

**“What it Means to be Reformed”; Session # 71, Solus Christus - “The Anointing of Christ” (Part 1), Prepared by Pastor Paul Rendall for the Adult Sunday School Class on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016.**

(Some material taken from Zacharias Ursinus’ Commentary on the Heidelberg Catechism)

It is very important for all mankind to see that the Lord Jesus Christ is the only Person whom God ever anointed, to accomplish the work of redemption and to apply it effectually to the hearts and lives of all those persons whom the Father has chosen and called to Himself. Salvation is only by and through Christ. But the Father was the One who anointed Him to this glorious task.

**Acts 10: 38** - “...How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was Him.”

**Zacharias Ursinus** says - The name Christ signifies “the Anointed (One)”. “Therefore, He is Jesus the Savior, in such a manner that He is Christ, or the Anointed, having the Office of One that is anointed, which consists of three parts – His being a Prophet, Priest, and King.” “The reason why these 3 offices are comprehended in the name of Christ, is, because prophets, priests and kings were anciently anointed, by which was signified both an ordination to the office, and also a conferring of those gifts which were necessary for the proper discharge of the duties thereby imposed. (that were given Him to do, by the Father, when He sent Him) “Therefore, he is called the Anointed, or Christ, on account of these three, so that these parts of the office of the Mediator are expressed in the one title of the Messiah, the Christ, the Anointed (One).”

**I. What is meant by the anointing of Christ? It meant that He was consecrated and set apart by God for the work as Mediator; the work of ministering as Prophet, Priest, and King. This was the work to which He was called and appointed by God, in relation to the purchase and application of grace in order to the salvation of all of the elect.**

“Anointing was a ceremony by which prophets, priests and king were confirmed in their office by being anointed either with a common or with a particular kind of oil.” It signified -

1<sup>st</sup> – An ordination or a calling to the office for which they were thus set apart.

2<sup>nd</sup> – It signified the promise and bestowment of the gifts necessary for the purpose of sustaining those upon whom the burden of either of these offices was imposed.

Seeing that the Scriptures nowhere speak of His being physically anointed while here upon the earth we must attempt to discover the meaning and significance of this anointing in relation to the uniqueness of Christ in His person and in His offices.

**Christ was Anointed by God to be a Prophet; to preach and declare the word of God to sinners. –**

Isaiah 61: 1-3 – “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn, to console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise

for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord that He may be glorified.”