

Westminster Larger Catechism (WLC) 2020-2021

Women's Thursday Bible Study # 13

Prayer

Last week "mop- up!"

Q. # 51. What was the estate of Christ's exaltation?

A. The estate of Christ's exaltation comprehendeth his resurrection, Ascension, sitting at the right hand of the Father, and his coming again to judge the world.

Sum of all that follows in Q. 52-56. Four aspects or stages - 2 past, 1 present and 1 to come!

Q. 52 How was Christ exalted in his resurrection?

A. Christ was exalted in his resurrection, in that, not having seen corruption in death, of which it was not possible for him to be held, and having the same body in which he suffered, with the essential properties thereof but without mortality, and other infirmities belonging to this life,, really united with his soul,

- he rose again the third day by his own power; whereby
- He declared himself to be the Son of God,
- To have satisfied divine justice,
- To have vanquished death,
- And him that had the power of it, and
- To be Lord of the quick and the dead;
- All of which he did as a public person, the head of the church
- For their justification
- quickening in grace,
- Support against enemies, and
- To assure them of their resurrection from the dead on the Last Day.

Acts 2:24,27

Lk. 24:39

Rev. 1:18

John 10:17-18

Note that other verses like Gal. 1:1 or Acts 2:32) say God raised him

Rom. 1:4 and 8:34

Heb. 2:14

--Rom. 14:9 Paul applies truth to their not judging one another

Eph. 1:20-23 and Col. 1:18 acted as head of the Church

Rom. 4:25

Eph. 2:1,5-6 and Col. 2:12 "quickenning "means making alive)

--I Cor. 15:20, 25-27 application 15:58

What 5 great truths are demonstrated by Christ' resurrection?

A. He is

B. He had fully

C. He had conquered

D. And

E. He is Lord of living and dead

What benefits come to the Church from Christ's resurrection ?

A. Justification

B. Quickening in grace

C. Support against enemies

D. Assurance of our own resurrection

Q. 53 How was Christ exalted in his ascension?

A. Christ was exalted in his ascension, in that having after his resurrection often appeared unto and conversed with his apostles, speaking to them of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God, and giving them commission to preach the gospel

to all nations, forty days after his resurrection, he,

- in our nature and as our head,
- triumphing over enemies,
- visibly went up to the highest heavens,
- there to receive gifts for men,
- to raise our affections thither, and
- to prepare a place for us, where He himself is, and

- shall continue till his second coming at the end of the world.

Acts 1: 3-4 and 9-11

Matt. 28:19-20 all power given...therefore Go

Heb. 6:20

Eph. 4:10-11ff

Col. 3:1-2

John 14:3 I go to prepare a place

Importance of the public, visible, Ascension, with his human body and human spirit

What is meant by saying that Christ ascended to heaven in order to receive gifts for men?

Ps. 68:18 quoted in Eph. 4 passage about the church on earth being given gifts (from Christ's triumph)

Thought question: how do we know that heaven is a real place and not just a state or condition?

Q. 54 How is Christ exalted in his sitting at the right hand of God?

A. Christ is exalted in his sitting down at the right hand of God , in that as God-man , he is exalted to the highest favor with God the Father,

- with all fullness of joy, glory, and power over all things in heaven and earth; and
- does gather and defend his church, and subdue their enemies;
- furnisheth his ministers and peoples with gifts and graces, and
- maketh intercession for them.

Phil 2:9

To sit figuratively, to rule

John 17:5,24

Eph. 4:10-12 with Ps. 110:1-2 (even Acts. 2:22-36) read on own

Rom. 8:34

How long will Christ's dominion over the entire created universe continue?

I Cor. 15:23-28

For the benefit of the church

Lk. 1:33

Q. 55 How doth Christ make intercession? A. Christ maketh intercession,

*by his appearing in our nature continually before the Father in heaven ,

*in the merit of his obedience and sacrifice on earth,

*declaring his will to be declared to all believers;

*answering all accusations against them, and

*procuring for them quiet of conscience, notwithstanding daily failings,

*access with boldness to the throne of grace, and

*acceptance of their persons and services.

Heb. 9:12, 24. and 1:3 and 7:25

John 3:16; 7:9, 20,24. I.e. For all those who believe

Rom. 8:33-34

Rom. 5:1-2 with I John 2:1-2

Eph. 1:6

I Pet. 2:5 God accepts spiritual sacrifices

Discuss: How can we answer Satan's accusations, have true peace of conscience in spite of daily failing, and have boldness to come to throne in prayer, and know that our spiritual service is acceptable to God??????

Q. 56 How is Christ to be exalted in his coming again to judge the world?

A. Christ is to be exalted in his coming again to judge the world, in that he, who was unjustly judged and condemned by wicked men, shall come again at the Last Day

- in great power, and
- In full manifestation of his own glory, and of his Father's,
- With the holy angels, with a shout,with the voice of the arch angel, and
- With the trumpet of God,
- To judge the world in righteousness

Acts 3:14-15 ;

Acts 17:31; 1:10-11

Matt. 24:30-31

Luke 9:26 (also Matt.25:31-34)

I Thess. 4:16-18 (therefore encourage one another.....!)

Rev. 1:7 every eye shall see Him

Rev. 20:11-12 Great White Throne Judgment at the Last Day

When? Matt. 24:36 no man knows!

We may have neglected study of this partly due to disagreement over eschatology , and the confusion that seems to muddle, but what do we know for sure? It will be: Personal

Visible

Real but supernatural (miraculous)

Sudden

So what should be our attitude? Yay! Looking forward

Titus 2:13

I Pet. 1:13

Luke 21:28

Rev. 22:20

Next time we meet is Jan. 7!