

Who is this King of Glory? (3)

Mediatorial Kingship Catechism

Q. 1 What is God's Essential Kingship? A. God's essential kingship is His supreme Lordship, as the Triune God, over all His creation.

Q. 2 How many kingdoms does Christ possess as the God-man Mediator of the Covenant of Grace? A. Christ, as the God-man Mediator of the covenant of grace, possesses three kingdoms: the kingdom of grace, the kingdom of glory, and the kingdom of power.

Q. 3 What is Christ's kingdom of grace? A. Christ's kingdom of grace is His church on earth throughout history, both visible and invisible, of which He declares, "I will build My church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Q. 4 What is Christ's kingdom of glory? A. Christ's kingdom of glory is His Church in its final state of sinless, resurrected, everlasting, heavenly perfection — presently enjoyed in part by the saints in glory — wherein all its members shall "shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father."

Q. 5 How are Christ's kingdoms of grace and glory related? A. Christ's kingdoms of grace and glory comprise two successive phases of His singular redemptive kingdom, the church.

Q. 6 What is Christ's kingdom of power? A. Christ's kingdom of power is His supreme authority over all things in heaven and earth, granted as a reward by His Father, who "put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things for the church," that He might destroy the kingdom of Satan, establish His kingdom of grace among all nations, and hasten the arrival of His kingdom of glory.

Q. 7 How can Christ the Mediator be Head over all things, if He mediates for His church only? A. Christ the Mediator reigns as the supreme and authoritative Head *over* all things; yet He is neither Head *of* all things (as if all were His body), nor Head *for* all things (as if to procure eternal life for all).

Q. 8 How does the scope of Christ's redemptive kingdom of grace and glory differ from that of His kingdom of power? A. Christ, by His kingdom of power, rules universally as Head over all creation, including fallen angels, reprobate sinners, and godless nations; whereas, by His redemptive kingdom of grace and glory, He rules particularly as the Head and Husband of His body, the church.

Westminster Standards

WLC 45 Christ executeth the office of a king, in calling out of the world a people to himself, and giving them officers, laws, and censures, by which he visibly governs them; in bestowing saving grace upon his elect, rewarding their obedience, and correcting them for their sins, preserving and supporting them under all their temptations and sufferings, restraining and overcoming all their enemies, and powerfully ordering all things for his own glory, and their good; and also in taking vengeance on the rest, who know not God, and obey not the gospel.

WLC 54 Christ is exalted in his sitting at the right hand of God, in that as God-man he is advanced to the highest favor with God the Father, with all fulness of joy, glory, and power over all things in heaven and earth; and does gather and defend his church, and subdue their enemies; furnisheth his ministers and people with gifts and graces, and maketh intercession for them.

WSC 102 In the second petition, which is *Thy kingdom come*, we pray that Satan's kingdom may be destroyed; and that the kingdom of grace may be advanced, ourselves and others brought into it, and kept in it; and that the kingdom of glory may be hastened.

WLC 191 In the second petition, (which is, *Thy kingdom come*,) acknowledging ourselves and all mankind to be by nature under the dominion of sin and Satan, we pray, that the kingdom of sin and Satan may be destroyed, the gospel propagated throughout the world, the Jews called, the fullness of the Gentiles brought in; the church furnished with all gospel-officers and ordinances, purged from corruption, countenanced and maintained by the civil magistrate: that the ordinances of Christ may be purely dispensed, and made effectual to the converting of those that are yet in their sins, and the confirming, comforting, and building up of those that are already converted: that Christ would rule in our hearts here, and hasten the time of his second coming, and our reigning with him forever: and that he would be pleased so to exercise the kingdom of his power in all the world, as may best conduce to these ends.

RPCNA Testimony

8.1 Jesus Christ, as Mediator, governs all creatures and all their actions for His own glory. Submission is due to Him from all men and angels. All men, in every possible relation and condition, are under obligation to promote His gracious purposes according to His law. The holy angels minister, under His direction, to the heirs of salvation.

8.2 Jesus Christ, as Head over all things for the sake of the Church, rules in perfect wisdom and justice over all parts of His creation including wicked men and devils. He makes them, and all their counsels and efforts, serve God's glory in the plan of redemption.

23.2 God has given the exercise of all authority to the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ is the Divine Lawgiver, Governor and Judge. His will concerning the purpose of civil government and the principles regarding its functions and operation are revealed in the written Word of God. The Holy Spirit enables even unregenerate rulers to fulfill their proper functions. A true recognition of the authority and law of Christ in national life can only be the fruit of the Spirit's regenerating power in the lives of individuals.

23.4 Every nation ought to recognize the Divine institution of civil government, the sovereignty of God exercised by Jesus Christ, and its duty to rule the civil affairs of men in accordance with the will of God. It should enter into covenant with Christ and serve to advance His kingdom on earth. The negligence of civil government in any of these particulars is sinful, makes the nation liable to the wrath of God, and threatens the continued existence of the government and nation.