

Question 47

Name _____

Q 47. How could the Son of God suffer?

A 47. Christ, the Son of God, became man that He might obey and suffer in our nature.

Scripture Base: Matt 1:18-25, 9:6, 28:19;
Mk 1:1; Lk 1:26-38; Gal 2:21; Heb 2:14 -18.
Doctrine: WCF 8 SC 21, 22, 27

Supplementary Questions

1. Who is Jesus Christ?
2. What does it mean that Jesus is the Son of God?
3. What does it mean that Jesus is the Son of Man?
4. Why did Jesus, being the Son of God, need to become the Son of Man?

Songs: "The Lord Our God is One", "God is a Spirit", "The Salvation Song" - Judy Rogers.

Teaching Notes

Review Q46 Did our Lord Jesus Christ ever commit the least sin? - *No; He was holy, harmless, and undefiled.*

Consider the two natures of Christ.

Story from Luke 1:26-38, with extras from Matt 1, especially v23, "Emmanuel – God with us"

Questions

1. He is the Son of God (Mark 1:1) and He is the Son of Man (Matt. 9:6).
2. It means that He shares the same nature as God – He is infinite, eternal, unchangeable (SC 4). God is Triune (Trinity: three persons): Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Matt. 28:19), each are equal in power and glory. Jesus is God the Son, the second person of the Trinity.
3. It means that He shares the same nature as man – He is finite, exists in time, and changeable – He was born, grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man (Luke 2:52). Jesus has two natures; not only one as we do; but both natures remain completely separate: He is not a God-man (in the sense that both nature combine in some way), but He is fully God and fully man.
4. He had to do what was required of those He represented (took the place of), and He had to die to pay for their sins (Q. 44-45). In order to do this, He had to become one with His people He was representing. He had to become a man to obey for man. He had to become a man to die for their sins, since as God, He couldn't die. (Heb. 2:14-18).

Gospel: Do you think you can obey well enough for God to let you into heaven? He sent His Son into the world to become a man, and to obey, suffer and die because you couldn't save yourself. Don't think that somehow you are good enough and that God will accept you apart from trusting in Jesus. He never would have put His Son through the agony He did if there was another way to save us. "I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness *comes* through the Law, then Christ died needlessly" (Gal. 2:21).

Extras: Draw a picture of the angel visiting Mary. Verse Luke 1: 35

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