

Christ Church

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Reformed Teaching † *Re-forming People*

Prelude

Moments of Concern

Call to Worship: Psalm 48:1-3

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in His holy mountain. Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. God is in her palaces; He is known as her refuge.

Heidelberg Catechism: Lord's Day 36

Q. What is God's will for us in the third commandment?

A. That we neither blaspheme nor misuse the name of God by cursing, perjury, or unnecessary oaths, nor share in such horrible sins by being silent bystanders. In a word, it requires that we use the holy name of God only with reverence and awe, so that we may properly confess him, pray to him, and praise him in everything we do and say.

Q. Is blasphemy of God's name by swearing and cursing really such serious sin that God is angry also with those who do not do all they can to help prevent it and forbid it?

A. Yes, indeed. No sin is greater, no sin makes God more angry than blaspheming his name. That is why he commanded the death penalty for it.

Collect of the Day: Almighty and Everlasting God, thank You for protecting us from those who would ruin our faith and sever us from You. Teach us to walk in humility before You and to have full confidence in Your gracious promises so that we may finally come to receive all that You would give us. We pray through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

***Old Testament Lesson:** *Isaiah 37:1-38*

¹ And so it was, when King Hezekiah heard it, that he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD.

² **Then he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz.**

³ And they said to him, "Thus says Hezekiah: 'This day is a day of trouble and rebuke and blasphemy; for the children have come to birth, but there is no strength to bring them forth.

⁴ **It may be that the LORD your God will hear the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to reproach the living God, and will rebuke the words which the LORD your God has heard. Therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.'**

⁵ So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah.

⁶ **And Isaiah said to them, "Thus you shall say to your master, 'Thus says the LORD: "Do not be afraid of the words which you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me.**

⁷ Surely I will send a spirit upon him, and he shall hear a rumor and return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land."

⁸ **Then the Rabshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria warring against Libnah, for he heard that he had departed from Lachish.**

⁹ And the king heard concerning Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, "He has come out to make war with you." So when he heard it, he sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying,

¹⁰ **"Thus you shall speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying: 'Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you, saying, "Jerusalem shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria."**

¹¹ Look! You have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by utterly destroying them; and shall you be delivered?

¹² **Have the gods of the nations delivered those whom my fathers have destroyed, Gozan and Haran and Rezeph, and the people of Eden who were in Telassar?**

¹³ Where is the king of Hamath, the king of Arpad, and the king of the city of Sepharvaim, Hena, and Ivah?’

¹⁴ **And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it; and Hezekiah went up to the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.**

¹⁵ Then Hezekiah prayed to the LORD, saying:

¹⁶ **“O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.**

¹⁷ Incline Your ear, O LORD, and hear; open Your eyes, O LORD, and see; and hear all the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to reproach the living God.

¹⁸ **Truly, LORD, the kings of Assyria have laid waste all the nations and their lands,**

¹⁹ and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were not gods, but the work of men’s hands—wood and stone. Therefore they destroyed them.

²⁰ **Now therefore, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the LORD, You alone.”**

²¹ Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, “Thus says the LORD God of Israel, ‘Because you have prayed to Me against Sennacherib king of Assyria,

²² **this is the word which the LORD has spoken concerning him: “The virgin, the daughter of Zion, has despised you, laughed you to scorn; The daughter of Jerusalem has shaken her head behind your back!**

²³ “Whom have you reproached and blasphemed? against whom have you raised your voice, and lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel.

²⁴ **By your servants you have reproached the Lord, and said, ‘By the multitude of my chariots I have come up to the height of the mountains, to the limits of Lebanon; I will cut down its tall cedars and its choice cypress trees; I will enter its farthest height, to its fruitful forest.**

²⁵ I have dug and drunk water, and with the soles of my feet I have dried up all the brooks of defense.’

²⁶ **“Did you not hear long ago how I made it, from ancient times that I formed it? Now I have brought it to pass, that you should be for crushing fortified cities into heaps of ruins.**

²⁷ Therefore their inhabitants had little power; they were dismayed and confounded; they were as the grass of the field and the green herb, as the grass on the housetops and grain blighted before it is grown.

²⁸ **“But I know your dwelling place, Your going out and your coming in, and your rage against Me.**

²⁹ Because your rage against Me and your tumult have come up to My ears, therefore I will put My hook in your nose and My bridle in your lips, and I will turn you back by the way which you came.”

³⁰ **“This shall be a sign to you: You shall eat this year such as grows of itself, and the second year what springs from the same; also in the third year sow and reap, plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them.**

³¹ And the remnant who have escaped of the house of Judah shall again take root downward, and bear fruit upward.

³² **For out of Jerusalem shall go a remnant, and those who escape from Mount Zion. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.**

³³ “Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the king of Assyria: ‘He shall not come into this city, nor shoot an arrow there, nor come before it with shield, nor build a siege mound against it.

³⁴ **By the way that he came, by the same shall he return; and he shall not come into this city,’ says the LORD.**

³⁵ ‘For I will defend this city, to save it for My own sake and for My servant David’s sake.’ ”

³⁶ **Then the angel of the LORD went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses— all dead.**

³⁷ So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went away, returned home, and remained at Nineveh.

³⁸ **Now it came to pass, as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, that his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer struck him down**

with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Ararat.
Then Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place.

Children's Sermon

Sermon: Isaiah 37:1-38

Reading of The Law: Exodus 20:1-17

¹ And God spoke all these words, saying:

² **"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.**

³ "You shall have no other gods before Me.

⁴ **"You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;**

⁵ you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,

⁶ **but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.**

⁷ "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

⁸ **"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.**

⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

¹⁰ **but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates.**

¹¹ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

¹² **"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.**

¹³ "You shall not murder.

¹⁴ **"You shall not commit adultery.**

¹⁵ "You shall not steal.

¹⁶ **"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**

¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."

Call to Confession: 1 Corinthians 11:27-29 Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

Psalms 33:18-19b Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His mercy, to deliver their soul from death.

Prayer of Confession: Father in heaven, forgive us for our lack of reverence for Your Name. We have used it in unholy ways. We have tolerated its misuse when we could have done something about it. We have worn Your Name and by our actions have failed to bring glory to it. Our hearts do not fear You as they should. Teach us of Your glory that we might be humbled before You and that we might rightly use Your Name as we confess before others that You alone are God and Your ways alone are true. Turn Your anger from us and pardon our sins. We pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Kyrie: (recited, not sung)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon: God sent a reply to Josiah, the repenting king of Judah which said, "because your heart was tender, and you humbled yourself before God when you heard His words . . . and you tore your clothes and wept before Me, I also have heard you." (excerpted from 2 Chronicles 34:26-27)

C: Thanks be to God.

Gloria Patri: (recited, not sung)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen

Holy Communion

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer (unison): Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

***Benediction**

***Postlude**