

January 14, 2024

The Doctrine of God, Week 12

This morning we will answer the all-important question:

What qualified Jesus to be our Savior?

1]. Jesus is qualified because He is the Incarnate Son of God

John 1:1 ...*In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God... 14 and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, that glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth...*

Col. 1:15 *He is the image of the invisible God... 2:9 in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form...*

Heb. 1:3 ...*He is the radiance of [God's] glory and the exact representation of His nature...*

2]. Jesus is qualified because He was without sin

2 Cor 5:21 ...*[He]...knew no sin..*

Heb 4:15 *[Jesus] was ...tempted in every way...yet without sin...*

3]. Jesus is qualified because He is our Representative

A representative is a person who has been given the authority to act on behalf of another so that his actions are legally considered to be the actions of the other person.

In **Gen 1:26** God created Adam and gave him authority to rule over all the earth.

This means that Adam was God's legal agent with the authority to represent all humanity in his actions.

And because Adam is our representative, when he sinned God judged us as legally guilty of sin.

Rom. 5:19 *For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners...*

However, to fulfill His **Gen. 1:26** purpose, God sent His Son into the world as our Human Representative.

Therefore, the necessity of the Incarnation

As a result, for all who are represented in Christ, His righteousness is credited to us.

Rom. 5:19 ...so through the obedience of the One [Man Jesus] the many will be made righteous [2 Cor. 5:21]

This is summarized in **Rom. 5: 18** So then as through [Adam's] one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through [Jesus'] one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men [in Christ].

4]. Jesus is qualified because He is our Substitute

In **John 1:29**, John the Baptist calls Jesus ...*the Lamb of God*...

In this way, John is identifying Jesus as the One Whom God has sent to be the Substitute for the sins of His people.

As our Substitute, Jesus takes our place. And as the sacrificial lamb in **Ex. 12**, He suffers our penalty on our behalf, so that as in **Ex 12:13**, when God sees the blood of Jesus, He says ...*I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you*...

Because Jesus is our Substitute, at the cross, He takes our place. He pays the penalty of our sin so that God can righteously judge us as judicially free [**Gal. 5:1**] from any guilt

This is what we read in **Is. 53:6** ...*the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all*.

so that ...*the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin* [**Col. 2:13**] **1 John 1:7**

God sent His Son as our Divine Representative/Substitute so that ...*In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses* [**Eph 1:7**] so that in Him we have been ...*reconciled to God* [**Rom 5:10**] because ...*without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness* [**Heb 9:22**]

This is how God has fulfilled His purpose for us in Christ, so that in Christ, we would be to the praise of His glory [**Eph. 1:12**].