

Lord's Day 13 – Of Man's Deliverance

~ Of God the Son ~

The Heidelberg Catechism explained to children

Jesus is called **Christ**, which means anointed. He was anointed by the Holy Ghost. He has three offices: Prophet, Priest, and King.

As Prophet, He taught people the will of God. He taught them how to be saved. As Priest, He sacrificed Himself for the sins of His people. As King, He rules over His people. Jesus Christ is King of heaven and earth.

We are called Christians, which means followers of Christ. Are you a true Christian, or only a nominal Christian?

This week, the student wants to know more about Jesus Christ:

33. Why is Christ called the only begotten Son of God, since we are also the children of God?

Do you hear that? The teacher is a child of God. Are you also a child of God?

How can people be called *children of God*, though, while Christ is *the only begotten Son of God*? The teacher explains:

Because Christ alone is the eternal and natural Son of God; but we are children adopted of God, by grace, for His sake.

Think of parents who have one biological child, and three adopted children. All four children are truly the children of those parents. Yet, only one of them was born to those parents. The other three children were born to a different father and mother. Yet, because they are adopted, they are now children of their adoptive parents truly and legally.

Christ is the only *natural Son of God*. He always has been God's Son, even before the heavens and the earth were created. He has been God's Son from eternity.

God's children are not naturally children of God. By nature, we are all children of Adam. We are born in sin. By nature, we are not God's children at all!

However, just like the parents in the example adopted three children, God adopted (and still adopts) children as well. Every time God converts a sinner, He adopts this person as His child.

If you are a child of God, you are adopted by God as well. But why did God adopt you? Is it because you are such a good person? No, but *by grace*! Grace means: getting something you do not deserve. You do not deserve to be God's child. None of us deserve to be adopted by God. We are too sinful for that! Yet, if you are God's child, God gave you something you did not deserve. God adopted you *by grace*!

Are you not a child of God yet? Then ask God to adopt you as His child. God still adopts children, *by grace*!

34. Wherefore callest thou Him our Lord?

We often speak of the **Lord** Jesus. “Lord” means a ruler of an area, owning the area and requiring service and obedience. Why is Jesus called “Lord”?

Because He hath redeemed us, both soul and body, from all our sins, not with gold or silver, but with His precious blood, and hath delivered us from all the power of the devil; and thus hath made us His own property.

The teacher explains, “The Lord Jesus has redeemed us. We were under *the power of the devil*, but the Lord Jesus Christ bought our freedom. We are now redeemed; we are free!”

What price did the Lord Jesus pay in order to buy freedom for His people? Did He pay silver or gold? No, He did not. The price was *His precious blood*. When the Lord Jesus died on the cross, He paid the price for the sins of all His people. He bought the freedom of His people with His own blood. What an incredibly high price that was!

Is Jesus Christ also **your** Lord? Then He died on the cross for your sins as well. Then He bought your freedom with His own blood too. Then you are no longer under *the power of the devil*. Then you are Christ’s *property*; then you belong to Christ!

Are you still under *the power of the devil*? What an awful master the devil is! Ask the Lord to redeem you. Ask Him to buy your freedom *with His precious blood*. Then you will no longer belong to the devil, but to the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the most wonderful master! What a blessing it is to be *His own property*!

Psalters

♪ Psalter 198:1-3