

# New City Catechism: Question 7

**Question:** What does the law of God require?

**Answer:** Personal, perfect, and perpetual obedience; that we love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and love our neighbor as ourselves. What God forbids should never be done and what God commands should always be done.

## **Matthew 22:37-40**

And [Jesus] said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- I. If obeying the law cannot make someone right before God, what is the relationship between the law, obedience, and reconciliation?
- II. How can we remind ourselves of the ultimate positive end to following God's laws?
- III. What Scripture is relevant to the topic of obedience to God's law?
- IV. The answer to Q7 includes a prescription on the positive end (what God commands should always be done) and the negative end (what God forbids should never be done). Which side of obedience does our culture struggle with more?
- V. If God's law is for our good, what can we conclude about our refusal to follow?

