

Ezekiel. 34:2-4 sinful neglect

Phil. 2:21 seeking own interests, selfish use

Eph. 6:4 Commanding unreasonable /or unlawful things

I Sam. 3:13 encouraging wrong

Col. 3:21 influencing inferiors vs. doing right

Gen. 13:12-13 careless exposure to temptation or danger

I Kings 12:13-16 results are breakdown of respect for authority

Discussion:

Give some examples from the Bible of rulers who commanded those under their authority to do things contrary to God's law?

Give some examples from the history of the church of rulers who commanded actions contrary to the law of God.

Why is it especially wrong for superiors to influence those under their authority in favor of what is wrong, or against what is right?

Each of us has a moral responsibility for his neighbor's welfare, but for persons in positions of authority, this responsibility is greatly increased.

How did these three examples from the Bible show the sin of exposing inferiors to temptation and danger?
Lot, Joseph's brothers , and King Ahab

Give some examples of the sins of unreasonable, excessive, out of proportion correction or discipline, provoking to wrath, etc.?

Sad example of Nabal

Q. And A. 131 - duties of equals - equality of position , (on the same level , plane of authority). Best commentary would be a blend of I Cor. 13 with Rom. 12:9-21

Ex. - colleagues at work,siblings, church members, citizens....

Concept of mutual respect, sympathy, mutual service and encouragement , mutual love;
rejoicing over another's gifts, attainments,especially when see God's glory magnified

Discussion: What did Jesus say about how to be the greatest in the kingdom?

Look at Mat. 20:26-28. **EF-** ex. To follow- Jesus saying "to pursue greatness, humble yourself and be the best servant!"

I Peter 2:17

Rom. 12: 10, 15-16

"Dignity and worth" - like we ourselves want to be treated- persons created in the image of God

*We often fail to ask ourselves personal, painful, soul searching questions.

Q. and A. 132 - sins of equals

What special root sins must we avoid ? Selfishness, pride, envy - leads to other sins

II Tim. 3:1-5

Note the words- lovers of self, unloving, haters of good

Acts 7:9 and Gal. 5:26

Esther 6:12-13

III John 9- one bad example not to follow

Luke 22:24

A (true) leader serves.

Is neglect of mutual Christian love a common sin?

What is common often is tolerated as normal.

What is the effect of the sin of envy on the envious person? Prov. 14:30

Give an example of what the catechism might mean by "usurping preeminence over another?"

Exhortation from Eph.

Q. and A. 133-annexed (added) promise of long life and prosperity

Deut. 5:16

Eph. 6:2-3

What is the promise and to whom is it given?

What is the effect **generally** upon human society when the fifth commandment is obeyed? (common grace)

Several things to consider: what is meant by " long life and prosperity " in Scripture?

Care is given to the how the language is framed. " in so far as it shall serve for God's glory and our good"

This is not an unqualified promise of course. Cannot be justification for the wealth and prosperity gospel.

What is just the general rule?

The way of the transgressors is hard. The way of the righteous is blessed.

How is " blessing and prosperity " defined? Glorifying God and growing in holiness?

Ps. 119:71

Ps. 34:17-21

Job

And many Christians are called to deep suffering.

Next week: Q. And A. 134-139.