

WESTMINSTER CONFESSION OF FAITH

Sandy Springs OPC • Pastor Ganzevoort & Elder Robson • March 20, 2022

CHAPTER VIII: OF CHRIST THE MEDIATOR

1. Christ's Role as Mediator

- A. Mediator introduced: follows from WCF VII "God's Covenant with Man"
- B. Mediator chosen: solely by God (Isa 42:1; John 14:6, 1Ti 2:5; cf. Heb 5:4-5)
- C. Mediator's offices: **prophet, priest, king** (see WSC 23-26)
- D. Mediator's significance: head (Col 1:18), savior (Matt 1:21), heir (Heb 1:2), judge (Acts 10:42)
- E. Mediator's gift from the Father: a people for his own possession (John 17:1-6)

2. Christ's Incarnation as Mediator

- A. *God the Son: an eternal, equal member of the Trinity*
- B. *Added a human nature: its essential properties, common infirmities, but no sin*
- C. *Conceived from Mary's substance: a miracle of the Holy Spirit*
- D. *Two natures in one Person—essentially distinct, forever inseparable*

3. Christ's Qualifications as Mediator

- A. *Anointed by the Holy Spirit (Psa 45:7; Acts 10:38)*
- B. *Indwelt by the fullness of deity (Col 1:19; 2:9)*
- C. *Perfectly pure character (Heb 4:15; 7:26)*
- D. *Full of grace and truth (John 1:14, 16-17)*
- E. *Authorized by the Father (Psa 2:6-8; Matt 28:18; Heb 5:4-5)*

4. Christ's Humiliation and Exaltation as Mediator

- A. His willingness
- B. His fulfillment of the Law
- C. His suffering—body and soul
- D. His death and burial
- E. His resurrection
- F. His ascension
- G. His return

5. Christ's Atonement as Mediator

- A. His obedience and sacrifice: substitutionary atonement (1Co 5:7; Eph 5:2; Heb 9:24-26)
- B. His satisfaction of divine justice: penal substitutionary atonement (Isa 53:5-6; Rom 3:23-26)
- C. His purchase of reconciliation and inheritance: effectual atonement (Col 2:13-14; Heb 9:11-15)
- D. "For all those whom the Father has given him": limited atonement

6. Christ's Eternal Impact as Mediator

- A. The elect in all times benefit from Christ's work within time
- B. Old Testament saints were saved by Christ, as he was known through promises and pictures

7. Christ's Two Distinct Natures as Mediator

- A. *All the properties and actions of each nature are true of the one Person*
- B. *Despite interchangeable-sounding language, Christ's two natures do not modify each other*

8. Christ's Ongoing Ministry as Mediator

- A. Applying redemption to the redeemed—"all" and "certainly" (John 6:37-40; cf. 17:12)
- B. Still our priest: interceding for the us, cf. WSC 25 (Rom 8:34, Heb 7:25, 1Jo 2:1)
- C. Still our prophet: teaching and persuading by his Word and Spirit, cf. WSC 24 (1Pe 1:10-12)
- D. Still our king: governing our hearts and overcoming our enemies, cf. WSC 26 (1Co 15:25-26)

EXCURSUS: The Holy Spirit in the Westminster Confession of Faith