

Matthew 15: ¹⁰ When He had called the multitude to *Himself*, He said to them, “Hear and understand: ¹¹ Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man.” ¹² Then His disciples came and said to Him, “Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?” ¹³ But He answered and said, “Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch.” ¹⁵ Then Peter answered and said to Him, “Explain this parable to us.” ¹⁶ So Jesus said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated? ¹⁸ But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. ¹⁹ For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. ²⁰ These are *the things* which defile a man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile a man.”

Sunday: **What are things that go into a man? Give thanks** with Covenant Fellowship (Wilkesburg, Pa.) RPC for God's preserving Pastor Pete through his recent diagnosis of, and treatment for, prostate cancer; **ask God** for continued healing and a full recovery. **Pray** for Rev. Stephen Steele and Stranraer (Scotland) RPC.

Monday: **What are things that come out of a man? Please pray** for the Education & Publication Board meeting being held today by videoconference. **Pray** for the outreach efforts by Galway (Ireland) RPC, including its “pop-up café”.

Tuesday: **Did Jesus deliberately offend the Pharisees? Please pray** for the prodigals who have left Stillwater, Okla., RPC; **pray** for those who grieve for them and long for their return. **Pray** for the ‘Music and Rhyme’ program at Bready (Northern Ireland) RPC, that this outreach effort would positively impact many.

Wednesday: **How did Jesus in v. 13 teach the doctrine of predestination? Pray** for various members of Treasure Valley (Meridian, Idaho) RPC who are enduring health conditions. **Pray** for Carlos Finalé and family from Cuba, recently moved from Armenia to Sevilla, Spain; **give thanks** the Lord is still adding to the church.

Thursday: **What did Jesus mean by being “blind leaders of the blind”?** **Pray** for the many youths in Grace (Gibsonia, Pa.) RPC, that they would continue to seek the face of God; **pray also** for parents as they raise their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. **Pray** for the Lord's blessing upon the midweek Bible study at Convoy (Northern Ireland) RPC. **Pray** that many nearby Christians would come and worship God at Frankston (Australia) RPC.

Friday: **What are examples of “blind leaders of the blind” today? Give thanks** for Springs (Colorado Springs, Colo.) RPC's pastor, Ed Blackwood, who was installed last December. **Pray** for the church in Lanzhou, China, especially as Christian believers there reach out in love to their numerous Muslim neighbors.

Saturday: **Which commandments are violated in the list of sins in v. 19? Please pray** for College Hill (Beaver Falls, Pa.) RPC's covenant children and youth, that they would grow in knowledge, wisdom, godliness, and love for Christ and His church. **Pray** that the Lord would continue to meet with the folks at the McKinnon (Australia) RPC at its prayer meetings. **Pray** for the service tomorrow at Atlanta RPC, and that folks would come prepared to partake of the Lord's Supper.

Atlanta Reformed Presbyterian Church

The Lord's Day
October 13, 2024

Meeting every week at
574 Western Avenue
(corner of Western and Walnut Street)
Atlanta, Georgia
Worship at 3:30 PM

Pastor Frank J. Smith, Ph.D., D.D.

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Proclaiming the Kingship of Jesus Christ

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions

The Call to Worship Psalm 84:10-12

*The Invocation

*Psalm 8A “O Lord Our Lord, in All the Earth”

Scripture Reading Psalm 34

*Psalm 139B “If I the Wings of Morning Take”

Pastoral Prayer

*Psalm 42C “Like Hart that Longs for Flowing Streams”

Scripture Text Exodus 20:1-17

The Sermon “The Sixth Commandment—Preserving Life” (Part 1)

*Prayer

*Psalm 43 “Defend Me, God, and Plead My Case”

*Benediction

*Psalm 41B “But You, O Lord, Be Merciful”

** Congregation will please stand.*

We are so glad that you could join us today! Please be sure to return next week and bring a friend.

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions & Answers

Exodus 20:8: “Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.” Deuteronomy 12:32: “What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.” Psalm 47:6: “Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!” Psalm 42:1: “As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God.”

Q. 14. What is sin? A. Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.

Heidelberg Catechism Q.1: What is your only comfort in life and in death? A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

For your convenience, a tithe box is located at the back.

Theme: The law requires all lawful efforts to preserve life.

- I. By resisting all tendencies unlawfully to destroy life
 - A. Notice that we’re to have a commitment to preserve life
 - B. Resisting all such thoughts and purposes
 - C. Subduing all such passions
 - D. Avoiding all such occasions, temptations, and practices
 - E. Just defense against violence
- II. By living soberly [i.e., not under the control of a substance]
 - A. Sobriety in what we consume
 - 1. Sober eating
 - 2. Sober drinking
 - 3. Sober use of drugs and medicine
 - B. Sobriety in our activities
 - 1. Sleeping—laziness is condemned
 - 2. Labor—not being a workaholic
 - 3. Recreation—can be beneficial, but can be overdone
 - 4. Driving—in a responsible way

Application

- A. Appreciate the fact that our bodies are important
 - 1. We’re not disembodied spirits, nor merely physical bodies
 - 2. We are psychosomatic units
 - 3. Heidelberg Catechism #1
- B. Be aware that sobriety can itself become an idol
- C. Remember what Jesus did to save you
 - 1. He died—He gave up His life
 - 2. He suffered and was bodily abused
 - 3. He kept the sixth commandment re preserving life
 - 4. He was subject to curse for our not keeping this law