

Lord's Day 4

9. Q. But does not God do man an injustice
by requiring in his law
what man cannot do?

A. No,
for God so created man
that he was able to do it.
But man, at the instigation of the devil,
in deliberate disobedience
robbed himself and all his descendants
of these gifts.

1. Gen 1:31.
2. Gen 3:13; Jn 8:44; 1 Tim 2:13, 14.
3. Gen 3:6.
4. Rom 5:12, 18, 19.

10. Q. Will God allow such disobedience and apostasy
to go unpunished?

A. Certainly not.
He is terribly displeased
with our original sin
as well as our actual sins.
Therefore he will punish them
by a just judgment
both now and eternally,
as he has declared:
*Cursed is everyone
who does not continue to do everything
written in the Book of the Law (Gal 3:10).*

1. Gen 2:17; Ex 34:7; Ps 5:4-6; 7:11; Nahum 1:2; Rom 1:18; 5:12;
1. Eph 5:6; Heb 9:27.
2. Deut 27:26.

11. Q. But is God not also merciful?

A. God is indeed merciful,
but he is also just.
His justice requires
that sin committed
against the most high majesty of God
also be punished with the most severe,
that is, with everlasting,
punishment of body and soul.

1. Ex 20:6; 34:6, 7; Ps 103:8, 9.
2. Ex 20:5; 34:7; Deut 7:9-11; Ps 5:4-6; Heb 10:30, 31.
3. Mt 25:45, 46.