

The Principles of Christian Religion

**A Study through the Baptist
Catechism using Benjamin
Beddome's *Scriptural Exposition***

Outline of the BC

- I. Introductory Questions: 1-6
- II. What We are to Believe: 7-43
- III. What Duty God Requires: 44-114
 - A. The Law and our Inability: 44-89
 - B. The Gospel and the Means of Grace: 90-114

Question and Answer 26

Q. 26: What offices doth Christ execute as our Redeemer?

A. Christ as our Redeemer executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in His state of humiliation and exaltation.¹

¹ Acts 3:22; Hebrews 12:25; 2 Corinthians 13:3; Hebrews 5:5-7; Psalm 2:6; Isaiah 9:6,7; Matthew 21:5; Psalm 2:8-11

Question and Answer 26

- Introduction to the Offices and States of Christ
 - At this point in the Catechism, we move from the **Person** of Christ to the **Work** of Christ.
 - Questions 27-29: The Offices of Christ
 - Q. 27: Christ's Office of Prophet
 - Q. 28: Christ's Office of Priest
 - Q. 29: Christ's Office of King
 - Questions 30-31: The States of Christ
 - Q. 30: Christ's State of Humiliation
 - Q. 31: Christ's State of Exaltation

Question and Answer 26

- Introduction to the Offices and States of Christ
 - The Mediatorial Offices of Christ
 - As Beddome points out on p. 45, both the Hebrew title “Messiah” and the Greek title “Christ” indicate being chosen or appointed (to a task or an office) through anointing.
 - In OT Israel, there were three offices to which one was appointed through a ritual of anointing: the offices of prophet, priest, and king.

Question and Answer 26

- Introduction to the Offices and States of Christ
 - The Mediatorial Offices of Christ
 - Those who held these offices were **mediators**:
 - Prophet – spoke to the people on behalf of God
 - Priest – represented the people to God
 - King – ruled the people on behalf of God
 - We Baptist, apparently, really love these three offices of Christ: paragraphs 9 and 10 of chapter 8 of the 2LCF (1677/89) were added to the Westminster Confession, mostly directly from the 1LCF (1646).

Question and Answer 26

- 2LCF 8 “Of Christ the Mediator”:
 9. This office of mediator between God and man is proper only to Christ, who is the prophet, priest, and king of the church of God; and may not be either in whole, or any part thereof, transferred from him to any other.
 10. This number and order of offices is necessary; for in respect of our ignorance, we stand in need of his prophetic office; and in respect of our alienation from God, and imperfection of the best of our services, we need his priestly office to reconcile us and present us acceptable unto God; and in respect to our averseness and utter inability to return to God, and for our rescue and security from our spiritual adversaries, we need his kingly office to convince, subdue, draw, uphold, deliver, and preserve us to his heavenly kingdom.

Question and Answer 27

Q. 27: How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?

A. Christ executeth the office of a prophet in revealing to us, by His Word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.¹

¹ John 1:18; 2 Peter 1:10-12; John 15:15; and 20:31

Question and Answer 27

1. The Context of His Prophetic Work

- Christ's prophetic office was foretold under the Old Testament (Deut. 18:15).
- Moses then was a great prophet (Deut. 34:10).
- Christ was, like unto Moses, raised up from amongst his brethren (Heb. 5:1).
- He was like Moses in meekness (Matt. 11:29).
- And in faithfulness (John 15:15).

Question and Answer 27

1. The Context of His Prophetic Work
 - Like Moses, he confirmed his doctrine by miracles (John 5:36).
 - But he was greater than Moses (Heb. 3:5).

Question and Answer 27

2. The Content of His Prophetic Work

- Christ as a prophet foretold future events (Rev. 19:10).
- He opened the way of salvation by himself (John 1:17).
- He made a fuller discovery of a future state than had been made before (2 Tim. 1:10).
- He revealed the whole will of God (John 17:8).

Question and Answer 27

3. The Manner of His Prophetic Work

- Christ was a divine teacher (John 3:2).
- He was a plain teacher (John 16:29).
- He was a prudent teacher (Mark 4:33).
- He was an affectionate teacher (Luke 4:22).
- He was a powerful teacher (Matt. 7:29).
- He was an eloquent teacher (Isa. 50:4).
- But his success in teaching was not equal to his qualifications for it (Rom.

Question and Answer 27

4. The Execution of His Prophetic Work

- Christ executed the office of a prophet before his incarnation (1 Pet. 3:19).
- Christ executed this office whilst upon earth (Matt. 4:23).
- And he executes it in heaven (Heb. 12:25).
- Christ reveals the will of God objectively by his word (John 20:31).
- And subjectively by his Spirit (John 16:13).
- And the latter as well as the former is

Question and Answer 27

5. The Application of His Prophetic Work

- We should learn of this teacher (Matt. 17:5).
- And it is at our peril if we do not (Acts 3:23).