

Heritage Presbyterian Church

Westminster Larger Catechism

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Q. 10. What are the personal properties of the three persons in the Godhead?

A. It is proper to the Father to beget the Son, and to the Son to be begotten of the Father, and to the Holy Ghost to proceed from the Father and the Son from all eternity.

Focus Questions: What does it mean that Jesus is “begotten” of the Father? What does it mean that the Holy Spirit “proceeds” from the Father and Son?

What does “begotten” mean?

- “Only begotten” is the translation of the Greek word “monogenes”. “Mono” means “only”. “Genes” means “begotten”. Monogenes refers to only begotten by peculiar generation. Simply put, it means “coming forth from”. We’ll consider more important details about this in a moment.
- It is used in the Nicene Creed when Christ is confessed to be “the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds”. Scripture teaches and the Nicene Creed rightly states that the Son is eternally begotten of the Father.

The Father beget the Son:

Hebrews 1:5-8 -

The Son is begotten of the Father:

John 1:14-18 -

John 3:16 -

1 John 4:9 -

The Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and Son:

John 15:26 -

Galatians 4:6 -

These personal properties exist from eternity:

John 17:5 -

John 17:24 -