The Deity of Christ

Belgic Confession, Article 10

- 1. INTRODUCTION: We learn from the Belgic Confession that it not only matters what we believe, but also and we believe it.
- 2. THE CENTRAL EVENT: The New Testament's teaching regarding the deity of Christ is in response to the of the incarnation and resurrection.
 - a. The resurrection vindicated all that Jesus said and did as the ______ and therefore as the "Son of God."

...concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord (Romans 1:4-5)

- b. The resurrection of Christ illuminates and vindicates the ways in which his divine nature was signaled throughout his ______, by way of divine claims and prerogatives (consider, for example, Mark 2:1-12).
- 3. WHEN THEY ARE TAKEN TOGETHER: The Belgic Confession emphasizes the _______ of Scripture regarding the deity of Christ.
 - a. We confess that Christ, "according to his divine nature, is the only Son of God—eternally begotten, not made nor created" and "is one in essence with the Father" (cf. the Nicene Creed, "of one substance with the Father").
 - b. This is proclaimed ______ in the New Testament... (e.g., John 1:3)
 - c. ...in a way that is ______ by the Old Testament (e.g., Genesis 1:1; cf. Proverbs 8).

4. HE IS THE TRUE ETERNAL GOD: Jesus is Immanuel, God with us, and this matters for _______ of faith and life.

a. Invoke: While the Scriptures ______ that we pray to the Father through Christ and in the Spirit (Ephesians 2:18), it is also the case we may call upon ("invoke") the name of Jesus.

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours... (1 Corinthians 1:2; but compare: Mathew 6:9)

b. Worship: The oneness of God means that Father, Son, and Spirit are ______ and fully worthy of worship. We worship Christ "according to his divine nature."

...so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Phil 2:10-11)

You are serving the Lord Christ. (Colossians 3:24b)

c. Serve: In all of life, in every area of life, we have the calling and ______ of serving Christ, in the Spirit, to the glory of God the Father.