A Liturgical Catechism for Young Hearts

"Gather My saints together to Me, those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice."

- Psalm 50.5

Pastor Jonah Barnes

1. Why do we worship God?

We worship God because He made us for worship. We sing to Him for praise and glory.

2. Why do we worship God on the Lord's Day?

We worship God on the Lord's Day because this is the day of the week Jesus rose from the dead after dying on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins.³

3. What happens at worship on the Lord's Day?

On the Lord's Day, God serves us by giving to us the gifts of His Kingdom, and we respond by receiving His gifts and praising Him.

4. What is the first part of our worship?

Our first part of worship is the Call to Worship. This is when God calls us out of the world to gather under the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.⁴

¹ Psalm 63.1-5; 66.4; 150; Isaiah 43.21; Revelation 4.11

² Psalm 57.7-8; Ephesians 5.19

³ John 20.1

⁴ James **4.8**

5. What is the second part of our worship?

Our second part of worship is the Confession of Sin and Forgiveness. This is when we kneel before the Lord our Maker⁵ confessing our sins of the previous week, and we are reminded what God has done for us in Jesus. We confess our sins and God forgives us.⁶

6. What is the third part of our worship?

Our third part of worship is the Consecration of God's people. This is when we are made more like Him as we receive His Word.

7. What is the fourth part of our worship?

Our fourth part of worship is Communion with God. This is when we eat bread and wine at the Lord's Table in peace and joy.

8. What is the fifth part of our worship?

Our fifth part of worship is the Commission of God. This is when He sends us out into His world with His covenant blessing.

9. Why do we have these five parts?

These five parts of worship were given by God in His Law.

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⁵ Psalm 95.6

⁶ 1 John 1.9

10. Where does God give this pattern of worship?

We find this pattern of worship in the book of Leviticus and the sacrifices commanded.⁷

11. What are those sacrifices?

The sacrifices commanded by God for worship, after He calls His people to assemble, are the Sin Offering, the Ascension Offering, the Tribute Offering, and the Peace Offering.

12. Why is our worship without the sacrifice of animals?

Our worship is without the sacrifice of animals because animal sacrifices were always powerless⁸ and they pointed forward to Jesus, the Lamb of God.⁹

13. Why do we respond to God's Call to Worship?

We respond to God's call to worship because He has made us His people and we desire the gifts of His Kingdom.

⁷ For an example of the pattern, see Leviticus 9.

⁸ Hebrews 10.4

⁹ John **1.2**9

14. How has God made us His people?

We are God's people because He made covenant with us by uniting us to His Son, Jesus Christ, through the waters of baptism and the gift of faith,¹⁰ and promising to us all His benefits.¹¹

15. Why do we kneel for the Confession of Sin?

We kneel for the confession of sin because God is our King,¹² and we bow before His throne. God not only made our hearts and minds, but also our bodies, and we are commanded to love God with all of who we are.¹³

16. What does it mean to be Consecrated to God?

To be consecrated to God means to be made more like Him, loving what He loves and hating what He hates.¹⁴

¹⁰ 1 John 4.19; 1 Corinthians 12.13; Ephesians 2.4-9

¹¹ 2 Corinthians 1.20-22

¹² Philippians 3.20

¹³ Mark **12.30**

¹⁴ Leviticus 20.26; Romans 12.1-2

17. How are we made more like God?

We are made more like God when we ascend (go up) to Him, offer our prayers to Him, receive His Word to us. Each week we allow the sword of His Word to cut us in the sermon removing our sins and correcting our minds.¹⁵

18. How do we observe the Tribute Offering?

The tribute offering is observed as we submit ourselves to God's Word and offer to Him the fruits of our labor¹⁶ as we tithe to the church¹⁷ and give freely.¹⁸

19. Why are you able to Commune with God in bread and wine?

We are able to commune with God at the Lord's Table because we have peace with God through the body and blood of Jesus and we have been joined to His family.¹⁹

¹⁶ Leviticus 2.1-3; Numbers 15.8-10

¹⁵ Hebrews **4.12**

¹⁷ Leviticus 27.30-32; 2 Chronicles 31.5-6; Matthew 23.23; Hebrews 7.2

¹⁸ Leviticus 22.29; 2 Corinthians 8.1-5

¹⁹ 1 Corinthians 10.16-17; 11.26

20. What does God expect from us as He sends us out into His world?

God promises to be with us always, and He expects us to carry the Kingdom He has given to us in the Lord's Service out into His world for the sake of Jesus our King, making the earth more like heaven.²⁰

"The liturgy moves from tension to rest, from death to life, from mourning to joy. God calls us together, cleans us up, tells us how to live, fuels us for service in His Kingdom, and sends us forth to do His work. We strip off our soiled garments, are washed clean by the blood of Christ, are given white robes of holiness which serve as wedding garments of glory for the meal, and finally, as a result of our worship, we are outfitted with armor to carry out our mission in the world."

- The Lord's Service, Jeffrey J. Meyer

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²⁰ Leviticus 9.22; Numbers 6.23; Luke 24.50