

Belgic Confession, Article 10, “The Deity of Christ”

Scripture Lesson: John 1:1-18

Lesson Aim	To understand two things: First, what it means for Christ to be the only begotten Son of God. Second, to know the Scriptural proofs for the deity of Christ.
Steps to Learning	Read Belgic Confession, Article 10 and John 1:1-18. Discuss the sermon and the particulars of the lesson below. It may work best to work through the material over several days or sessions.
Discuss	<p>What does the phrase “only begotten,” which is one word in Greek, <u>not</u> mean? It does not mean, according to the Belgic Confession, “made or created for then he (the Son of God) would be a creature.”</p> <p>What does “only begotten,” <u>not</u> refer to? It does not refer to “the time that [the Son of God] assumed our nature” (as if he had come into existence when he was born of Mary).</p> <p>What, then, does “only begotten” mean? It means begotten from eternity. More specifically it means of sole descent, that is, without brothers and sisters. It can also mean unique, unparalleled and incomparable. In essence “only begotten” means that Jesus Christ was and is fully God reflected in his intimate, unique relationship to the Father.</p> <p>Which Creeds help us to understand the deity of Christ? The Nicæan, the Athanasian and the Definition of Chalcedon.</p> <p>What Scriptures were mentioned in the sermon that represent explicit assertions of the deity of Christ? John 1:1, 20:28; Romans 9:5, Philippians 2:6, Titus 2:13 and 1 John 5:20.</p> <p>What are two Old Testament Texts that reveal divine names given to the Christ to come? Isaiah 9:6, Jeremiah 23:5,6.</p>
Bible Reading	Joshua 8-14 (covering the great Bible stories)