

Lord's Day 14

Heidelberg Catechism

The Second Part – Of Man's Deliverance – Of God the Son

Question 35

What is the meaning of these words—"He was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary"?

Answer

That God's eternal Son, who is and continueth true and eternal God,¹ took upon Him the very nature of man, of the flesh and blood of the Virgin Mary,² by the operation of the Holy Ghost;³ that He might also be the true seed of David,⁴ like unto His brethren in all things, sin excepted.⁵

Question 36

What profit dost thou receive by Christ's holy conception and nativity?

Answer

That He is our Mediator,⁶ and, with His innocence and perfect holiness, covers in the sight of God my sins,⁷ wherein I was conceived and brought forth.

7 Ps. 32:1

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

1 Cor. 1:30

But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

Rom. 8:34

Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

1 John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Col. 1:15

Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

Ps. 2:7

I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

Rom. 9:5

Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

1 John 5:20

And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

2 John 1:14

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Gal. 4:4

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

3 Matt. 1:18

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

Luke 1:35

And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

4 Ps. 132:2

How he swore unto the LORD, and vowed unto the mighty God of Jacob;

Acts 2:30

Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne.

Rom. 1:3

Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;

5 Phil. 2:7

But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

Heb. 4:15

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

6 Heb. 2:16, 17

For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.