

Westminster Larger Catechism #94

Is there any use of the moral law to man since the fall? Although no man, since the fall, can attain to righteousness and life by the moral law; yet there is great use thereof, as well common to all men, as peculiar either to the unregenerate, or the regenerate.

Rom. 8:3 *For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,*
1 Tim. 1:8 *Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully,*

Discussion Questions

1. What error concerning the moral law does this question of the catechism guard against?
2. If the moral law is of no use as a way of attaining righteousness and life then of what use is it?

Westminster Larger Catechism #95

Of what use is the moral law to all men? The moral law is of use to all men, to inform them of the holy nature and will of God, and of their duty, binding them to walk accordingly; to convince them of their disability to keep it, and of the sinful pollution of their nature, hearts, and lives; to humble them in the sense of their sin and misery, and thereby help them to a clearer sight of the need they have of Christ, and of the perfection of his obedience.

Lev. 11:44-45 *For I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. You shall not defile yourselves with any swarming thing that crawls on the ground. 45 For I am the LORD who brought you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy."*

Mic. 6:8 *He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*

Gal. 3:21-22 *Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. 22 But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.*

Discussion Questions

1. What four uses does the moral law of God have for all men?
2. How is the moral law a revelation of truth concerning God?
3. How is the moral law a revelation of man's moral obligation to God?
4. How is the moral law of God a means of convincing men of their utterly sinful condition by nature?
5. How does the moral law of God help men toward a right estimate of the matchless character of Christ?

Westminster Larger Catechism #96

What particular use is there of the moral law to unregenerate men? The moral law is of use to unregenerate men, to awaken their consciences to flee from wrath to come, and to drive them to Christ; or, upon their continuance in the estate and way of sin, to leave them inexcusable, and under the curse thereof.

1Tim. 1:9-10 understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, 10 the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine,

Gal. 3:24 So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.

Discussion Questions

1. What is the meaning of the word *unregenerate*?
2. What is the ordinary condition of the consciences of unregenerate people?
3. How does the moral law serve to awaken the consciences of unsaved sinners?
4. Does the moral law provide a way of escape from the wrath of God?
5. Do all unsaved sinners have a knowledge of the moral law of God?
6. Do all unsaved sinners have an equal knowledge of the moral law of God?
7. Does the moral law of God awaken the consciences of all sinners, and drive them to Christ for salvation?
8. Why does not the moral law drive all sinners to Christ for salvation?
9. Why does the Holy Spirit not open the hearts of all sinners so that all will come to Christ and be saved?
10. What is the effect of the moral law in the case of sinners who never come to Christ?
11. Is the moral law of any use to enable unregenerate people to live so as to please God?
12. Is the moral law of any use to enable unregenerate people to earn their own salvation?
13. What is the place of the moral law of God in a scriptural program of evangelism?