

A banner with a background of a wooden desk, a green book, a typewriter, and a yellow notepad. The text "Catechism: Foundations of the Faith" is written in a dark green, serif font on a light yellow rectangular background.

Catechism: Foundations of the Faith

Redemption Through Christ the True Human

Key idea:

Question 22: Why must the Redeemer be truly human?

The Redeemer must be truly human so that He might fulfill humanity's obligations to God by completely obeying God's Law and suffering and dying for human disobedience.

Key text:

Romans 5:18–19

Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. ¹⁹ For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

1 Corinthians 15:21

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.

Hebrews 2:14–17

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

Key points:

1. The Redeemer must be truly human so that He can fulfill humanity's obligations to God.
2. To be the 2nd Adam and fulfill humanity's obligations to God in our place, the Redeemer must be truly and fully human.

3. The Redeemer must completely obey God's Law so that He can fulfill our obligations to God and be able to give His righteousness to us.
4. The Redeemer must suffer and die for human disobedience, fully paying the price due to us for our sin.

Questions for discussion/application:

1. Note: this is BRCC Catechism Question 22. It is the second of five questions in our catechism dealing with how Jesus is our Redeemer and Mediator. For a full study of this topic, refer to Questions 21-25 in the [Study edition of our Catechism](#).
2. What part of Sunday's text and teaching stood out most to me? Why?
3. As I read through the question and answer (see the theme above), what is my initial response? What stands out to me the most in this answer?
4. Why is it necessary for the Redeemer to be truly and fully human? Is it enough for Him to only "appear" to be human? Why or why not?
5. What does it mean to say that Jesus is fully and truly human? What does it mean to be human? What is essential to our humanity?
6. Why must the Redeemer fulfill the obligations of humanity to God?
7. Why must the Redeemer obey God's Law? Why couldn't He just die and pay for our sins?
8. Why must the Redeemer die to pay for our sins? Why can't He simply obey in our place? Why must His Blood be shed?
9. If both Jesus' positive obedience (obeying the Law) and negative suffering (dying for sin) are credited to me, what is my standing before God? How does God view me because of the work of Christ as my Redeemer and Mediator?
10. Who will I call to encourage this week? What specific members of BRCC will I commit before God to pray for and call?