

And now, the folks who brought you Textus Berneticus, voted by the Society of New Testament Scholars to be the "Textus Rejectus of the 20th century," are pleased to present yet another systematic triumph!

There's no doubt about it—extra time is tough to come by, especially time for things like memory work. Pastors have sermons, catechumens have homework, and seminarians have deeply theological co-ed Bible studies to attend. Luther's Small Catechism was fine for its time, but this is the 1990s. We are therefore proud to present....

The Bernetic *Smaller* Catechism

•AS THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY SHOULD TEACH IT TO HIS HOUSEHOLD IN AN EVEN MORE SIMPLE WAY•

I. The Two Commandments¹

1. *Love God*
2. *Love your neighbor.*

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not do anything hateful against God or our neighbor, but love them and act toward them only in the kindest way.

II. The Creed

I believe in God.

What does this mean?

I believe in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit who created, redeemed and sanctified me.

This is most certainly true.

III. The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

Thy will be done. Amen.

What does this mean?

With these words we ask God to do for us all that His good and gracious will includes—to provide, forgive and deliver.

IV. The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

What is Baptism?

Baptism is water combined with God's Word which works forgiveness of sins and gives eternal salvation that the new man may daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

V. Confession

What is confession?

We confess our sins and receive forgiveness from the pastor, believing that by this our sins are forgiven by God in heaven.

VI. The Sacrament of the Altar

What is this Sacrament?

It is the true body and blood of Christ our Lord in, with and under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and drink, for the forgiveness of sins.

Interested yet? Just think of some of the benefits:

- Begin confirmation in April and confirm in May!
- Single-sheet catechism saves trees and wins ecological points!
- Act now and receive the entire Bernetic Catechism free by copying this page, as some bloated ignoramus² in the ad department printed the whole thing as a sample.

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"Where the texts are autographs, the ale is cold, and the women are...hey! Where are the women?"

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¹This format was carefully chosen over the semi-anti-nomians' "Four Commandments and Six Suggestions" and the so-called "Bill and Ted Commandments" [V. Thou shalt kill...*not*], effective until readers stopped at the ellipsis.

²Pieper, III, 412

³Due to economic necessity, we are sharing our phone with another company, so call, place your order, and relate your innermost personal secrets, fears and hurts to a really real psychic advisor. For entertainment purposes only.

⁴Also available in Bernetic German, Greek and Hebrew for the serious scholar.