

# Heidelberg Catechism

## Lord's Day 24

### Overview/Purpose

Questions 62 and 63 once again serve to reinforce our understanding that through the merit of Christ (fulfilled the requirements of the law) we are declared righteous and found justified before God. Our own merit is imperfect, stained by the sin of disobedience, originating from the fall of our federal head Adam. The natural effect of this doctrine will produce an earnest desire to show gratitude to God and not a disregard for God's grace or an increase in sin (question 64).

### Method

Following the Trivium, the grammar stage calls for rote memorization. Constant drilling and recitation is absolutely necessary and will require direct parental participation.

### Suggested Materials For Parents

See "The Commentary of Dr. Zacharias Ursinus on the Heidelberg Catechism", pgs 333-340.

### Word Definitions

• Good works	• Whole	• Part
• Righteousness	• God	• Approved
• Tribunal of God	• Absolutely	• Perfect
• Respects	• Conformable	• Divine Law
• Best Works	• Imperfect	• Defiled
• Sin		• Merit
• Reward	• Future Life	• Grace
• Doctrine	• Men	• Careless
• Profane	• Impossible	• Implanted
• Christ	• True Faith	• Bring Forth
• Fruits	• Thankfulness	

## **Suggested Activities**

- Review word definitions
- Memory game to review word definitions and catechism questions
- Spelling test using the words in this catechism lesson
- Memorize key bible verses
- Service projects to reinforce the lessons found in the catechism questions
  
- Many opportunities for creativity!

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## **LORD'S DAY 24**

Question 62. But why cannot our good works be the whole, or part of our righteousness before God?

**Answer.** Because, that the righteousness, which can be approved of before the tribunal of God, must be absolutely perfect, and in all respects [a] conformable to the divine law; and also, that our best works in this life are all imperfect and [b] defiled with sin.

Question 63. What! do not our good works merit, which yet God will reward in this and in a future life?

**Answer.** This reward is not of merit, but of grace. [c]

Question 64. But doth not this doctrine make men careless and profane?

**Answer.** By no means: for it is impossible that those, who are implanted into Christ by a true faith, should not bring forth fruits of [d] thankfulness.

[a]: Gal. 3:10; Deut. 17:26

[b]: Isa. 64:6

[c]: Luke 17:10

[d]: Mat. 7:17,18; John 15:5