

The Heidelberg Catechism

Q & A 026-028



For more information, visit: <http://www.bethelurc.org>

Part II: Deliverance: God the Father: LORD'S DAY 9

Q & A 26: What do you believe when you say, "I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth"?

That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who out of nothing created heaven and earth
and everything in them,¹
who still upholds and rules them
by his eternal counsel and providence,²
is my God and Father
because of Christ his Son.³

I trust him so much that I do not doubt
he will provide
whatever I need
for body and soul,⁴
and he will turn to my good
whatever adversity he sends me
in this sad world.⁵

He is able to do this because he is almighty God;⁶
he desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.⁷

¹ Gen. 1 & 2; Ex. 20:11; Ps. 33:6; Isa. 44:24; Acts 4:24; 14:15

² Ps. 104; Matt. 6:30; 10:29; Eph. 1:11

³ John 1:12-13; Rom. 8:15-16; Gal. 4:4-7; Eph. 1:5

⁴ Ps. 55:22; Matt. 6:25-26; Luke 12:22-31

⁵ Rom. 8:28

⁶ Gen. 18:14; Rom. 8:31-39

⁷ Matt. 7:9-11

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Part II: Deliverance: God the Father: LORD'S DAY 10

Q & A 27: What do you understand by the providence of God?

Providence is

the almighty and ever present power of God¹
by which he upholds, as with his hand,
heaven
and earth
and all creatures,²
and so rules them that
leaf and blade,
rain and drought,
fruitful and lean years,
food and drink,
health and sickness,
prosperity and poverty –³
all things, in fact, come to us
not by chance⁴
but from his fatherly hand.⁵

¹ Jer. 23:23-24; Acts 17:24-28

² Heb. 1:3

³ Jer. 5:24; Acts 14:15-17; John 9:3; Prov. 22:2

⁴ Prov. 16:33

⁵ Matt. 10:29

Q & A 28: How does the knowledge of God's creation and providence help us?

We can be patient when things go against us,¹
thankful when things go well,²
and for the future we can have
good confidence in our faithful God and Father
that nothing will separate us from his love.³
All creatures are so completely in his hand
that without his will
they can neither move nor be moved.⁴

¹ Job 1:21-22; James 1:3

² Deut. 8:10; 1 Thess. 5:18

³ Ps. 55:22; Rom. 5:3-5; 8:38-39

⁴ Job 1:12; 2:6; Prov. 21:1; Acts 17:24-28