

To Glorify and Enjoy God

LESSON 13: GLORIFYING & ENJOYING CHRIST THE MEDIATOR

Intro: Fall of _____ => Covenant of _____ => _____

“Men do not by nature love God’s holiness, power, omnipotence, knowledge, omniscience, constancy, or immutability, all of which combine to make God the most formidable opponent of, and obstacle to, our desire to rule our lives without his intrusion.” **R.C. Sproul**¹¹⁰

BIG IDEA: Christ is the perfect & _____ Mediator between a holy God & sinful _____.

Question 29: How are we made partakers of the redemption purchased by Christ?

Answer: We are made partakers of the redemption purchased by Christ, by the effectual application of it to us by his Holy Spirit.

WSC Q. 21: Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?

A: The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continues to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, forever.

Question 23: What offices does Christ execute as our Redeemer?

Answer: Christ, as our Redeemer, executes the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in his estate of humiliation and exaltation.

Question 24: How does Christ execute the office of a prophet?

Answer: Christ executes the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by his Word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.

Question 25: How does Christ execute the office of a priest?

Answer: Christ executes the office of a priest, in his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God, and in making continual intercession for us.

Question 26: How does Christ execute the office of a king?

Answer: Christ executes the office of a king, in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies.

1. It pleased God, in his eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, his only begotten Son, to be the Mediator between God and man, the Prophet, Priest, and King, the Head and Savior of his church, the Heir of all things, and Judge of the world: unto whom he did from all eternity give a people, to be his seed, and to be by him in time redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified.

- There’s one, & _____ one, Redeemer of the elect; the Mediator _____ by God.
- Pluralism _____ God’s right to determine who will _____ Him to us & us to Him.
- This is not God’s _____, but according to “his eternal purpose”.
- The Father chose His _____ or only Begotten Son to be the _____.

¹¹⁰ Sproul, Vol. 1, pp. 232.

To Glorify and Enjoy God

- **Prophet:** speaking to _____ on the behalf of _____, revealing the way of _____ & judgment.
- **Priest:** speaking to _____ on the behalf of _____ though sacrifice & prayer.
- **King:** _____ over God's people & _____ God's enemies.
- He is the Head (_____) of the Church in addition to its _____ . (Eph. 1, 5).
- As the only begotten Son, He is the _____ of all things, & Judge of the _____ .
- The _____, in time, will be redeemed, called, justified, sanctified & glorified.

⁵ For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. **1**

Timothy 2

“Without the appointment of his Father, his work would not have been valid in law for our redemption; but this appointment assures us, that the whole work of his mediation is most acceptable to God, and affords us the highest encouragement to rely upon his finished work for our eternal salvation.” **Robert Shaw**¹¹¹

“It bears repeating that the church's mission, identity, and agenda are to be determined not by the church, but by the church's head.” **R.C. Sproul**¹¹²

Question 22: How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

Answer: Christ, the Son of God, became man, by taking to himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the virgin Mary, and born of her, yet without sin.

2. The Son of God, the second person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance and equal with the Father, did, when the fullness of time was come, take upon him man's nature, with all the essential properties, and common infirmities thereof, yet without sin; being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the virgin Mary, of her substance. So that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion. Which person is very God, and very man, yet one Christ, the only Mediator between God and man.

- The full _____ of the Son is affirmed in statement that reflects the ancient creeds.
- He & the Father are of the same substance, & they are _____: no eternal _____.
- Shift from eternity => _____, in the fullness (_____) of time
He took on man's nature.
- He did not _____ to be God, but added another _____ to His person.

¹¹¹ Shaw, pp. 96.

¹¹² Sproul, Vol. 1, pp. 238.

To Glorify and Enjoy God

- Complete _____ “with all the essential properties, and common infirmities...”
- He did not have a _____. Jesus’ human nature was like _____ pre-fall.
- Sin is not an essential property to humanity, but rather to _____ humanity.
- Affirms: 2 complete _____ natures inseparably _____ in one person.
- Monophysite (Eutyches)- had a _____ nature. Deified man or humanized God.
- Nestorius- rejected the hypostatic union such that each _____ had a _____.
- Chalcedonian Formula: _____ but _____, not confused or converted.
- His humanity remained _____ (limited), & His divinity remained divine (infinite).
- He is one _____, one _____.

“We cannot pretend to explain the manner of the eternal generation of the Son.” **Robert Shaw**¹¹³
“His humanity began to exist in the womb of the Virgin, but his person existed from eternity.”

A.A. Hodge¹¹⁴

“Chalcedon established the boundaries beyond which we dare not tread in our speculations, lest we plunge ourselves into some serious heresy.” **R.C. Sproul**¹¹⁵

“The basic tendency of liberalism is to deny the deity of Christ or to so focus on his humanity that his deity is swallowed up by it. ... In reaction to that, conservatives, zealous to protect the deity of Christ, have a tendency to deny the reality of his humanity and allow it to be swallowed up by his deity.” **R.C. Sproul**¹¹⁶

3. The Lord Jesus, in his human nature thus united to the divine, was sanctified, and anointed with the Holy Spirit, above measure, having in him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge; in whom it pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell; to the end that, being holy, harmless, undefiled, and full of grace and truth, he might be thoroughly furnished to execute the office of a mediator, and surety. Which office he took not unto himself, but was thereunto called by his Father, who put all power and judgment into his hand, and gave him commandment to execute the same.

- During His earthly _____, Jesus did not _____ make use of His divine powers (Phil 2).
- Jesus was “sanctified, and anointed w/the Spirit” at His _____ at the beginning.
- He _____ upon the Spirit, who performed _____ & miracles thru Him.
- Adam broke the covenant as a _____. Jesus must _____ the covenant as a man.
- He must truly _____ as a man. He must truly _____ as a man.

¹¹³ Shaw, pp. 98.

¹¹⁴ Hodge, pp. 141.

¹¹⁵ Sproul, Vol. 1, pp. 243.

¹¹⁶ Sproul, Vol. 1, pp. 245.

To Glorify and Enjoy God

- Fully God & fully man He is thoroughly able to execute the office of _____.
- The Son _____ to the Father as _____. This was initiated by the Father.

“I may be wrong, but I think it is wrong to believe that Christ’s divine nature made it impossible for his human nature to sin. If that were the case, temptation, the tests, and his assuming of the responsibility of the first Adam would have all been charades. This position protects the integrity of the authenticity of the human nature because it was the human nature that carried out the mission of the second Adam on our behalf.” **R.C. Sproul**¹¹⁷

Question 27: Wherein did Christ's humiliation consist?

Answer: Christ's humiliation consisted in his being born, and that in a low condition, made under the law, undergoing the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, and the cursed death of the cross; in being buried, and continuing under the power of death for a time.

Question 28: Wherein consists Christ's exaltation?

Answer: Christ's exaltation consists in his rising again from the dead on the third day, in ascending up into heaven, in sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and in coming to judge the world at the last day.

4. This office the Lord Jesus did most willingly undertake; which that he might discharge, he was made under the law, and did perfectly fulfill it; endured most grievous torments immediately in his soul, and most painful sufferings in his body; was crucified, and died, was buried, and remained under the power of death, yet saw no corruption. On the third day he arose from the dead, with the same body in which he suffered, with which also he ascended into heaven, and there sits at the right hand of his Father, making intercession, and shall return, to judge men and angels, at the end of the world.

- This covers the “_____ & _____” of Christ as the Mediator.
- Jesus did all this _____. He embraced all it meant to be _____.
- It began in being _____ (WSC): a real infant needing to be _____ & changed.
- He was born under the _____, as a creature & Hebrew, not _____ it as Creator.
- He was born into _____ as part of an oppressed & _____ people.
- He was misunderstood, _____, misrepresented & _____.
- This culminated in His betrayal, _____, crucifixion & death. Suffered in body & soul.
- His burial is both humiliation & exaltation. He remained under the _____ of death.
- Yet, He was buried with the _____, & did not see _____.
- Exaltation goes on hyper-drive with the _____ followed by the ascension.
- He sits at the Father’s right hand as “_____ - _____” reigning as King of kings.
- The culmination of His exaltation is His return to _____ men & angels.

¹¹⁷ Sproul, Vol. 1, pp. 251.

To Glorify and Enjoy God

“His resurrection and ascension mean that right now he is reigning as the King of Kings in heaven.” **R.C. Sproul**¹¹⁸

“This right hand of God denotes the official exaltation of the Mediator to supreme glory, felicity, and dominion over every name that is named.” **A.A. Hodge**¹¹⁹

5. The Lord Jesus, by his perfect obedience, and sacrifice of himself, which he, through the eternal Spirit, once offered up unto God, has fully satisfied the justice of his Father; and purchased, not only reconciliation, but an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven, for all those whom the Father hath given unto him.

- First we see reference to His “_____ & _____ obedience”.
- Active obedience: obeyed the whole _____ for His people to earn _____.
- Passive obedience: submitting to the will of the Father in His _____.
- He offered Himself up the Father, once for all _____ by the Holy Spirit.
- This sacrifice fully satisfied the justice of the Father AND purchased an inheritance.
- Apart from _____, all views of the atonement have some _____.
- Arminianism limits the _____ of the atonement.
- Reformed Theology limits the _____ to the elect. Really saves them though.
- **Owen’s Vise**: All the sins of _____ men, or _____ of the sins of all men, or _____ of the sins of _____ men.

“If Christ died in the stead of all men, and made satisfaction for their sins, then he did it for all their sins, or only for some sins. If for some only, who then can be saved? If for all, why there are all not saved? They say it is because of their unbelief; they will not believe, and therefore are not saved. That unbelief, is it a sin, or is it not? If it be not, how can it be a cause of damnation? If it be, Christ died for it, or he did not. If he did not, then he died not for all the sins of all men.”

John Owen¹²⁰

“If Christ stood as the surety of every individual of the human race, the conclusion is inevitable, either that all mankind must be saved, or that Christ has failed in accomplishing the work which he undertook.” **Robert Shaw**¹²¹

“God was not merely rendered reconcilable, but fully reconciled, by the death of Christ.” **Robert Shaw**¹²²

6. Although the work of redemption was not actually wrought by Christ till after his incarnation, yet the virtue, efficacy, and benefits thereof were communicated unto the elect, in all ages

¹¹⁸ Sproul, Vol. 1. Pp. 259.

¹¹⁹ Hodge, pp. 148.

¹²⁰ Owen, John. *The Death of Death in the Death of Christ*, in *The Works of John Owen*. London, Banner of Truth Trust. Vol. X, pp. 249 (Book III, Chapter III, Argument VI).

¹²¹ Shaw, pp. 104.

¹²² Shaw, pp. 110.

To Glorify and Enjoy God

successively from the beginning of the world, in and by those promises, types, and sacrifices, wherein he was revealed, and signified to be the seed of the woman which should bruise the serpent's head; and the Lamb slain from the beginning of the world; being yesterday and today the same, and forever.

- Since the work of Christ was _____ by God's unchanging _____ ...
- Its virtue & benefits were given to those who embraced _____ & types by faith.
- The benefits of the work of Christ _____ back and forward to the elect.
- Promises, types & sacrifices _____ the way for Messiah: fulfilled in Christ the _____.
- The promises began in the Garden of Eden after the fall of Adam.

²⁰For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. **2 Corinthians 1**

⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, ... **Hebrews 13**

“The sign of faith is not tied to the time of faith.” **R.C. Sproul** discussing Calvin's view¹²³

“The actual benefits of Christ's work were communicated through these means prior to his incarnation.” **R.C. Sproul**¹²⁴

7. Christ, in the work of mediation, acts according to both natures, by each nature doing that which is proper to itself; yet, by reason of the unity of the person, that which is proper to one nature is sometimes in Scripture attributed to the person denominated by the other nature.

- Scripture is not a _____ discourse but speaks as we normally would.
- We can distinguish the 2 natures, but we don't want to _____ the one person.

8. To all those for whom Christ has purchased redemption, he doth certainly and effectually apply and communicate the same; making intercession for them, and revealing unto them, in and by the Word, the mysteries of salvation; effectually persuading them by his Spirit to believe and obey, and governing their hearts by his Word and Spirit; overcoming all their enemies by his almighty power and wisdom, in such manner, and ways, as are most consonant to his wonderful and unsearchable dispensation.

- This focuses on the _____ of the _____ for the elect.
- He applies His work by making _____ for all whom He died & rose.
- He also _____ the mysteries of salvation to them in & by the Word of God.

¹²³ Sproul, Vol. 1, pp. 267.

¹²⁴ Sproul, Vol. 1, pp. 268.

To Glorify and Enjoy God

- He effectually _____ them of its truthfulness & power by the _____.
- He _____ their hearts (and actions) by His Word & Spirit working together.
- In our Christian living we should never _____ Word and Spirit.

“The whole point of election is that we are dependent from beginning to end on the mercy and grace of God and on the work of Jesus to rescue us.” **R.C. Sproul**¹²⁵

How does this help you enjoy & enjoy God?

Conclusion:

¹²⁵ Sproul, Vol. 1, pp. 274.