

JESUS IS OUR ONLY MEDIATOR

By Ps James Phiri

INTRODUCTION

A mediator is someone who mediates, that is, one who acts as an intermediary to work with opposing sides in order to bring about a settlement. He or she tries to influence a disagreement between two parties with the intention of resolving a dispute.

Jesus is the only mediator between God and mankind (**1Timothy 2:5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus**). This is because God has a dispute with us due to sin. Sin is described in the Bible as transgression of the law of God (**1John 3:4 Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness**), and rebellion against God (**Deuteronomy 9:7 Remember! Do not forget how you provoked the Lord your God to wrath in the wilderness. From the day that you departed from the land of Egypt until you came to this place, you have been rebellious against the Lord**). Sin stands between all of us and God. And there is nothing we can do on our own that would be sufficient to mediate between ourselves and God. No amount of good work or law-keeping can ever make us righteous enough to stand before God. But when Jesus came into the world, the angels sang '**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests (Luke 2:14).**' This is peace between God and man because of Jesus.

In order to understand Jesus' role as our mediator, we need to look at the role of the Old Testament High Priest.

THE ROLE OF THE HIGH PRIEST

The word priest carries a couple of primary meanings:

First, it means someone who mediates in religious services

Secondly, it means one who is holy or set apart to perform those services.

In the Old Testament, priests were chosen from the family line of Aron (**Hebrews 5:1-3 For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins**). And from these priests, one was chosen to be the High Priest. This is the one who entered the Most Holy Place once a year on the Day of Atonement to place the blood of the sacrifice on the Ark of the Covenant (**Hebrews 9:7 But into the second part the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance**). By these daily and yearly sacrifices, the sins of the people were temporarily covered until the Messiah came to take away their sins.

The Bible says Jesus is our Atonement.

JESUS IS THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST

But it also says He is our Great High Priest (**Hebrews 4:14-16 read**). He is the one who gives us access to God. And we can come to God without fear because of Jesus.

Jesus is the one who stands between God's anger and mankind. You remove Jesus, you live under God's wrath.

Just as God treated the people based on the High Priest. God deals with us based on Jesus. We do not get what we deserve, but what Jesus deserves.

God forgave their sins because the High Priest was holy and blameless to offer the sacrifice and the blood. God forgives our sins because Jesus is holy and blameless before God. And not just that He offered the sacrifice and the blood. No, he was the sacrifice and He offered His own blood (**Hebrews 9:11-14 read**).

By becoming the High Priest, Jesus removed every other mediator between God and man. No man, whether priest, pastor, prophet, bishop, apostle, can now mediate between God and man.

JESUS IS OUR ONLY MEDIATOR

1Timothy 2:5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus.

You cannot approach God through me. I cannot ask God to forgive you or your sins on your behalf. Abraham interceded for Sodom and Gomorrah in a way God wanted at that time; I cannot intercede like that today. When the Israelites wanted to speak to God, they asked Moses to speak on their behalf, you cannot ask me to do that today.

Any man who insists on mediating like that is an Antichrist. Because Jesus said '**I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me (John 14:6).**'

Everyone has access to the Father through Jesus. We can go to the Father together, in agreement (**Mathew 18:19 Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven**).

Even our intercession is different than that of Moses and all the Old Testament saints. We do not stand in the gap as the old believers did.

EXAMPLES

1. We do not beg God to pour out His spirit. We manifest the works of the spirit.
2. We do not beg God to relent from His anger. We thank Him for relenting.
3. We do not beg for a blessing. We receive a blessing.

When we ask for your prayer requests. We want to agree with you in your request to God. The role of today's priests (the five-fold ministry) is to direct people to Christ, the mediator of the new Covenant.

Any minister who is not leading you to Christ, is an antichrist. Our duty is this: **to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:14-13).**'

This means Pastors must teach and reveal Christ to God's people and help people to know Christ, because the goal is to become like Christ.

Once God's people know Christ, they can therefore serve Him.

CONCLUSION

I cannot bring you closer to God. You cannot pray through me. Jesus is the one who has reconciled us to God.

When we pray in His name, we are praying through Him. God hears and answers every prayer of His children. He is not a respecter of persons.

What God has done for Paul; he can do it for you. But you must believe Him correctly. You must pray correctly.

God loves us just as He loves Jesus His son.

Hebrews 4:16 says 'Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.'