



A Summary of
Biblical Teachings

Q&A: A Summary of Biblical Teachings. Revised edition,
© 2008, Faith Alive Christian Resources, 2850
Kalamazoo Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49560.

All rights reserved. With the exception of brief excerpts for review purposes, no part of this book may be reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission from the publisher. Printed in the United States of America.

We welcome your comments. Call us at
1-800-333-8300 or e-mail us at
editors@faithaliveresources.org.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Contents

Preface	5
Introduction: Our Comfort (Q&A 1-2)	7
Part I: Our Sin (Q&A 3-6)	8
Part II: God's Salvation (Q&A 7-49)	9
The Bible (Q&A 9-12)	9
The Covenant (Q&A 13-16)	10
Faith (Q&A 17-20)	11
God the Father (Q&A 21-23)	12
God the Son (Q&A 24-32)	12
God the Holy Spirit (Q&A 33-43)	15
The Sacraments (Q&A 44-49)	18
Part III: Service (Q&A 50-83)	20
The Ten Commandments (Q&A 53-65)	20
The Kingdom (Q&A 66-72)	23
Prayer (Q&A 73-83)	25

Preface

This brief summary of biblical teachings according to the Reformed tradition has been written to help children and adults understand and follow the way of salvation in our Lord Jesus Christ. It is designed to meet the reading and comprehension level of children in grades 5-6.

It follows the classic “sin, salvation, service” pattern of the Heidelberg Catechism, and the main contents are also taken, often word for word, from that great confession. Additional teachings are included from the Belgic Confession and from the contemporary testimony of the Christian Reformed Church, “Our World Belongs to God.” (The complete text of the Heidelberg Catechism and Belgic Confession can be found online at www.crcna.org and www.rca.org; “Our World Belongs to God” is available at www.crcna.org.) These teachings—about the Bible, covenant, kingdom, church, and the like—were inserted in places where they seemed to fit logically.

We trust that you will find this a valuable tool in nurturing faith for all those who seek to become followers of Jesus.

Introduction: Our Comfort

1. What is your only comfort as a Christian?

That I,
body and soul,
in life and death,
belong to Jesus Christ.

2. What must you know to have this comfort?

First, how I sin every day
against God and my neighbor;
second, how Jesus saves me from my sin;
third, how I can show my thanks
by gladly serving God in everything I do.

Part I: Our Sin

3. **How do you know you are a sinner?**

Christ's summary of the law tells me
I should love God
 with all my heart, soul, and mind
and my neighbor as myself.

But I do not do this.

4. **Why don't you do what God wants?**

I naturally tend to sin,
 sometimes on purpose,
 sometimes without thinking.

I am like this because the first man and woman,
 Adam and Eve,
chose to disobey their Creator
 and became sinners.

They did this even though
 they were made in God's own image,
 good and obedient.

5. **How sinful are you?**

No part of my life is free of sin.

6. **What does God think of your sin?**

God hates sin and,
 as the just Judge,
must punish it.

But God is also merciful
and has provided a way of salvation.