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Section: Doctrine of Christ (Christology)

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**HANDOUT NOTES**

**Q70. How is Jesus our righteousness?**

**His perfect life of obedience is credited to us. God sees Christ’s righteousness when He looks on those who are saved.**

**HO'LY**, adjective

Properly, whole, entire or perfect, in a moral sense. Hence, pure in heart, temper or dispositions; free from sin and sinful affections. Applied to the Supreme Being, holy signifies perfectly pure, immaculate and complete in moral character.

**AT'TRIBUTE**, noun

That which is attributed; that which is considered as belonging to, or inherent in; as, power and wisdom are attributes of the Supreme Being.

**WoTC: Holiness**: (As God’s Attribute) God is distinct, separate, and in a class by Himself (set apart). His is superior to creation in every and above all. He is morally pure (without any sin), and He is holy in relation to every aspect of nature and character. Purity and the sum off all moral excellencies are found in him.

**IMMU'TABLE**, adjective

invariable; unalterable; not capable or susceptible of change.

**Hebrews 6:13-18** For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, “Surely I will bless you and multiply you.” And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise. For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us.

**WoTC: Justice** (As God’s Attribute) Based on God’s own perfect righteousness and holiness, He deals with all things rightly and completely. All that God has decreed and all that He does is completely just. He hates sin and always judges perfectly.

**WoTC: Wrath** (As God’s attribute): God is a God of Wrath. The wrath of God is His eternal detestation of all unrighteousness. God has justice against all evil and decreed eternal punishment against unredeemed sinner.

**Psalm 5:5-6** The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

**MEDIA'TOR**, *noun* One that interposes between parties at variance for the purpose of reconciling them.

By way of eminence, Christ is the *mediator* the divine intercessor through whom sinners may be reconciled to an offended God.

**1 Timothy 2:5-6** For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

**WoTC: Imputation**: When something not of your own is credited (accounted) to you. Adam’s guilt was imputed to all persons. The sin of the elect was imputed to Jesus at the cross, and Jesus’s perfect righteousness is imputed to the elect at conversion.

**WoTC: Justification**: God declares a believer not guilty based on the believer being credited Jesus Christ’s perfect righteousness.

Jesus derives His holiness, His ability to act as mediator between God the Father and sinful man, from all the qualities he shares with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.

**1689 Confession of Faith:** The Lord our God is but one only living and true God; whose subsistence is in and of Himself, infinite in being and perfection; whose essence cannot be comprehended by any but Himself; a most pure spirit, invisible, without body, parts, or passions, who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; who is immutable, immense, eternal, incomprehensible, almighty, every way infinite, most holy, most wise, most free, most absolute; working all things according to the counsel of His own immutable and most righteous will,11 for His own glory; most loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering, abundant in goodness and truth, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin; the rewarder of them that diligently seek Him, and withal most just and terrible in His judgments, hating all sin, and who will by no means clear the guilty.

God, one being, three persons, Father, Son, Holy Spirit is self-existent. He relies on no one and nothing other than Himself for His existence.

**Jeremiah 10:10** But the Lord is the true God; he is the living God and the everlasting King. At his wrath the earth quakes, and the nations cannot endure his indignation.

He is immutable, unchanging, and the standard for Holiness, He is also unchanging.

**Malachi 3:6** For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

The Justice and Wrath of God

**Nahum 1:2-6**

Our triune God is the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Jesus is the second person of our triune God, God the Son.

Once sin entered the world at the fall, there was no way for a man to pay for sin since all men are born into sin. The only way to pay for sin was through the blood of a sinless man, and so Jesus condescended to take on flesh and be that sinless man.

Jesus lived a sinless life to be able to be the perfect sacrifice.

Sins of commission -- doing what you are not supposed to do.

Sins of omission -- failing to do something that you should do.

**Romans 3:23** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

He lived His entire life from birth to the cross without sinning.

**Matthew 2:19-23**

It is important to also remember that Jesus was born under the Old Covenant laws, so He had to be circumcised on the eighth day after birth and presented at the temple with the correct sacrifices. All the Law had to be satisfied for Jesus’s life to be sinless. Jesus living a sinless life started before he had the ability to walk and talk.

**Luke 2:41-52**

Jesus had to remain sinless to fulfill the law, to be the spotless lamb that could satisfy God’s righteous justice. Jesus was the only one that could do this, and He did it willingly, for the good of the elect and, ultimately, for the glory of God.

Jesus Christ is the mediator of the new covenant; he stands in intercession having paid the price for all the sins of the elect on the cross. This is justification and happens when a sinner is called, regenerated, given faith, is justified and ultimately glorified.

The theological term for this is “ordo salutis” or “the order of salvation.” It is also known as “the golden chain.”

**Romans 8:29-30** For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

God sees Christ’s righteousness when He looks on those who are saved.

**Romans 5:6-11, 17**