

## **THE MEDIATOR**

1 Tim. 2:5 [Heb. 8:6; 9:15; 12:24]

Three titles of the Lord Jesus Christ are closely related: **Advocate; Mediator; Surety** (tonight's sermon).

A “mediator” is “a go between... an arbitrator... an intercessor... a peacemaker,” who seeks to reconcile two parties who are out of sorts with each other. Job lamented in Job 9:33, “Neither is there any *DAYSMAN betwixt us, that might lay his hand upon us both.*”

The Lord Jesus Christ is our **sole Mediator** between God and men (1 Tim. 2:5).

- ➔ Roman Catholicism teaches Mary is a mediator between God and men.
  - "No one can approach Christ except through his Mother" (Pope Leo XIII, 1891).
  - "My salvation depends upon Mary's mediation in union with Christ, because of her exalted position as Mediatrix of all Grace..." (catechism in *My Sunday Missal*).

The title “Mediator” differs from Christ’s title as our “Advocate” (1 John 2:1-2)— An Advocate is partial to his client; the “Mediator” is impartial; He represents both parties equally.

**ILLUS:** Sometimes when there is a dispute between labor and management, a mediator, or arbitrator, will be called in to help settle the dispute.

- Jesus is the Mediator of a better covenant (Heb. 8:6); the new testament (Heb. 9:15); and the new covenant (Heb. 12:24).

➔ What is a covenant? It is a CONTRACT / AGREEMENT.

The book of Hebrews teaches the Old Covenant God established with Moses and the children of Israel was not good enough (8:7-9). The Lord Jesus Christ came to establish a new and better covenant (Heb. 8:6).

**What makes this new covenant better than the old covenant:**

- The old covenant was like a SAIL BOAT. As long as the Jew cooperated with the winds of God’s law and lived up to that law, he would be blown along by the blessings of God.
- The new covenant is more like a STEAM BOAT. Under the new covenant God puts His laws in our hearts (Heb. 8:10). It is not something that we have to reach for or live up to—It is something that

operates in us and for us, not something operating against us unless we uphold all its precepts.

- The old covenant said, “*Thou shalt... Thou shalt not.*”
- Under the new covenant, God says, “*I will... I will... I will...*” (8:10, 12).
- The old covenant was only temporary— a stopgap measure.
- The new covenant is called “*the everlasting covenant*” (Heb. 13:20).
- Under the old covenant, Moses acted as the mediator. He stood in the gap between the Holy God and sinful Israel.
- Under the new covenant, Jesus is our Mediator—Our go-between who stands in the gap between sinful man and a thrice holy God and intercedes on our behalf.

How does Jesus to act as our Mediator?

### **I. As the Son of God, Jesus is the **CONNECTOR** of the New Covenant.**

- ➔ Since this covenant is between God and man, the Mediator, must LINKED with the One who is making the covenant.
  - A. To be the Mediator, Jesus must be **connected with God**, therefore Jesus must be the Son of God. (Read Hebrews 1:1-3).
  - B. Jesus must also have a **connection with man**.
    1. He can mediate with God because he was fully God.
    2. He can mediate with and for us because he was fully man. Therefore, as the Son of God, He is the CONNECTION of the New Covenant, and...

### **II. As the Son of Man, Jesus is the **CONDENSATION** of the New Covenant.** Jesus had to become man in order to bring the covenant to the sons and daughters of men.

- A. The covenant was out of our reach. We could not attain unto to.

Ephesians 2:12 says, we were “*aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and **strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:***”

- B. Praise God, Jesus CONDESCENDED to us in our low estate, that we might be partakers of this better covenant (READ Heb. 2:9, 14-17).
  - ➔HE WHO WAS GOD, BECAME MAN (John 1:1, 14).
- C. He is the ONLY WAY this covenant could get to us!

1. Jesus must be the Son of God (the CONNECTION of the covenant);
2. He must be the Son of Man (the CONDESCENSION of the covenant).

➡ Now, **how are we going to accept the agreements of the covenant?**  
What is it that will create in us a desire to enter into this covenant?

**III. As the Prophet, likened unto Moses, Jesus is the COMMUNICATOR of the new covenant.** The prophet was a **communicator**. He communicated the message of God to the people.

- A. Jesus is the Prophet of all prophets—He is the Teacher of all teachers.
- B. Jesus is not the provider of wisdom—He is made unto us wisdom.
- C. He did not come to share something with us—He came to *impart* something *in* us—*“I will put my laws INTO their mind, and write them IN their hearts”* (Heb. 8:10).
  - Jesus is not only the Son of God, who CONNECTS us with the covenant Maker...
  - Jesus is not only the Son of Man, who CONDESCENDS to bring the covenant down to us...
  - But Jesus is also the Prophet, who COMMUNICATES and instills in us a desire to come to an agreement with the covenant Maker!

➡ BUT wait, we are not through yet. What about our sins? This Mediator must not only be CONNECTED to God, and CONDESCEND to man, and COMMUNICATE the truth of the covenant to our hearts; **but He must have the capacity to TAKE OUR SINS AWAY.**

- How are our sins going to be removed according to this covenant?
- What good is the covenant if we still have our sins.
- The only way is through the work of the Mediator, the Lord Jesus Christ, who makes reconciliation for the sins of the people (see Heb. 2:17).

**IV. As the Priest after the order of Melchisedec, Jesus is the COMPLETION of the new covenant.** The priest made atonement for the reconciliation of the sins of the people.

- A. The old covenant never removed the sins of the people. Their sins were only covered. But under the new covenant, my sins are

REMOVED as far as the east is from the west; cast into the depths of the sea, never to be remembered again (see Heb. 10:3-17).

#421— You ask me why I'm happy, so I'll just tell you why,  
 Because my sins are gone;  
 And when I meet the scoffers who ask me where they are,  
 I say, my sins are gone!  
 They're underneath the blood, on the cross of Calvary,  
 As far removed as darkness is from dawn;  
 In the sea of God's forgetfulness, that's good enough for me.  
 Praise God, my sins are gone!

**Hallelujah — The Old Account was Settled long ago (#451)!**

B. The devil will dig around in the closets of yesterday, and try to bring to remembrance those past sins. The devil even has some helpers.

- Satan's demons don't say, "Praise God, it is wonderful to see you living for God." No, they'll seek to bring you back into the old life.

C. When you remember your old life of sin, it is only in your memory, or somebody else's memory—It is not in God's memory (Heb. 10:17).

- Satan will come around to remind you of your sins, "Oh, I remember you. You smoked weed... you fornicated... you cussed... "
- I say, "Yeah, I remember... and you remember, BUT you don't matter, and God fixed it to where *I don't care!*" I got a big case of the "I don't cares!" I don't have to care about something God has forgotten! You need to get yourself a case of the "I don't cares," when it comes to Satan's accusations!

➡ God is not only good at *forgiving*; He is also good at *forgetting!*

**SUMMATION: Thank God for Jesus—THE MEDIATOR OF THE BETTER COVENANT!"**

➡ Have you entered into this new covenant with Him. He is the only way!