

## Hebrews 7.25

### Glorious Intercession

In everything God does, the glory of Christ and the display of that glory is always the foremost consideration. So it should come as no surprise to us that in the eternal intercession of Jesus for us, this is true as well. We often look at the things that we receive from God through a lens that makes all motive and praise about what WE get... but it is worth the time and effort for us to consider the glory and beauty of what Jesus does in His intercession simply for the sake of seeing Jesus exalted and lifted high...

#### I. UNCHANGED NATURE

- A. The only redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ who being the eternal son of God became man, and so was and continues to be God and Man in two distinct natures and one person, forever.
- B. Christ is still human & Divine. His human nature has been exalted and glorified, but remains human as ours will be after our resurrection

*“And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.” (1 Corinthians 15:49, NKJV)*

1. we will have a body like His, implies that He has one like us!

C. He acts in honor and glory when He prays for us

D. God commanded Him to ask on our behalf -

*““I will declare the decree: The Lord has said to Me, ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession.” (Psalm 2:7–8, NKJV)*

E. He sanctifies the prayers offered at the throne of God -

*“Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel’s hand.” (Revelation 8:3–4, NKJV)*

## **II. PRAYERS CHANGED**

- A. His prayers are different than they were when He was on the earth...
- B. Here He usually cried for help against the temptations of the flesh -

*“who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear,” (Hebrews 5:7, NKJV)*

- 1. So too should we!
- C. But in His glory He has no temptations at all... so His prayer is more like His High Priestly prayer

### **John 17.20-24**

- 1. He spoke with absolute confidence in His union with God
- 2. He knew God's will and was comfortable in His obedience unto it
- 3. This prayer is truly the cloud of incense in Heaven...
- D. This prayer prepared the spices of incense
  - 1. His suffering broke them and bruised them to release their savor

### **Isaiah 53.4-5; 10-12**

2. His willing offering and God's subsequent acceptance of that offering was the fire from the altar which lit the incense of His prayer and
3. Thus He covered the altar and mercy seat with the cloud of His own intercession on our behalf.

### **III. CONTINUAL ETERNAL DEMONSTRATION**

- A. Eternally in the presence of God, He perpetually demonstrates the efficacy of His death in our place...
- B. This is accompanied by His own love for us on display, His love magnifies His goodness. Consider how it feels to be loved by someone. Do you look on the things they do and think "I must be pretty cool for them to like me so much"?
  1. Tender care
  2. Love
  3. Desires for the best welfare of His own bride
  4. Earnest intent and power to provide and supply our need

5. The work of our deliverance
  6. The ultimate reality of our salvation.
- C. He ALONE is qualified to intercede
1. He appears Himself, not in any way allowing any substitute or aid in this work of intercession

*“For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;”  
(Hebrews 9:24, NKJV)*

*“For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,” (1 Timothy 2:5, NKJV)*

2. He represents His own death before the throne which renders His intercession powerful
  - a. He appears as a lamb having been slain...

*“And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.”  
(Revelation 5:6, NKJV)*

3. As a point of technicality; these do not constitute prayer or intercession; for intercession IS prayer...

*“Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.” (Romans 8:26, NKJV)*

*“Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,” (1 Timothy 2:1, NKJV)*

4. however His appearance before God to offer up prayer, and his representation of His death there, do render his prayers sacrificial in scope and quality
- D. He ALONE offers up prayers according His desire for His church.
1. He offers up prayers as priest over the house of God -  
**Hebrews 10.19-23**
  2. He is our advocate

*“My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an*

*Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.”  
(1 John 2:1, NKJV)*

3. He prays and thus reaffirms His own submission to God -

*“For “He has put all things under His feet.” But when He says “all things are put under Him,” it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.” (1 Corinthians 15:27–28, NKJV)*

4. He is the conduit of the grace of God delivered unto us - being the very yes and amen of God.

*“For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.” (2 Corinthians 1:20, NKJV)*

#### **IV. PURPOSE IN MEDIATION**

- A. His eternal life and eternal intercession are bound together in purpose. His eternal intercession is the very purpose of His mediation.
- B. He lives to rule the church and all things -

*“And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS”  
(Revelation 19:16, NKJV)*

C. He lives to subdue His enemies -

*“Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession. You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter’s vessel.’ ””  
(Psalm 2:8–9, NKJV)*

D. He lives to give the Holy Spirit to all His children -

*“And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—”  
(John 14:16, NKJV)*

## **V. GLORY IN MEDIATION**

A. So great and glorious is the work of our salvation that it is necessary that Christ lead a mediatorial life on our behalf.

B. Sinners could not be saved without the death of Jesus

C. Believers could not be finally saved without the life of Christ following His death...



*“For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.” (Romans 5:10, NKJV)*

*“Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?” (Romans 8:34–35, NKJV)*

*“but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.” (Romans 4:24–25, NKJV)*

D. He did not do the start of the work and leave the rest to us! This would have condemned us for all eternity.

*“I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.” (John 14:18, NKJV)*

E. He fulfilled the eternal purpose of God and gave to us the inheritance of His own obedience, then He intercedes continually on our behalf to apply it to us. This fulfills the

foundations of creation laid down before God ever uttered "Let there be"

### **Colossians 2.11-15**

F. None but Jesus could accomplish what is needed on our behalf, none but He could fulfill His promises to us!

1. He alone knows what a great work is our salvation
2. He alone has the power and wisdom to fulfill that work
3. He alone has the grace to overcome our rebellion and
4. He alone has the mercy to stand in our place and bear our punishment