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# Greek and Hebrew Catechetical Devotions

Jaron Melin



Jaron Melin is a fourth-year concluding MDiv-student from Wichita, KS. He earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in mathematics at Wichita State University. He will be continuing his education in the STM program in the next academic year focusing on systematic theology.

The Greek and Hebrew catechetical devotions are intended for all students of the Greek and Hebrew Bibles who wish to embed their practice of reading the Bible from the original languages within a devotional format. Not only will they practice reading the Bible in the original languages, but they will also recite the Ten Commandments,

the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer in the biblical languages. It is fitting and proper to review the ABCs of the Christian faith as one engages with the Scriptures. The grammar of faith as expressed in the Catechism is an indispensable guide for navigating the theology of the Scriptures, which informs our interpretive decisions. To recite the Catechism in the biblical languages helps to further take God's Word to heart so that interpreting the Scriptures in their original languages may be more than just a cognitive exercise but truly an exercise of faith and worship. As we read the Scriptures and become immersed in them, we can find our anchor in the Catechism which guides our reading. Now, we may ask, "Why have the Catechism in the biblical languages? Why not keep them in English?" The aspect of immersion is key. As we read the Bible in its original languages, we are engaging in the worlds in which those languages were spoken. Rather than imposing our English version of the Catechism into the Greek or Hebrew world of the Bible, we can engage the text on its own cultural terms while still keeping the transcultural truth of the Catechism. We can interact with the Greek and Hebrew worlds of the Bible in a respectful way while still being firmly grounded in the Christian faith which has been given to us. The Greek and Hebrew languages as well as the Catechism have been instrumental for passing on the Gospel of Jesus Christ from generation to generation, and these catechetical devotions are intended to keep doing that.

For the Hebrew, we make use of the Westminster Codex Leningrad,<sup>1</sup> the multilingual version of Luther's Small Catechism by Johannes Clajus,<sup>2</sup> and Franz Delitzsch's Hebrew translation of the New Testament.<sup>3</sup> For the Greek, we make use of Brenton's Septuagint,<sup>4</sup> Philip Schaff's Creeds of Christendom,<sup>5</sup> and the Textus Receptus.<sup>6</sup> All these sources are in the public domain, and no restrictions are given on the use of these devotions.

Many great thanks are given to Dr. Gerhard Bode for making the work of Johannes Clajus known. This project would not have been possible without this wonderful resource. Thanks are also given to Dr. Mart Thompson for showing us how to do daily devotions using the Catechism.

Concerning the formatting, the section-titles can be read aloud during the devotion as desired, the rubrics (the italicized text) give additional instruction as desired, and certain

portions of the text are in bold if one wishes to use these devotions in a group-setting. The leader of the devotion speaks the non-bold text, and the people speak the bold text in response.

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## Endnotes

- 1 Christopher V. Kimball, Westminster Leningrad Codex (CrossWire Bible Society: Sword Module Version 1.9, 2013), <https://www.crosswire.org/sword/modules/ModInfo.jsp?modName=WLC>.
- 2 Johannes Clajus, Johannes Hardeck, and Abdias Praetorius, 1608. Catechesis D. Martini Lutheri Minor Germanice, Latine, Graece [et] Ebraice. (Wittenberg, Germany. Witebergae: Selfisch, 1608; Wolfenbüttel: Herzog August Bibliothek, 2014), <http://diglib.hab.de/drucke/a-361b-8f-helmst-2s/start.htm>.
- 3 Franz Delitzsch, The Hebrew New Testament (The Xiphos Developer Team: Sword Module Version 1.0, 2011), <http://www.kirjasilta.net/ha-beritz/index.html>.
- 4 Brenton, Sir Lancelot C. L. Brenton, *μετάφραση των εβδόμηκοντα*: The Greek Septuagint with Apocrypha. (eBible.org: Sword Module Version 1.4, 2020), <https://ebible.org/details.php?id=grcbrent>.
- 5 Philip Schaff, Creeds of Christendom, with a History and Critical notes: Volume II The History of Creeds (Grand Rapids, MI: Christian Classics Ethereal Library, 2009), 64, <https://ccel.org/ccel/s/schaff/creeds2/cache/creeds2.pdf> or <https://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/creeds2.ivi.i.i.html>.
- 6 Adam Boyd, *Η Καινή Διαθήκη*: The Greek Textus Receptus New Testament with manuscript annotations by Adam Boyd (eBible.org: Sword Module Version 10.0, 2021), <https://ebible.org/details.php?id=grctr>.

## HEBREW DEVOTIONAL CATECHISM

### קראנו בשם־יהוה

*Mt. 28:19b*

בשם־הָאֱלֹהִים הַקְּדוֹשׁ: אָמֵן:

### עֲשֵׂת הַדְּבָרִים

*Ex. 2:2-17*

אֲנֹכִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ:

א לא יהי־ה־לְךָ אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים: ם

ב לא תשא אֶת־שֵׁם־יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ לְשׁוֹא: ם

ג זְכוֹר אֶת־יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת לְקַדְּשׁוֹ: פ

ד כְּבֹד אֶת־אָבִיךָ וְאֶת־אִמְךָ: ם

ה לא תרצח: ם

ו לא תנאף: ם

ז לא תגנב: ם

ח לא־תַעֲנֶה בְרַעַף עַד שֶׁקֶר: ם

ט לא תחמד בֵּית רַעַף: ם

י לא־תחמד אֶשֶׁת רַעַף וְעַבְדּוֹ וְאִמְתּוֹ וְשׁוֹרוֹ וְחִמְרוֹ וְכֹל אֲשֶׁר

לְרַעַף: פ

### הַמְקָרָא

*Read from the Hebrew Bible, the Psalms, the Catechism, or some devotion.*

### הָאֲמוֹנַת הַמְּשִׁיִּים

אֲנִי מֵאֲמִין בְּאֱלֹהִים הָאֱלֹהִים הַקְּדוֹשׁ וְהַקְּדוֹשׁ: פ

וּבִישׁוּעַ מְשִׁיחַ בְּנוֹ יְחִיד אֲדֹנָיִנוּ: אֲשֶׁר הוֹרָה מְרוּחַ הַקְּדוֹשׁ וְנִלְדַּד מִמָּרְיָם

הָעֵלְמָה: וְסָבַל תַּחַת פּוֹנֵטִיוֹם פִּילְטוֹשׁ נִחְלָה מֵת וְנִקְבְּרָ וַיִּרָד אֶל־שְׂאֵל

וּבְיוֹם הַשְּׁלִישִׁי קָם מֵאֶת־הַמֵּתִים: וְעָלָה אֶל־שָׁמַיִם וַיּוֹשֶׁב לִימִין אֵל

הָאֱלֹהִים: וּמֵשָׁם יָבוֹא: לְשַׁפֵּט אֶת־חַיִּים וְאֶת־מֵתִים: פ

אֲנִי מֵאֲמִין בְּרוּחַ הַקְּדוֹשׁ: אֶת־קְדוֹשׁ קָהֵל הַכְּלָל הַחֲכֵרֶת הַקְּרוּשִׁים:

אֶת־סְלִיחַת חַטָּאִים אֶת־תְּקוּמַת הַבָּשָׂר: וְאֶת־חַיֵּי עוֹלָמִים אָמֵן: פ

## נתפלה אל-יהוה

Each person prays for the day. End every prayer by saying:

Ps. 143:1 (MT)

יהוה באמתך שמע תפלותינו:

Mt. 17:15 אדני רחם-נא: המשיח רחם-נא: אדני רחם-נא: אמן:

## תפלת המשח

Mt. 6:9-13

אבינו שבשמים:

א יתקדש שמך: ס

ב תבא מלכותך: ס

ג יעשה רצונך כאשר בשמים גם בארץ: פ

ד את-לחם חנקנו תן-לנו היום: ס

ה ומחל-לנו על-חבותינו כאשר מחלנו גם-אנחנו לחיבינו: ס

ו ואל-תביאנו לידי נסיון: ס

ז כי אם-תחלצנו מן-הרע: פ

כי לך הממלכה והגבורה והתפארת לעולמי לעולמי אמן: פ

## הברכה

Ps. 136:1 (MT)

הודו ליהוה כי-טוב כי לעולם חסדו:

Ps. 67:2 (MT)

אלהים יחננו ויברכנו יאר פניו אתנו: אמן:

Melin: Greek and Hebrew Catechetical Devotions  
GREEK DEVOTIONAL CATECHISM

Ἐπικαλοῦμεθα τὸ ὄνομά Κυρίου

Εἰς τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ πατρὸς καὶ τοῦ υἱοῦ καὶ τοῦ ἁγίου πνεύματος. Ἀμήν.

*Mt. 28:19b*

Οἱ Δέκα Λόγοι

Ἐγώ εἰμι Κύριος ὁ Θεός σου.

*Ex. 2:2-17*

α Οὐκ ἔσονται σοι θεοὶ ἕτεροι.

β Οὐ λήψη τὸ ὄνομα Κυρίου τοῦ Θεοῦ σου ἐπὶ ματαίῳ·

γ Μνήσθητι τὴν ἡμέραν τῶν σαββάτων ἀγιάζειν αὐτήν.

δ Τίμα τὸν πατέρα σου, καὶ τὴν μητέρα σου.

ε Οὐ μοιχεύσεις.

ζ Οὐ κλέψεις.

η Οὐ φονεύσεις.

θ Οὐ ψευδομαρτυρήσεις κατὰ τοῦ πλησίον σου μαρτυρίαν ψευδῆ.

ι Οὐκ ἐπιθυμήσεις τὴν οἰκίαν τοῦ πλησίον σου·

κ Οὐκ ἐπιθυμήσεις τὴν γυναῖκα τοῦ πλησίον σου, οὔτε τὸν παῖ-δα αὐτοῦ, οὔτε τὴν παιδίσκην αὐτοῦ, οὔτε τοῦ βοῦς αὐτοῦ, οὔτε τοῦ ὑποζυγίου αὐτοῦ, οὔτε ὅσα τῷ πλησίον σου ἐστί.

Ἡ Ἀνάγνωσις

*Read from the Greek Bible, the Psalms, the Catechism, or some devotion.*

Σύμβολον τῶν Ἀποστόλων

Πιστεύω εἰς Θεὸν πατέρα, Παντοκράτορα, Ποιητὴν οὐρανοῦ καὶ γῆς.

Καὶ εἰς Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν, Υἱὸν Αὐτοῦ τὸν μονογενῆ, τὸν Κύριον ἡμῶν, τὸν συλληφθέντα ἐκ Πνεύματος ἁγίου, γεννηθέντα ἐκ Μαρίας τῆς παρθένου, παθόντα ἐπὶ Ποντίου Πιλάτου, σταυρωθέντα, θανόντα, καὶ ταφέντα, κατελθόντα εἰς τὰ κατώτατα, τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ ἀναστάντα ἀπὸ τῶν νεκρῶν, ἀνελθόντα εἰς τοὺς οὐρανοὺς, καθεζόμενον ἐν δεξιᾷ Θεοῦ Πατρὸς παντοδυνάμου, ἐκεῖθεν ἐρχόμενον κρῖναι ζῶντας καὶ νεκρούς.

Πιστεύω εἰς τὸ Πνεῦμα τὸ Ἅγιον, ἁγίαν καθολικὴν ἐκκλησίαν, ἁγίων κοινωνίαν, ἄφεσιν ἁμαρτιῶν, σαρκὸς ἀνάστασιν, ζωὴν αἰώνιον. Ἀμήν.

## Εὐχόμεθα πρὸς τὸν Κύριον.

*Each person prays for the day. End every prayer by saying:*

*Κύριε, ἐν τῇ δικαιοσύνῃ σου- εἰσάκουσον τῆς προσευχῆς ἡμῶν.*

*Ps. 142:1 (LXX)*

Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Χριστέ, ἐλέησον. Κύριε, ἐλέησον. Ἀμήν.

*Mt. 17:15*

## Ἡ Εὐχὴ Κυριακῆ

Πάτερ ἡμῶν ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς.

*Mt. 6:9-13*

α Ἁγιασθήτω τὸ ὄνομά σου.

β Ἐλθέτω ἡ βασιλεία σου.

γ Γενηθήτω τὸ θέλημά σου, ὡς ἐν οὐρανῷ, καὶ ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς.

δ Τὸν ἄρτον ἡμῶν τὸν ἐπιούσιον δός ἡμῖν σήμερον.

ε Καὶ ἄφες ἡμῖν τὰ ὀφειλήματα ἡμῶν, ὡς καὶ ἡμεῖς ἀφίεμεν τοῖς ὀφειλέταις ἡμῶν.

ζ Καὶ μὴ εἰσενέγκῃς ἡμᾶς εἰς πειρασμόν,

η Ἀλλὰ ρύσαι ἡμᾶς ἀπὸ τοῦ πονηροῦ.

Ὅτι σοῦ ἐστιν ἡ βασιλεία καὶ ἡ δύναμις καὶ ἡ δόξα εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Ἀμήν.

## Ἡ Εὐλογία

Ἐξομολογεῖσθε τῷ Κυρίῳ, ὅτι ἀγαθός, ὅτι εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα τὸ ἔλεος αὐτοῦ.

*Ps. 135:1 (LXX)*

Ἡ χάρις τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ καὶ ἡ ἀγάπη τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ ἡ κοινωνία τοῦ ἁγίου πνεύματος μετὰ πάντων ἡμῶν. Ἀμήν.

*2 Co. 13:14*