

- I. Introduction: Why Did God Become Man? (2:14, 17; Phil 2:6-8; John 1:1, 14)

- II. To Become Our Great Prophet: To Reveal God to Us (1:1-4; John 1:18; Col 1:15)

- III. To Become Our Great High-Priest (2:17)
 - A. To Sacrifice Himself as the Perfect Offering for Sin (2:17; 1:3; 9:11-15, 26; 10:14)

 - B. To Help Us and Intercede for Us (2:16-18; 4:14-16; 7:25; Rom 8:1, 33-34)

- IV. To Become Our Victorious King (2:14-15)
 - A. To Triumph Over Sin, Death, and the Devil (2:14; Col 2:15; Rom 5:12-21; 1 Cor 15:54-57; Rom 8:35-39)

WLC 38. Why was it requisite that the mediator should be God? It was requisite that the mediator should be God, that he might sustain and keep the human nature from sinking under the infinite wrath of God, and the power of death; give worth and efficacy to his sufferings, obedience, and intercession; and to satisfy God's justice, procure his favor, purchase a peculiar people, give his Spirit to them, conquer all their enemies, and bring them to everlasting salvation.

WLC 39. Why was it requisite that the mediator should be man? It was requisite that the mediator should be man, that he might advance our nature, perform obedience to the law, suffer and make intercession for us in our nature, have a fellow-feeling of our infirmities; that we might receive the adoption of sons, and have comfort and access with boldness unto the throne of grace.

“Our mediator ought to be God-man (*theanthrōpos*) to accomplish these things: man to suffer, God to overcome; man to receive the punishment we deserved, God to endure and drink it to the dregs; man to acquire salvation for us by dying, God to apply it to us by overcoming; man to become ours by the assumption of flesh, God to make us like himself by the bestowal of the Spirit. This neither a mere man nor God alone could do. For neither could God alone be subject to death, nor could man alone conquer it. Man alone could die for men; God alone could vanquish death. Both natures, therefore, should be associated that in both conjoined, both the highest weakness of humanity might exert itself for suffering and the highest power and majesty of the divinity might exert itself for the victory.” —Francis Turretin

“Here his infinite love towards us appears; but its overflowing appears in this — that he put on our nature that he might thus make himself capable of dying, for as God he could not undergo death.” —John Calvin

Reflection and Application Questions (for personal reflection and family conversation):

1. Why did God become man? Is there one reason or many?
2. How does Jesus' death and resurrection set us free from the fear of death? Do you know this freedom from fear?
3. What does Christ do in his office as great high priest? How is he still actively serving as a priest today?
4. What does Christ do in his office as king?