

Providence Church Catechism Outline

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The Purpose of Life/Doctrine of Scripture

1. Q. Why did God make you and all things?

A. For His own glory.

Romans 11:3 For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever.

2. Q. How can you glorify God?

A. By loving Him and doing what He commands.

Deuteronomy 6:5,6 And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

3. Q. Where do you learn how to glorify God?

A. In the Bible alone.

Psalms 119:9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Thy word.

4. Q. What does the Bible teach us?

A. The Bible teaches us who God is and what He requires of us.

II Timothy 3:16,17 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

5. Q. Who wrote the Bible?

A. Holy men who were taught by the Holy Spirit.

II Peter 1:21 For no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

6. Q. What is God?

A. God is Spirit and does not have a body like men.

John 4:24 God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth.

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The Doctrine of God

7. **Q. Are there more gods than one?**

A. No, there is only one God.

Isaiah 44:6b I am the first and I am the last, and there is no God besides Me.

8. **Q. In how many persons does this one God exist?**

A. In three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19,20 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

9. **Q. Does God know all things?**

A. Yes, nothing can be hidden from God.

Hebrews 4:13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

10. **Q. Can God do all things?**

A. Yes, God does all His holy will.

Mark 10:27 Looking upon them, Jesus said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God."

The Doctrine of Man/ The Doctrine of Sin

11. **Q. Who were our first parents?**

A. Adam and Eve.

Genesis 2: 7, 22 Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. And the Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man.

12. **Q. In what condition did God make Adam and Eve?**

A. He made them holy and happy.

Genesis 1:31a And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good.

13. **Q. What did God command Adam to do?**

A. To obey Him perfectly.

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Genesis 2: 16, 17 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die."

14. **Q. Did Adam obey God?**
A. No, he sinned against God.

Genesis 3:6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

15. **Q. What is sin?**
A. Sin is any lack of conformity unto or transgression of the law of God.

1 John 3:4 Everyone who practices sin also practices lawlessness; and sin is lawlessness.

16. **Q. What befell our first parents when they had sin?**
A. Instead of being holy and happy, they became sinful and miserable.

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned.

17. **Q. Did Adam act for himself alone when he sinned?**
A. No, he represented all his posterity.

Romans 5:19 For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous

The Doctrine of Christ

18. **Q. Did God leave all mankind to perish in a state of sin and misery?**
A. No, God purposed to save His people by sending a Redeemer.

Ephesians 1: 4,5 Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love he predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will.

19. **Q. Who is Jesus Christ?**
A. Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God.

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John 20:31 But these have been written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

20. Q. How did the Son of God become man?

A. He was born of the Virgin Mary.

Matthew 1:18b When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit.

21. Q. How did Jesus Christ redeem His people?

A. He kept the whole law for His people and suffered the punishment their sins deserved.

Romans 5:18 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men.

22. Q. Did the Lord Jesus Christ ever sin as all other men do?

A. No, He was holy, blameless, and pure.

Hebrews 7:26 For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

23. Q. What offices has Christ?

A. Christ has the offices of prophet, priest, and king.

Revelation 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood.

24. Q. How is Christ a prophet?

A. He teaches us the will of God.

Acts 3:22 Moses said, "The Lord God shall raise up for you a prophet like me from your brethren; to Him you shall give heed in everything He says to you."

25. Q. How is Christ a priest?

A. He died for our sins and pleads with God for us.

Romans 8:34 Who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is he who died, yea rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

26. Q. How is Christ a king?

A. He rules over us and defends us.

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1 Corinthians 15:25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.

27. **Q. What kind of life did Christ live on earth?**
A. A life of poverty and suffering.

Isaiah 53:3 He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face, He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

28. **Q. What kind of death did Christ die?**
A. The painful and shameful death of the cross.

Philippians 2:8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

29. **Q. Did Christ remain in the grave after His crucifixion?**
A. No, He rose from the dead on the third day.

1 Corinthians 15:4 And that He was buried, and the He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.

30. **Q. Where is Christ now?**
A. In heaven, at the right hand of God the Father.

Hebrews 1:3b When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

31. **Q. Will Christ come to this earth again?**
A. Yes, He will come to judge the world at the last day

Revelation 22:12 Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.

The Doctrine of Salvation

32. **Q. Where do sinners hear of Christ?**
A. In the Gospel which freely offers Christ to all.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

33. **Q. What blessings do sinners who are effectually called received in this life?**
A. The blessings of justification, adoption, and sanctification.

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1 Corinthians 1:30 But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption.

34. Q. What is justification?

A. Justification is God's forgiving sinners and declaring them to be righteous.

2 Corinthians 5:21 He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

35. Q. What is adoption?

A. Adoption is God's receiving sinners into His family as His own dear children.

1 John 3:1a See how great a love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God; and such we are.

36. Q. What is sanctification?

A. Sanctification is God's making sinners holy in heart and conduct.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Ten Commandments

37. Q. What is the sum of the ten commandments?

A. To love God with all my heart and my neighbor as myself.

Matthew 22:37-40 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all you mind. This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

38. Q. What is the first commandment?

A. The first commandment is, "You shall have no other gods before Me."

Exodus 20:3

39. Q. What is the second commandment?

A. The second commandment is, "You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord you God, am a jealous God, visiting the

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iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.”

Exodus 20:4

40. Q. What is the third commandment?

A. The third commandment is, “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.”

Exodus 20: 7

41. Q. What is the fourth commandment?

A. The fourth commandment is, Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath Day and made it holy.

Exodus 20:8

42. Q. What is the fifth commandment?

A. The fifth commandment is, Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the Lord your God gives you.

Exodus 20:12

43. Q. What is the sixth commandment?

A. The sixth commandment is, You shall not murder.

Exodus 20:13

44. Q. What is the seventh commandment?

A. The seventh commandment is, You shall not commit adultery.

Exodus 20:14

45. Q. What is the eighth commandment?

A. The eighth commandment is, You shall not steal.

Exodus 20:15

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46. Q. What is the ninth commandment?

A. The ninth commandment is, You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Exodus 20:16

47. Q. What is the tenth commandment?

A. The tenth commandment is, You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his male servant or his female servant or his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Exodus 20:17

The Purpose of the Law

48. Q. Can any man keep these ten commandments perfectly?

A. No mere man, since the fall of Adam, ever did or can keep the ten commandments perfectly.

Ecclesiastes 7:20 Indeed, there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good and who never sins.

49. Q. Of what use are the ten commandments to us?

A. They teach us our duty and show us our need of a Savior

Romans 3:20 Because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.

50. Q. What does every sin deserve?

A. The wrath and curse of God.

Galatians 3:10 For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the Law, to perform them."

51. Q. Who will escape the wrath of God?

A. Only those who repent of sin, believe in Christ, and lead holy lives.

Mark 1:15 The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.

52. Q. What is it to repent?

A. To be sorry for sin, and to hate and forsake it because it is displeasing to God.

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Joel 2:13 And rend your heart and not your garments. Now return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, abounding in lovingkindness, and relenting of evil.

53. **Q. What is it to believe or have faith in Christ?**
A. To trust in Christ alone for salvation

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.

The Baptism and the Lord's Supper

54. **Q. What are the sacraments?**
A. Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Matthew 28: 18-19a And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them."

1Corinthians 11:23a, 26 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you...For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

55. **Q. What does baptism represent?**
A. Union with Jesus Christ.

Romans 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

56. **Q. Who are to be baptized?**
A. Believers only.

Acts 2:41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

57. **Q. What is the Lord's Supper?**
A. The eating of the bread and the drinking of the cup in remembrance of the sufferings and death of Christ.

Luke 22: 19,20 And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me." And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood."

58. **Q. What do the bread and the cup represent?**

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- A. The body of Christ, broke for our sins, and the blood of Christ shed for our salvation.

Luke 22: 19, 20

59. Q. Who should partake of the Lord's Supper?

- A. Only those who repent of their sins, believe in Christ for salvation, and love their fellow men.

I Corinthians 11: 28, 29 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly.

The Doctrine of Prayer

60. Q. What is prayer?

- A. Prayer is asking God for things which He has promised to give.

Philippians 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

61. Q. What has Christ given us to teach us how to pray?

- A. The Lord's Prayer.

Matthew 6:9-13 Pray then in this way: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

62. Q. What do we pray for in the first petition, "Hallowed be thy name"?

- A. That God's name may be honored by us and all men.

Psalms 67:3 Let the peoples praise Thee, O God; Let all the peoples praise Thee.

63. Q. What do we pray for in the second petition, "Thy kingdom come"?

- A. That the gospel may be preached in all the world, and believed and obeyed by us and all men.

II Thessalonians 3:1 Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord may spread rapidly and be glorified, Just as it did also with you.

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64. Q. What do we pray for in the third petition?

A. That men on earth may serve as the angels do in heaven.

Psalm 103:20,22 Bless the Lord, you His angels, mighty in strength, who perform His word, obeying the voice of His word! Bless the Lord, all you works of His, in all places of His dominion; Bless the Lord, O my soul!

65. Q. What do we pray for in the fourth petition?

A. That God would give us all things needful for our bodies and souls.

Acts 17:25 Nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things.

66. Q. What do we pray for in the fifth petition?

A. We pray that God, for Christ's sake would freely pardon all our sins, and He would enable us to forgive those who have sinned against us.

Matthew 6:14 For if you forgive men their transgressions, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you.

67. Q. What do we pray for in the sixth petition?

A. That God would keep us from sin.

Psalm 19:13 Also keep back Your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not rule over me; then I shall be blameless, and I shall be acquitted of great transgression.

Death, Heaven, and Hell

68. Q. What becomes of the righteous at death?

A. Their body returns to the dust and their spirit goes to be with the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:8 We are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.

69. Q. What becomes of the wicked at death?

A. They suffer punishment while they are kept by God for the day of judgment.

Luke 16:22b-23a And the rich man also died and was buried. And in Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment.

70. Q. Will the dead be raised to life again?

A. Yes, all the dead shall be raised when Christ comes again.

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1 Thessalonians 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first.

- 71. Q. What will become of the wicked in the day of judgment?**
A. They shall be cast into the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

- 72. Q. What will become of the righteous in the day of judgment?**
A. They shall enter the Father's kingdom in the new heaven and new earth.

Matthew 25:34 Then the King will say to those on His right, "Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."