

New City Catechism: Question 13

Question: Can anyone keep the law of God perfectly?

Answer: Since the fall, no mere human has been able to keep the law of God perfectly, but consistently breaks it in thought, word, and deed.

Romans 3:10–12

None is righteous, no, not one;
no one understands;
no one seeks for God.

All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;
no one does good,
not even one.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- I. Without God intervening, are we able to keep the law *partially*?
- II. How can we keep from the flawed position that since we are unable to keep the law perfectly we should not attempt to keep the law?
- III. In what practical ways can we find reliance on God, not just for justification, but also for sanctification (ie. Keeping the law)?
- IV. How can the body of Christ encourage the growth of believers in their ability to follow the law even while knowing that no one can completely fulfill the same law?

