

Of Christ The Mediator (Ephesians 1:7-9)

Baptist Confession of Faith (1689) Chapter 8, Paragraphs 7-8

Doctrine

The Unity, Yet Distinction, of Christ's Two Natures

- The Lord Christ our Mediator has two distinct **natures**, human and divine, united in His person.
- In His work as **Mediator**, He acts according to both natures by doing what is proper for itself.
- Yet, the two natures remain **one** in His person (Hypostatic Union).
- Scripture at times **attributes** what is proper to one nature to the person denominated by the other nature (*e.g. Acts 20:28, 'His [God's]' blood is attributed to the divine Spirit, but was accomplished by the God-Man Christ Jesus; Mt. 24:36, 'The Son' [referring to the divine nature] does not know the hour though the Father does attributes to the divine nature what occurs in the condescension of the Lord Jesus's human nature*).
- While we may distinguish between the natures, we may not **divide** their union in the Lord Jesus, who is truly God and truly man.

The Application of the Mediator's Redemption

- All for whom Christ died (the Old/New Covenant Church), He has obtained their eternal **redemption** (Eph. 5:25-27; Heb. 9:12).
- Their **redemption** is certainly and effectually applied to them, as the Holy Spirit unites the elect to Christ (Jn. 6:37, 10:15-16; Rom. 5:10, 6:5; Titus 3:5-6).
- In the **regeneration** of the Holy Spirit, the elect person hears the Word of God, understands and believes the mystery of salvation, and is persuaded by the Spirit of God to believe and obey (Eph. 1:9; 1 Jn. 5:20).

- The elect are then **governed** by God's Word and Spirit, as Christ makes intercession for them (Rom. 8:9, 14-17; Heb. 7:23-25).
- Christ our Mediator has and will **overcome** all our enemies by His almighty power and wisdom (Psa. 110:1; 1 Cor. 15:25-27).
- All this is carried out by the work of God in the exact way and manner which is according to His wonderful and unsearchable **will** (Jn. 3:8; Eph. 1:8).
- Redemption was willed, accomplished, and is applied all of God's free and absolute **grace** (Eph. 2:8-9).
- There is no condition or merit of mankind foreseen which caused the Lord to bestow His **grace** upon the Church.

Application:

- 1) **Thanksgiving:** Thanks be to God for His glorious grace! May we never tire of remembering the works of the Lord!
- 2) **Obedience:** The Church is called to continue and persevere in maturing faith and repentance.
- 3) **Grace** towards Others: As God has shown us grace, we must desire to demonstrate that grace as we proclaim the truth in love.