

The Shorter Catechism: For Study Classes (Vol. 1)

by G.I. Williamson

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Lesson 2

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<p>Shorter Catechism, Vol. 1 Chapter 2</p> <p>What rule has God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him?</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt, all rights reserved</p>	<p>The Word of God which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him.</p>
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<p>Shorter Catechism, Vol. 1 Chapter 2</p> <p>Give scriptural support for the Word of God having authority.</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt, all rights reserved</p>	<p>All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16</p>
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<p>Shorter Catechism, Vol. 1 Chapter 2</p> <p>Give scriptural supports for Scripture being the only rule to glorify & enjoy God.</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt, all rights reserved</p>	<p>If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: and if any man shall take away from the words of this book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life. Revelation 22:18,19</p> <p>See: Deuteronomy 4:2; Deuteronomy 12:32</p>
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Chapter 2

**Can man, by himself,
come to the knowledge
of the truth?**

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No. Man cannot know everything.
There is simply too much to know.

God did not make man to know everything
or anything by his own power.

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**How has knowledge
come to man?**

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1) natural revelation

2) special revelation

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**Give scriptural proofs for
natural revelation.**

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natural revelation = nature

the heavens declare the glory of God,
and the firmament showeth His handywork
Psalm 19:1

The invisible things of Him from the creation
of the world are clearly seen, being understood
by the things that are made. Romans 1:20

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Describe special revelation.

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special revelation = God's Word (Bible)

God spoke to Adam in the Garden of Eden.

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<p>Shorter Catechism, Vol. 1 Chapter 2</p> <p>Briefly explain the so-called “scientific method.”</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt, all rights reserved</p>	<p>scientific method = trial and error to discover the truth</p> <p>Adam rejected God’s Word acting on what he thought was right (humanism).</p> <p>results = unregenerated mankind walks in darkness</p>
<p>Shorter Catechism, Vol. 1 Chapter 2</p> <p>Is there darkness in God’s revelation?</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt, all rights reserved</p>	<p>No. Humanism, resulting in Adam’s sin, has caused the darkness.</p> <p>God’s light still shines throughout all of creation and is sufficient to leave all mankind without excuse.</p>
<p>Shorter Catechism, Vol. 1 Chapter 2</p> <p>Where is it revealed to man how to be saved from sin?</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt, all rights reserved</p>	<p>the Bible, alone, shows ...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) what must be believed to be saved from sin2) what man must do (serve God)
<p>Shorter Catechism, Vol. 1 Chapter 2</p> <p>Explain: “the word of God ... is contained in the Scriptures”?</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt, all rights reserved</p>	<p>the words in the Bible are from God</p>

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**What does Liberalism mean
by “the word of God ... is
contained in the Scriptures”?**

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Liberalism = the older modernism

only some parts of the Bible are the Word of God
& that other parts are the word of man.

Liberalism holds they can decide for themselves
which part of the Bible is true and false.

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**What does Neo-orthodoxy
mean by “the word of God
... is contained in the
Scriptures”?**

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new-orthodoxy = new modernism or
Barthianism (from theologian Karl Barth)

hold the Bible is ...

- 1) the fallible word of man
- 2) when people read the Bible God somehow
uses man’s words in the Bible which
mysteriously equals the true word of God

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**What do Reformed Christians
mean by “the word of God ...
is contained in the
Scriptures”?**

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Reformed = historic Christian faith

The whole Bible (every single word) is the
truth of God. No part of the Bible is uninspired.

Even if unbelievers read the Bible,
it is still the word of God.

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Explain *infallible*.

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infallible = without error

everything the Bible says is true

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<p>Shorter Catechism, Vol. 1 Chapter 2</p> <p>What is meant by not taking things out of context?</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt, all rights reserved</p>	<p>context = setting The Bible statements must be read in total.</p> <p>Example: Psalm 53:1 says, in part, “there is no God”</p> <p>whole statement = The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.</p>
<p>Shorter Catechism, Vol. 1 Chapter 2</p> <p>What is meant by saying the Bible is clear?</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt, all rights reserved</p>	<p>The Bible is written so ordinary people may understand it ... even children.</p> <p>There is much we do not understand in the Bible & we have plenty to learn.</p> <p>The Holy Spirit can & does lead ordinary people to understand what they need to know in the Bible to be saved & to live for Him.</p>
<p>Shorter Catechism, Vol. 1 Chapter 2</p> <p>What is meant by saying the Bible is sufficient?</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt, all rights reserved</p>	<p>we do not need something else in addition to the Bible.</p> <p>Jesus said the Bible is sufficient (Revelation 22:18-20)</p>
<p>Shorter Catechism, Vol. 1 Chapter 2</p> <p>Explain the role of creeds, confessions & catechisms.</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt, all rights reserved</p>	<p>Creeds, confessions & catechisms are ...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) far below the Bible2) only meant to be convenient summaries of Bible teachings3) aids to understand the Bible