

## *Of Christ The Mediator (John 1:14)*

*Baptist Confession of Faith (1689) Chapter 8, Paragraphs 2-3*

### **Doctrine**

*Christ our Mediator, The Lord Jesus, God the Son*

- Christ our **Mediator** is the Son of God, the second person in the Holy Trinity (Mt. 3:17).
- He is very and eternal **God**, of one substance and equal with Him (Jn. 1:1).
- He is the brightness of the **Father's** glory, the imprint of His nature (Heb. 1:3).
- He made, upholds, and governs **all** things (Col. 1:16-17).

*The Incarnation of Christ our Mediator*

- At the appointed time God the Son took upon Himself man's **nature** (Gal. 4:4, Phil. 2:6-7).
- He is very/truly **man** – with all the essential properties and common infirmities of humanity (1 Jn. 4:2-3).
- Yet, The Lord Jesus Christ is without **sin** (1 Pt 2:22).
- He was conceived by the **Holy Spirit**, born of the virgin Mary (Lk. 1:30-35).
- He was born of a woman (Gen. 3:15), the Seed of Abraham (Gen. 22:18, cf. Gal. 3:8), of the tribe of Judah (Gen. 49:10), and the Son of David (1 Chr. 17:11-14), according to the **Scriptures** (Matthew 1:1-17).

*The Hypostatic Union of Christ our Mediator*

- Just as the Lord Jesus Christ is truly man, so too is He truly **God** (1 Jn. 2:22-23).
- The two, whole, perfect, and distinct natures were and are inseparably **joined** together in one Person (1 Tim. 2:5).

**Council of Chalcedon, 451** – He is ‘ . . . one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-Begotten, recognized in two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, without separation; the distinction of natures being in no way annulled by the union, but rather the characteristics of each nature being preserved and coming

together to for one person and subsistence, not as parted or separated into two persons, but one and the same Son and Only-Begotten God the Word, Lord Jesus Christ; even as the prophets from the earliest times spoke of Him, and our Lord Jesus Christ Himself taught us, and the creed of the Fathers has handed down to us’.

- The **union** of Christ's two natures was anointed (filled) with the Holy Spirit, having in Him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Acts 10:38).
- The **fullness** of the Father was pleased to dwell in the Lord Jesus in a manner holy, undefiled, and full of grace and truth (Ps. 45:6-7).

*The Necessity of the Two, United Natures*

- The Lord Jesus is united in His two natures that He might be thoroughly furnished to execute the office of **mediator** and surety (Heb. 7:22, *ff.*).
- This is all according to the will, the calling, and command of God the Father, as decreed in Their eternal **covenant** of redemption, in order to seal and fulfill the covenant of grace (Jn. 5:27, Heb. 5:5).

### **Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 6 (Questions 16-17)**

*Why must [our mediator and redeemer] be a true and sinless man?* Because the justice of God requires, that the same human nature which has sinned should make satisfaction for sin; but no man, being himself a sinner, could satisfy for others.

*Why must He be at the same time true God?* That by the power of His Godhead He might bear, in His manhood, the burden of God's wrath, and so obtain for and restore us to righteousness and life.

### **Application: Faith in Christ Our Mediator**

- 1) True **Knowledge**: We must know that Jesus is both man and God, according to the Scriptures.
- 2) Faithful **Assent**: We must agree that Jesus is both man and God, according to the Scriptures.
- 3) Hearty **Trust**: We must trust and hope in Christ alone as the only Mediator and Saviour.
- 4) Maturing **Gratitude**: Faith growing in repentance, worship, and assurance.