

## Christ the Mediator: Introduction

1. Christology- the branch of theology relating to the person, nature, and role of Christ. Jesus is the cornerstone of the Church (body of Christ) and our faith in and understanding of Him is the very foundation of true Christianity.

Question: "What does it mean that Jesus is our mediator?"

Answer: A mediator is one who mediates, that is, one who acts as an intermediary to work with opposing sides in order to bring about a settlement. A mediator attempts to influence a disagreement between two parties with the goal of resolving a dispute.

### 2. Biblically Speaking

1. For *there is* one God and one Mediator between God and men, *the Man Christ Jesus*" (**1 Tim. 2:5**).

2. "But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises" (**Heb. 8:6**).

3. "And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant" (**Heb. 9:15**).

4. "To Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than *that of Abel*" (**Heb. 12:24**).

3. Chapter 8 of the 1689 LBCF is on the subject of Christ and His work as mediator.

~"It pleased God, in His eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, His only begotten Son, according to the covenant made between them both, to be the mediator between God and man; the prophet, priest, and king; head and Savior of His church" (Para. 1).

~"The only mediator between God and man" (Para. 2).

~"Thoroughly furnished to execute the office of a mediator and surety" (Para. 3).

~"This office the Lord Jesus did most willingly undertake" (Para. 4).

~"Christ, in the work of mediation, acteth according to both natures" (Para. 7).

~"The office of mediator between God and man is proper only to Christ" (Para. 9).

#### 4. Survey:

The 10 paragraphs in the creed present to us Christ the Mediator according to God's eternal *plan*, Christ in the *incarnation* as one whole Person with two distinct natures (God and man), His *life and ministry*, the *accomplishment* of God's purpose in His incarnation fulfilled, His saving accomplishment applied to the *Old Testament* through the types and shadows of the promised coming Messiah, His incarnation *through both natures*, and it reminds us that believers in this age from the cross to the second coming are blessed with His *intercession* on their behalf as our Prophet, Priest, and King. We find that Christ is the *only* Mediator between God and man and He is *sufficient* for everything that we need as sinners. We need Him; He is perfectly suited to our needs!

Paragraph 1 presents the eternal plan or *purpose* of God "to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus ... to be the mediator between God and man.

Paragraph 2 explains the coming of the Son of God into the world to fulfill God's plan.

Paragraph 3 presents Jesus *life and ministry*.

Paragraphs 4 and 5 discuss His *accomplishment* or *fulfillment of His work*.

Paragraph 6 is a helpful explanation as to how the accomplishments of Christ in his life and work are applied to the *Old Testament* saints.

Paragraph 7 is a brief explanation that relates to the *two natures of Christ* (God and man) and how the application of His work of mediation is through both natures concurrently.

Paragraph 8 explains the application of the accomplishments of Christ *in the Christian life* so that believers are enabled to persevere in their faith which is essential to their ultimate salvation.

Paragraph 9 Reminds us that "Christ Only," "Solus Christus." Is the one mediator. "This office or mediator between God and man is proper only to Christ and is no transferred from him to any other."

Paragraph 10 discusses the sufficiency of Christ's mediatory work.