

## Theology Simply Explained — WSC52 “Loving God—His Way”

**Pastor walks his children through Westminster Shorter Catechism question 52—especially explaining how the God presents worshipping Him only in His way as the litmus test for genuinely loving Him.**

Q52. What are the reasons annexed to the second commandment? *The reasons annexed to the second commandment are, God's sovereignty over us, His propriety in us, and the zeal He hath to His own worship.*

**(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via [hopewellarp.org](http://hopewellarp.org))**

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Shorter, catechism question this week is number 52. What are the reasons Annex to the second commandment and the answer is the reasons annexed to the second commandment are God's sovereignty over us. His propriety. In. And the Zeal. He hath to his own. Worship. And so he says, for I Yahweh, your God.

I'm a jealous God and then he describes. The the Zeal and the jealousy that he has for himself as the Lord and our God. to in the words. Visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation of them. That hate me. But showing Mercy to thousands.

Of them that love me. And keep my Commandments. So first, the sovereignty not over only over us, but over all things, he is Yahweh. He is the God who is He's not a localized god with a name that relates to one little part of being God. And so, when Moses says, whom should I say has sent me, he's, I am that.

I am, God has all being in himself. He has all Divinity in himself, he is Sovereign, he rules over all. For he alone, can decide what worship is. But not only is heava, he's Yahweh, your God, your own, Covenant God. Who has redeemed you from your bondage, but not just redeemed you from bondage, and of course.

Ultimately, this isn't just bondage to Egypt, but bondage to sin and death. And misery. he hasn't just redeemed us from those things. He's especially redeemed us for himself. Yahweh your God. And therefore, it's not just that he has sovereignty over us the way. He has sovereignty over all things, he has propriety in He has taken possession of us in a covenantal way.

He has taken possession of us in a covenantal way for himself. He has taken us to be his very own. And we have, Have him as our very own Covenant, God. All the creatures are created to bring glory to God in particular ways. But his people. Are redeemed in order to worship God in a particular way.

And up until the the coming of Christ, they were redeemed to worship God. In the particular ways of what we now call the ceremonial law, which is more properly, the Old Testament, ceremonial law, or the Mosaic ceremonial law. And they were only to worship him that way because he had to take an ownership of them.

He had bound them to himself and given them the right way of not just creatures, and not just men, but redeemed, men coming to him in worship, he had a propriety in them. Some of you have studied or are studying Spanish, and the word in Spanish is one that you can hear the, the Latin and then the Greek behind Button or maybe it's just the Latin.

Proprio. Means. His own. And when we say propriety, We're saying we are his very own. He gets to say, What how we're going to come to him? Because he's the one who is the owner, but then there's this Zeal that he hath to his own worship every true love.

Has a jealousy for that, love a desire that that love would be fully. Expressed that a desire that that love would be purely expressed that. There would not be any Any breach of it or any treachery against it. A husband and a wife should have a jealousy or a Zeal for their love for one another.

If the love in one or the others are both Hearts grow cold, there ought to be a Zeal for stirring it back up. Desire, that it would be fully expressed if there's any diverting. Of that. Love in an inappropriate way, or on to someone who isn't the husband or someone, who isn't the wife?

It was right and good. That there would be marital jealousy. It would be wrong if there wasn't they're not free. To say, oh, it's no big deal, we have and people use this wicked phrase. We have an open marriage. That is wicked. It forgets. That God is the one who joins the husband and the wife together.

It fails to have the required jealousy. Well, God does not have an open marriage as it were. To his worship. That redeemed. Men that his church could come to him in some other way. Or even include the worship of other gods. No, God has a proper Zeal and a proper jealousy.

And that's why he calls those who break this commandment, then that hate me. So adding to or subtracting from or half-heartedly offering The worship that God has commanded in his word which now is no longer under the Mosaic ceremonies but is led by the Lord Jesus from heaven. And so the New Testament ceremonial law.

The public worship that the Lord has commanded and the ordinances of his church? The ministry and the Lord's Day. Elders. And deacons, and His way of. Of gathering his church of organizing and shepherding his church. Which are alongside the actual worship assembly and how Jesus leads that worship assembly from heaven, in the praying, and the reading, and the singing and the preaching, And the sacraments.

Which are also ordinances baptism and the Lord's supper and so forth. It's not just if we are to add if we were to add to those things or take away from them, it wouldn't just be a matter of Modifying, how we come to God, God calls that hating him.

to worship differently than he says. Is to hate him. And so, with all the Zeal that he has, For his own Glory. With all the Zeal that he has. For his church whom he is redeeming. With all the Zeal that he has, for bringing his church near to himself.

God hates. God is jealous against. the worship that hates him, the worship that has added to it. Or taken from it. And so when it says the Zeal he have to his own worship, you have to remember, That that's the Zeal for his glory, the Zeal for Those whom he has redeemed in order to give him that glory and the worship, and the Zeal that he has, for the way that he has given Those whom he is redeemed to come near to him to offer, To offer that worship.

So very, very strong. Reasons that the Lord has annexed to the second commandment. He has defined the proper way of loving him. To come near to him in the sword of worship that he has commanded. So what are the reasons Annex to the second commandment? The answer is the reason Xanax to the second commandment are God's sovereignty over us, his propriety in And the Zeal he hath to his own worship.