The Heidelberg Catechism

16. Why must He be a true and righteous man?

Because the justice of God requires that the same human nature which has sinned should make satisfaction for sin;¹ but one who is himself a sinner cannot satisfy for others.²

¹ Rom 5:12, 15; 1 Cor 15:21; Heb 2:14-16; ² Isa 53:3-5; Heb 7:26-27; 1 Pt 3:18