

The Incarnation

Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 14

1. THE STORY OF THE INCARNATION: The incarnation of the Son of God clearly _____ the _____ and expectations of all of Israel's Scriptures.

- a. _____ : Genesis 3:15
- b. _____ : Genesis 12:1-3 (also Gen. 15, 17)
- c. _____ : Deuteronomy 30:1-10 (esp. 5-6)
- d. _____ : 2 Samuel 7:12, 16
- e. _____ : During the exile, the prophets proclaimed both the coming of the Messiah and the return of God of Israel. It became increasingly clear the Messiah would be and do for Israel what only God could be and do for Israel and the world.

2. THE DOCTRINE OF THE INCARNATION: Jesus Christ is _____ and _____.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

- a. Jesus is and _____ true and eternal God (John 1:1, Col. 1:15, Heb. 1:3). We confess that he is "one substance with the Father" (Nicene Creed) and that there is but "one divine Being" (Lord's Day 8).
- b. Jesus has a true human _____ (Gal. 4:4, 1 Tim. 2:5)
- c. Jesus is one, united _____ (Rom. 1:4, John 1:1)
- d. The attributes of his divine and human natures are attributed, not to each other, but to the one person of Jesus (the *communicatio idiomatum*). Chalcedon (AD 451): without "confusion, change, division, or separation"

3. THE GOOD NEWS OF THE INCARNATION: Jesus Christ is our _____.

- a. As Mediator, Jesus represents us in God's _____, covering our _____ "with his innocence and perfect holiness."

¹¹ But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) ¹² he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. (Hebrews 9:11-12)

- b. As Mediator, Jesus _____ God to us.

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high (Hebrews 1:3)

- c. It is on this basis that we are _____ in God's promise that we will _____ his presence in the new creation.

²² And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.

²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. (Revelation 21:22-23)