

Q. What kind of Surety and Mediator should we look for then?

A. One who is at the same time truly human and righteous and yet more powerful than any creature, that is, true, eternal God. This person is Jesus Christ—crucified and raised again on our behalf, the only way to eternal life, whom God Himself from the beginning revealed from heaven to the poor, lost human race. For the merciful Father did not wait until humanity came to Him and asked for grace. Rather, He approached humanity, who had fled from Him, and out of His great mercy gave humanity His promise that He would restore it. He first gave this promise to Adam in Genesis 3:15: “I will put enmity,” says the Lord to the serpent, “

between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.” Later He gave the promise even more clearly to Abraham and his descendants: “By myself I have sworn, says the Lord, ... in thy seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed” (Gen. 22[:16, 18]). Finally, the promise was given also to David, as in the 89th Psalm. Hence Christ also, because of the promise given to David, is called a son of David.

This Savior, promised by God and then sent into the world, is Christ Jesus—truly human and righteous and at the same time more powerful than any creature, that is, true, eternal God, who gave Himself as a sacrifice on the cross to pay for all our sins. The Father Himself bears witness of Him from heaven: “This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased. Hear him!” [Matt. 17:5]. And Christ confirms this testimony of the Father when He says, “I am the way, the truth, and the life” [John 14:6]. Caspar Olevianus

Remember children are born with a decided bias toward evil, and therefore if you let them choose for themselves, they are certain to choose wrong. The mother cannot tell what her tender infant may grow up to be—tall or short, weak or strong, wise or foolish: he may be any of these things or not—it is all uncertain. But one thing the mother can say with certainty: he will have a corrupt and sinful heart. It is natural to us to do wrong.... Our hearts are like the earth on which we tread; let it alone, and it is sure to bear weeds. JC Ryle

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NETHERLANDS REFORMED CONGREGATION

Sioux Falls, SD



*Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is
within me, bless his holy name.
Psalm 103:1*

Services at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 or 6:30 p.m.