

## THE CATECHISM.

This question is often asked by parents and Sabbath school teachers: "Should children be taught the Shorter Catechism, though too young to understand the doctrines of the catechism?" Most undoubtedly they should. To have their minds stored and strengthened with the truth contained in that magnificent compendium of theology—the best the world ever saw—is a great thing. In time the young folks will know the meaning if they know the letter. Than Doctor Ormiston there is no better authority on this subject. The Doctor is a living example of what the catechism does for a boy. Here is his own testimony:

But I cannot think otherwise than that a loss is sustained when a catechism is not accurately recited and taught, and passages from the Word of God, more extended than one or two verses, are not committed to memory. I am glad that my memory in childhood was strengthened and filled with the "Mother's Catechism," the "Shorter Catechism" the Psalms of David, the Sermon on the Mount, the entire Gospel by John, and the Book of Proverbs, as also with many excellent hymns.

Sabbath school training that does not embrace the "Shorter Catechism" is apt to produce young people of the mollusc variety. They grow up "soft and inarticulate" in theology and character. A Presbyterian Sabbath school that has got too far "advanced" to use the catechism should be called up to show why it should exist. In fact, it ought to make an apology for being found in existence.—*Con. Pres.*

Every morning, before you see the race of men, register this prayer in heaven: "Hold thou me up and I shall be safe, and I shall have respect unto thy statutes continually." Are you going down-stairs without that prayer? Then you fall into sin at the breakfast table. You may lose your temper, and a trifle not worth noticing may put you of the tram-lines for the day. Therefore pray ere the car moves.—*Spurgeon.*

The love of Christ, which seemed to culminate when he hung on the cross, has never declined from the white heat with which it then glowed. It is now and always at the same point; but the infinite efficacy of that proof of his love has forever rendered its repetition unnecessary.—*Dr. Dykes.*

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Mr. Spurgeon, in a late sermon, said:—"The strength of the church lies not in the oratory of the pulpit, but in the oratory of the closet."

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