

God Our Redeemer

Key idea:

Question 24: Why must the Redeemer be truly, fully God?

The Redeemer must be truly, fully God so that His obedience and suffering would be of infinite value, He would be able to bear the full wrath of God against sin, and overcome Satan and death.

Key text:

Acts 20:28

Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

Colossians 2:13-15

When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Key points:

- 1. The New Testament consistently teaches that Jesus is truly and fully God.
- The Redeemer must be truly and fully God so that His obedience and suffering for our sin would be of infinite value because our sin and treason were against the Infinite God.
- 3. The Redeemer must be truly and fully God to be able to bear the full wrath of God due for our sin.
- 4. The Redeemer must be truly and fully God because part of His work is to overcome Satan and death, freeing God's people and destroying the kingdom of darkness.

Questions for discussion/application:

- 1. Note: this is BRCC Catechism Question 24. It is the fourth 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 <u>Study edition of our Catechism</u>.
- 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. Bret mentioned a number of "First chapters" in the New Testament that clearly teach the Deity of Christ. Can I find any of these? Can I think of other places where the New Testament teaches the Deity of Christ?
- 5. Why is redemption for human sin so costly? Why couldn't a "good person" pay for the sins of humanity?
- 6. Some claim that the idea of God's wrath against sin is a negative concept. Why is it actually very comforting to think of Jesus' death as bearing the wrath of God? How does this help me as I approach God in worship and prayer?
- 7. When Jesus said He gave His life as a ransom for us to whom was the ransom paid? Was the debt owed to the devil or to God? How does the Old Testament sacrificial system help me understand the proper answer? Why does it matter?
- 8. How do Jesus' life and death destroy Satan's work in my life? When I reflect on the fact that the word "Satan" means "accuser" how do Jesus' life and death free me from the accusations of Satan?
- 9. When I reflect on Jesus' True Deity and Humanity and His atoning life and death in my place, how does this affect me? What emotions does it prompt? How does it change my view of my status before God?
- 10. Who will I call to encourage this week? What specific members of BRCC will I commit before God to pray for and call?