

**Righteous in Christ**

**Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 23**

1. GOOD NEWS: We receive by faith the good news that we are \_\_\_\_\_ before God and heirs to life everlasting.

<sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:17-19)

- a. This righteousness is \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. This righteousness is \_\_\_\_\_ and absolutely \_\_\_\_\_.

2. RESPONSE: Reformed theology speaks clearly of the need for our \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>16</sup> “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. (John 3:16-17)

- a. “if only I \_\_\_\_\_”; “receive this righteousness and \_\_\_\_\_ it \_\_\_\_\_”
- b. “not... the \_\_\_\_\_ of my faith”

3. LET’S BE CLEAR: What does it mean that have “\_\_\_\_\_” as our inheritance?

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you (1 Peter 1:3-4)

- a. The “life everlasting” is not only future, but also \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. This motivates \_\_\_\_\_ (John 3:20-21).

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

- c. This motivates \_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>7</sup> Go, eat your bread with joy, and drink your wine with a merry heart, for God has already approved what you do. <sup>8</sup> Let your garments be always white. Let not oil be lacking on your head. <sup>9</sup> Enjoy life with the wife whom you love, all the days of your vain life that he has given you under the sun, because that is your portion in life and in your toil at which you toil under the sun. (Ecclesiastes 9:7-9)

- d. In all of these ways, the way we live in the \_\_\_\_\_ is driven by God’s promises for the \_\_\_\_\_, promises that are received only by \_\_\_\_\_.