

Theological Questionnaire

Presbytery of Michigan and Ontario

Name of Candidate:

Date:

1. Have you read the Westminster Confession of Faith, Larger and Shorter Catechism? How familiar are you with them? How much of the Shorter Catechism do you have memorized?
2. What do we mean by “creation ex nihilo?”
3. Describe the federal headship of Adam.
4. Explain the doctrine of the Sabbath. What do you think about the importance of avoiding “unnecessary thoughts, words or works, about our worldly employments or recreations” (SC 61)?
5. What does it mean to say that God created “in the space of six days” (4.1)? What do you believe concerning the length and nature of the creation days?
6. What do we mean when we talk about the “historicity” of the creation account?
7. Briefly explain the relationship between the covenant of works and the covenant of grace. Include in your reply how the Mosaic covenant relates to the covenant of grace.
8. What does it mean to say that the Son is “homoousios” with the Father.
9. How should the doctrine of the Trinity be expressed in our life and worship?
10. Did Jesus have two wills? Explain to the best of your ability the relationship between the human and the divine in the person of Christ.
11. Why is the resurrection of Jesus essential to our salvation?
12. The word “righteousness” is used in a variety of ways in the Bible. Give a brief synopsis of how it is used, and then describe how righteousness is used in the context of justification.
13. What is the relationship between law and gospel?
14. Define “faith.” How is assurance related to faith?
15. What do we mean by “imputing the obedience and satisfaction of Christ?” Do you affirm that imputation includes both Christ’s obedience and his satisfaction?
16. How are justification and sanctification related? How are they different from each other?
17. What is the role of the law of God in a Christian’s life today?
18. What is the ministry of the Holy Spirit in a Christian’s life today?
19. What is “the grace of baptism” and how is it conferred on the elect?
20. How are the sacraments both signs and seals of the covenant?
21. What is the role of a minister in the church?
22. What is the single most important characteristic of a minister? Explain your answer.
23. What is the proper subject matter for a preacher’s sermons?
24. Do you believe hell is a place of eternal conscious torment? Why or why not?

25. Briefly define the following: dispensationalism, historical premillennialism, amillennialism, postmillennialism, preterism. Which do you hold and why?
26. What book has affected your life the most (besides the Bible)?
27. Which theologians do you find most helpful?
28. What books are you currently reading?
29. What is Second Temple Judaism and how does an understanding of that period help us understand the ministry of Jesus and the apostles?
30. What is your view on subscription? To what extent does the system of doctrine in the Westminster Standards bind you?
31. If your Session brought a motion to require congregants to refrain from dancing and drinking how would you respond?
32. Can you justify the Reformation? The existence of the OPC? What does it look like to practice the catholicity of the visible church in an age of denominationalism?

Revised, 7/29/2014