

An Exposition of the 2nd (1689) London Baptist Confession

Chapter 8.8-10: Of Christ the Mediator

8.8 To all those for whom Christ has obtained eternal redemption, He does certainly and effectually apply and communicate the same, making intercession for them;^a uniting them to Himself by His Spirit, revealing to them, in and by His Word, the mystery of salvation, persuading them to believe and obey,^b governing their hearts by His Word and Spirit,^c and overcoming all their enemies by His almighty power and wisdom,^d in such manner and ways as are most consonant to His wonderful and unsearchable dispensation; and all of free and absolute grace, without any condition foreseen in them to procure it.^e

^a John 6:37, 10:15–16, 17:9; Rom. 5:10 ^b John 17:6; Eph. 1:9; 1 John 5:20 ^c Rom. 8:9,14 ^d Ps. 110:1; 1 Cor. 15:25–26 ^e John 3:8; Eph. 1:8

1. To all those for whom Christ has obtained eternal redemption, He does certainly and effectually apply and communicate the same, making intercession for them.
 - a. John 6:37, 10:14 –16, 17:9.
 - b. Rom. 5:10.
 - c. The father always hears and answers the Son (John 11:41-42).
2. He unites them to Himself by His Spirit:
 - a. Revealing to them, in and by His Word, the mystery of salvation (John 3:3; 17:6; Ephesians 1:9).
 - b. Persuading them to believe and obey (Acts 13:48; Ephesians 2:8-10).
 - c. Governing their hearts by His Word and Spirit (Romans 8:9-13).
 - d. Overcoming all their enemies by His almighty power and wisdom (Psalm 110:1; 1 Corinthians 15:25-26).
 - e. In such manner and ways as are most consonant to His wonderful and unsearchable dispensation (Ephesians 1:7-10).
3. He does this all of free and absolute grace, without any condition foreseen in them to procure it.
 - a. John 3:8
 - b. Romans 9:11

8.9 This office of mediator between God and man is proper only to Christ, who is the prophet, priest, and king of the church of God; and may not be either in whole, or any part thereof, transferred from Him to any other.^a

^a 1 Tim. 2:5

1. This office of mediator between God and man is proper only to Christ, who is the prophet, priest, and king of the church of God.
2. This office may not be either in whole, or any part thereof, transferred from Him to any other.

8.10 This number and order of offices is necessary; for in respect of our ignorance, we stand in need of His prophetic office;^a and in respect of our alienation from God, and imperfection of the best of our services, we need His priestly office to reconcile us and present us acceptable unto God;^b and in respect to our averseness and utter inability to return to God, and for our rescue and security from our spiritual adversaries, we need His kingly office to convince, subdue, draw, uphold, deliver, and preserve us to His heavenly kingdom.^c

^a John 1:18 ^b Col. 1:21; Gal. 5:17 ^c John 16:8; Ps. 110:3; Luke 1:74–75

1. This number and order of offices is necessary.
 - a. In respect of our ignorance, we stand in need of His prophetic office (John 1:18).
 - b. In respect of our alienation from God, and imperfection of the best of our services, we need His priestly office to reconcile us and present us acceptable unto God (Colossians 1:19-22).
 - c. In respect to our averseness and utter inability to return to God, and for our rescue and security from our spiritual adversaries, we need His kingly office to convince, subdue, draw, uphold, deliver, and preserve us to His heavenly kingdom (Luke 1:74-75; 1 Peter 1:5).
2. All of these things ought to lead us into exultation and worship!