

I Timothy 2; Lord's Day 6

THE MEDIATOR, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

- I. What He must be
 - A. Deliverance from our sins and miseries comes from the "Mediator".
 - B. Our Mediator/Substitute must be a perfectly righteous human (q. 15).
 - 1. First, He must have the same human nature all sinners have (Hebrews 2:14-17).
 - 2. Second, He must be perfectly righteous, without any corruption or any actual sin.
 - C. And our Mediator must be very God (for three reasons).
- II. God Himself provided the "one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (I Tim. 2:5).
 - A. The Mediator is provided by God Himself, not by us, nor by a joint effort of God and man (cf. Gen. 15).
 - B. Jesus Christ met the qualifications to be Mediator.
 - 1. Jesus took upon Himself our flesh and blood (14) and of the seed of Abraham (15).
 - 2. Also He was free from Adam's sinfulness, because He was conceived by the holy Spirit, not by a sinful man.
 - 3. And He is "true God" (I Tim. 3:16; I John 5:20).
 - C. The union of these Divine and human natures of Jesus is called the "incarnation" (coming in flesh).
 - 1. For the first few centuries the Christian Church fought against several errors about the two natures of the Mediator.
 - 2. The Belgic Confession (Article 19) speaks well to the union of Jesus' two natures in the person of God the Son.
 - 3. And the Counsel of Chalcedon, 451 A.D. (p. 84 of Psalter) concluded that Jesus is two natures united in One Person.
- III. Of this Mediator we learn in the Gospel.
 - A. The Gospel is God's good news about Christ and His perfect work of reconciliation.
 - 1. This good news God has published through-out the ages, beginning with the protevangel of Genesis 3:15.
 - 2. Since that time God has revealed it with increasing clarity.
 - 3. This Gospel is incorporated by God in the inspired Scriptures.
 - B. This Gospel is preached by the Church into all the world (John 3:16-18).
 - 1. It is the power of God unto salvation to the elect, while others find it to be foolishness.
 - 2. Faith embraces the Redeemer spoken of in the Gospel.