

## Church Membership Vow #2

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners,  
and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

### VIII. Of Christ the Mediator

8:1 It pleased God, in His eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, His only begotten Son, to be the Mediator between God and man; (1) the Prophet, (2) Priest, (3) and King; (4) the Head and Saviour of His Church; (5) the Heir of all things; (6) and Judge of the world; (7) unto whom He did from all eternity give a people, to be His seed, (8) and to be by Him in time redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified. (9)

(1) Isa. 42:1; 1 Pet. 1:19,20; John 3:16; 1 Tim. 2:5. (2) Acts 3:22. (3) Heb. 5:5,6. (4) Ps. 2:6; Luke 1:33. (5) Eph. 5:23. (6) Heb. 1:2. (7) Acts 17:31. (8) John 17:6; Ps. 22:30; Isa. 53:10. (9) 1 Tim. 2:6; Isa. 55:4,5; 1 Cor. 1:30.

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

8:2 The Son of God, the second person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God, of one substance and equal with the Father, did, when the fulness of time was come, take upon Him man's nature, (1) with all the essential properties and common infirmities thereof, yet without sin; (2) being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, in the womb of the Virgin Mary, of her substance. (3) So that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures, the Godhead and the manhood, were inseparably joined together in one person, without conversion, composition, or confusion. (4) Which person is very God, and very man, yet one Christ, the only Mediator between God and man. (5)

(1) John 1:1,14; 1 John 5:20; Phil. 2:6; Gal. 4:4. (2) Heb. 2:14,16,17; Heb. 4:15. (3) Luke 1:27,31,35; Gal. 4:4. (4) Luke 1:35; Col. 2:9; Rom. 9:5; 1 Pet. 3:18; 1 Tim. 3:16. (5) Rom. 1:3,4; 1 Tim. 2:5.

Colossians 2:9 <sup>9</sup> For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 <sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

8:3 The Lord Jesus, in His human nature thus united to the divine, was sanctified and anointed with the Holy Spirit above measure;(1) having in Him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge;(2) in whom it pleased the Father that all fulness should dwell:(3) to the end, that being holy, harmless, undefiled, and full of grace and truth,(4) He might be thoroughly furnished to execute the office of a Mediator and Surety.(5) Which office He took not unto Himself, but was thereunto called by His Father;(6) who put all power and judgment into His hand, and gave Him commandment to execute the same.(7)

(1)Ps. 45:7; John 3:34. (2)Col. 2:3. (3)Col. 1:19. (4)Heb. 7:26; John 1:14. (5)Acts 10:38; Heb. 12:24; Heb. 7:22. (6)Heb. 5:4,5. (7)John 5:22,27; Matt. 28:18; Acts 2:36.

Hebrews 7:22 <sup>22</sup> so much the more also Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.

Hebrews 12:18-24 <sup>18</sup> For you have not come to *a mountain* that can be touched and to a blazing fire, and to darkness and gloom and whirlwind, <sup>19</sup> and to the blast of a trumpet and the sound of words which *sound was such that* those who heard begged that no further word be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup> For they could not bear the command, "IF EVEN A BEAST TOUCHES THE MOUNTAIN, IT WILL BE STONED." <sup>21</sup> And so terrible was the sight, *that* Moses said, "I AM FULL OF FEAR and trembling." <sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, <sup>23</sup> to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of *the* righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup> and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than *the blood* of Abel.

8:4 This office the Lord Jesus did most willingly undertake,(1) which that He may discharge, He was made under the law,(2) and did perfectly fulfil it;(3) endured most grievous torments immediately in His soul,(4) and most painful sufferings in His body;(5) was crucified, and died;(6) was buried, and remained under the power of death, yet saw no corruption.(7) On the third day He arose from the dead,(8) with the same body in which He suffered;(9) with which also He ascended into heaven, and there sitteth at the right hand of His Father,(10) making intercession;(11) and shall return to judge men and angels at the end of the world.(12)

(1)Ps. 40:7,8; Heb. 10:5-10;John 10:18; Phil. 2:8. (2)Gal. 4:4. (3) Matt. 3:15; Matt. 5:17. (4) Matt. 26:37,38; Luke 22:44; Matt. 27:46. (5) Matt. 26; Matt. 27. (6) Phil. 2:8. (7) Acts 2:23,24,27; Acts 13:37; Rom. 6:9. (8) 1 Cor. 15:3,4,5. (9) John 20:25,27. (10) Mark 16:19. (11) Rom. 8:34; Heb. 9:24; Heb. 7:25. (12)Rom. 14:9,10; Acts 1:11; Acts 10:42; Matt. 13:40,41,42; Jude 6; 2 Pet. 2:4

Philippians 2:5-11 <sup>5</sup> Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup> Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

8:5 The Lord Jesus, by His perfect obedience and sacrifice of Himself, which He, through the eternal Spirit, once offered up unto God, hath fully satisfied the justice of His Father;(1) and purchased, not only reconciliation, but an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven, for all those whom the Father hath given unto Him.(2)

(1)Rom. 5:19; Heb. 9:14,16; Heb. 10:14; Eph. 5:2; Rom. 3:25,26. (2)Dan. 9:24,26; Col. 1:19,20; Eph. 1:11,14; John 17:2; Heb. 9:12,15.

Titus 3:4-7 <sup>4</sup> But when the kindness of God our Savior and *His* love for mankind appeared, <sup>5</sup> He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom He poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to *the* hope of eternal life.

8:6 Although the work of redemption was not actually wrought by Christ till after His incarnation, yet the virtue, efficacy, and benefits thereof, were communicated unto the elect in all ages successively from the beginning of the world, in and by those promises, types, and sacrifices, wherein He was revealed and signified to be the Seed of the woman, which should bruise the serpent's head, and the Lamb slain from the beginning of the world being yesterday and today the same, and for ever.(1)

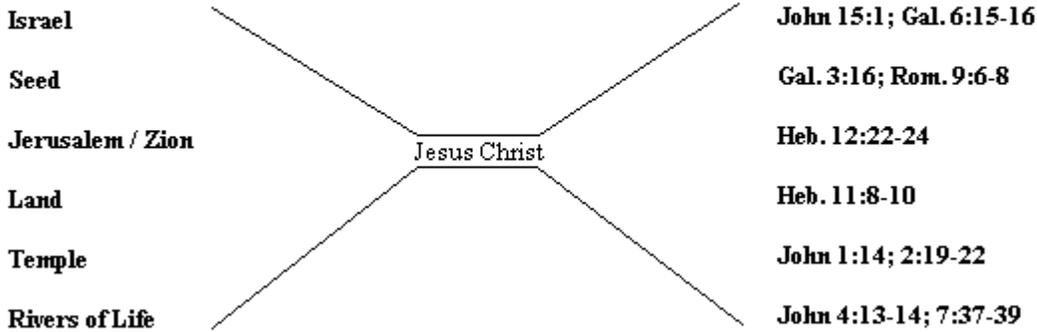
(1)Gal. 4:4,5; Gen. 3:15; Rev. 13:8; Heb. 13:8.

Galatians 3:13-16 <sup>13</sup> Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us-- for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE "-- <sup>14</sup> in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. <sup>15</sup> Brethren, I speak in terms of human relations: even though it is *only* a man's covenant, yet when it has been ratified, no one sets it aside or adds conditions to it. <sup>16</sup> Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, "And to seeds," as *referring* to many, but *rather* to one, "And to your seed," that is, Christ.

Galatians 3:22-29 <sup>22</sup> But the Scripture has shut up everyone under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. <sup>23</sup> But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed. <sup>24</sup> Therefore the Law has become our tutor *to lead us* to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. <sup>26</sup> For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>27</sup> For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.

Galatians 4:4-5 <sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, <sup>5</sup> so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

**Jesus Christ is the FUNNEL of Promises and Prophecies  
(2 Corinthians 1:19-20; Galatians 3:16)**



8:7 Christ, in the work of mediation, acteth according to both natures, by each nature doing that which is proper to itself:(1) yet, by reason of the unity of the person, that which is proper to one nature is sometimes in Scripture attributed to the person denominated by the other nature.(2)

(1)Heb. 9:14; 1 Pet. 3:18. (2)Acts 20:28; John 3:13; 1 John 3:16.

Acts 20:28 <sup>28</sup> "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

8:8 To all those for whom Christ hath purchased redemption, He doth certainly and effectually apply and communicate the same;(1) making intercession for them;(2) and revealing unto them, in and by the Word, the mysteries of salvation;(3) effectually persuading them by His Spirit to believe and obey; and governing their hearts by His Word and Spirit;(4) overcoming all their enemies by His almighty power and wisdom, in such manner and ways as are most consonant to His wonderful and unsearchable dispensation.(5)

(1)John 6:37,39; John 10:15,16. (2)1 John 2:1,2; Rom. 8:34. (3)John 15:13,15; Eph. 1:7,8,9; John 17:6. (4)John 14:16; Heb. 12:2; 2 Cor. 4:13; Rom. 8:9,14; Rom. 15:18,19; John 17:17. (5)Ps. 110:1; 1 Cor. 15:25,26; Mal. 4:2,3; Cor. 2:15.

Romans 8:9 <sup>9</sup> However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

Romans 8:14 <sup>14</sup> For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

Romans 15:18-19 <sup>18</sup> For I will not presume to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me, resulting in the obedience of the Gentiles by word and deed, <sup>19</sup> in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Spirit; so that from Jerusalem and round about as far as Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.

WCF XIV. Of Saving Faith

14:1 The grace of faith, whereby the elect are enabled to believe to the saving of their souls,(1) is the work of the Spirit of Christ in their hearts,(2) and is ordinarily wrought by the ministry of the Word:(3) by which also, and by the administration of the sacraments, and prayer, it is increased and strengthened.(4)

(1)Heb. 10:39. (2)2 Cor. 4:13; Eph. 1:17,18,19; Eph. 2:8. (3)Rom. 10:14,17. (4)1 Pet. 2:2; Acts 20:32; Rom. 4:11; Luke 17:5; Rom. 1:16,17.

WCF 14:1 – The Ordinary Means of Grace

Means of Grace	Faith...is ordinarily <i>wrought</i>	Faith...is <i>increased and strengthened</i>
Word	X	X
Sacraments		X
Prayer		X

Romans 10:12-17 <sup>12</sup> For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same *Lord* is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; <sup>13</sup> for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED." <sup>14</sup> How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? <sup>15</sup> How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!" <sup>16</sup> However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" <sup>17</sup> So faith *comes* from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

14:2 By this faith, a Christian believeth to be true whatsoever is revealed in the Word, for the authority of God Himself speaking therein;(1) and acteth differently upon that which each particular passage thereof containeth; yielding obedience to the commands,(2) trembling at the threatenings,(3) and embracing the promises of God for this life and that which is to come.(4) But the principal acts of saving faith are accepting, receiving, and resting upon Christ alone for justification, sanctification, and eternal life, by virtue of the covenant of grace.(5)

(1)John 4:42; 1 Thess. 2:13; John 5:10; Acts 24:14. (2)Rom. 16:26. (3)Isa. 66:2. (4)Heb. 11:13; 1 Tim. 4:8. (5)John 1:12; Acts 16:31; Gal. 2:20; Acts 15:11.

WCF 14:2 – “By this faith, a Christian...”

“...believes the Scriptures”	“...acts differently”	Scripture
Commands	Obeys	Romans 16:25-26
Threatenings	Trembles	Isaiah 66:1-2
Promises	Embraces	Hebrews 11:13; 1 Tim 4:8

## Canons of Dort (1619)

### Section 5: The Perseverance of the Saints; Article 14: God's Use of Means in Perseverance

“And, just as it has pleased God to begin this work of grace in us by the proclamation of the gospel, so he preserves, continues, and completes his work by the hearing and reading of the gospel, by meditation on it, by its exhortations, threats, and promises, and also by the use of the sacraments.”

14:3 This faith is different in degrees, weak or strong;(1) may be often and many ways assailed and weakened, but gets the victory;(2) growing up in many to the attainment of a full assurance through Christ,(3) who is both the author and finisher of our faith.(4)

(1)Heb. 5:13,14; Rom. 4:19,20; Matt. 6:30; Matt. 8:10. (2)Luke 22:31,32; Eph. 6:16; 1 John 5:4,5. (3)Heb. 6:11,12; Heb. 10:22; Col. 2:2. (4)Heb. 12:2

1 John 5:4-5 <sup>4</sup> For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world-- our faith. <sup>5</sup> Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

#### WCF XIV. Of Repentance unto Life

15:1 Repentance unto life is an evangelical grace,(1) the doctrine whereof is to be preached by every minister of the Gospel, as well as that of faith in Christ.(2)

(1)Zech. 12:10; Acts 11:18. (2)Luke 24:47; Mark 1:15; Acts 22:21.

Mark 1:14-15 <sup>14</sup> Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

15:2 By it, a sinner, out of the sight and sense, not only of the danger, but also of the filthiness and odiousness of his sins, as contrary to the holy nature, and righteous law of God; and upon the apprehension of His mercy in Christ to such as are penitent, so grieves for and hates his sins, as to turn from them all unto God,(1) purposing and endeavouring to walk with Him in all the ways of His commandments.(2)

(1)Ezek. 18:30,31; Ezek. 36:31; Isa. 30:22; Ps. 51:4; Jer. 31:18,19; Joel 2:12,13; Amos 5:15; Ps. 119:128; 2 Cor. 7:11. (2)Ps. 119:6,59,106; Luke 1:6; 2 Kings 23:25.

2 Corinthians 7:10-11 <sup>10</sup> For the sorrow that is according to *the will of God* produces a repentance without regret, *leading* to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death. <sup>11</sup> For behold what earnestness this very thing, this godly sorrow, has produced in you: what vindication of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what longing, what zeal, what avenging of wrong! In everything you demonstrated yourselves to be innocent in the matter.

15:3 Although repentance be not to be rested in, as any satisfaction for sin, or any cause of the pardon thereof,(1) which is the act of God's free grace in Christ;(2) yet it is of such necessity to all sinners, that none may expect pardon without it.(3)

(1)Ezek. 36:31,32; Ezek. 16:61-63. (2)Hos. 14:2,4; Rom. 3:24; Eph. 1:7. (3)Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30,31.

Luke 13:3-5 <sup>3</sup> "I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. <sup>4</sup> "Or do you suppose that those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them were *worse* culprits than all the men who live in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> "I tell you, no, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

15:4 As there is no sin so small but it deserves damnation;(1) so there is no sin so great, that it can bring damnation upon those who truly repent.(2)

(1)Rom. 6:23; Rom. 5:12; Matt. 12:36. (2)Isa. 55:7; Rom. 8:1; Isa. 1:16,18.

Romans 6:23 <sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

15:5 Men ought not to content themselves with a general repentance, but it is every man's duty to endeavour to repent of his particular sins particularly.(1)

(1)Ps. 19:13; Luke 19:8; 1 Tim. 1:13,15.

1 John 1:9 <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

15:6 As every man is bound to make private confession of his sins to God, praying for the pardon thereof (1) upon which, and the forsaking of them, he shall find mercy;(2) so he that scandalizeth his brother, or the Church of Christ, ought to be willing, by a private or public confession and sorrow for his sin, to declare his repentance to those that are offended;(3) who are thereupon to be reconciled to him, and in love to receive him.(4)

(1)Ps. 51:4,5,7,9,14; Ps. 32:5,6. (2)Prov. 28:13; 1 John 1:9. (3)James 5:16; Luke 17:3,4; Josh. 7:19; Ps. 51. (4)2 Cor. 2:8.

2 Corinthians 2:5-11 <sup>5</sup> But if any has caused sorrow, he has caused sorrow not to me, but in some degree-- in order not to say too much-- to all of you. <sup>6</sup> Sufficient for such a one is this punishment which *was inflicted* by the majority, <sup>7</sup> so that on the contrary you should rather forgive and comfort *him*, otherwise such a one might be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. <sup>8</sup> Wherefore I urge you to reaffirm *your* love for him. <sup>9</sup> For to this end also I wrote, so that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things. <sup>10</sup> But one whom you forgive anything, *I forgive* also; for indeed what I have forgiven, if I have forgiven anything, *I did it* for your sakes in the presence of Christ, <sup>11</sup> so that no advantage would be taken of us by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.