

1 Timothy 2:3-7

Christ our Mediator

Here in Chapter 2 Paul is exhorting us to pray !
We talked about the subject of prayer last time.

A) One of the things that I love about 1 Timothy is right in the mist of dealing with a particular subject – **Paul will make a deep theological statement.**

B) Ch.1 – False teachers - 1 Tim 1:15 **This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.**

C) He does it here again in Ch.2 – **In the middle of this Subject of Prayer gives he us two Motivations for Prayer** – two theological insights

#1 God desires that all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth!

A) We can pray for **“all men”** because it is God’s Desire that **“all men”** come to the knowledge of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

B) John 3:16 **God loved the world that He gave**

1 John 2:2; 4:14 **Christ died for the whole world.**
{ Not just a select few.

John 12:32 **Jesus died on the cross that He might draw “all men” to salvation.**

C) Question: If God doesn’t want anyone to perish, then why are so many lost?

1) Because salvation depends on a “knowledge of the truth” **And people’s acceptance of the truth.**

D) God desires all men to be saved but he is not going to force men to be saved

1) God is not going to force us to love him –

E) If I held a gun to Denise’s head and said Marry me or else { **Not be love } – I would buy a dog – taste all the food – make sure not poisoned**

F) Not the right platform or basis for a healthy relationship.

Jesus lamented over Jerusalem, “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling” (Matt. 23:37)

John 5:39-40

“You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.”

There has to be a willingness on our part to come!

So we can pray for all men because God desires all men to be saved –

A) Jesus came to die for the sins of all men

2nd Motivation: We have a Mediator: Point of Access

A) A mediator supposes a controversy. Sin had made a quarrel between man and God;

B) This break in our relationship with God started in the garden w/ Adam & Eve

1) When they sinned against God He drove them from His presence in Garden. Separation.

C) But each of us by our own sins maintain this separation.

1) If we do not make peace with God in this life, we will be separated from Him forever.

D) But In order to resolve our differences with God we need a go-between who can sufficiently mediate our dispute,

1) and it was for this purpose that God sent His own Son into the world.

E) Jesus Christ is a Mediator who came to make peace!

The word 'mediator' is actually a bit rare in the NT. It is used only 6 times in the entire NT.

A) 2 of the 6 occurrences are found in Gal 3:19-20

What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator.²⁰ Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one.

Galatians 3:19-20

A) Here it carries the idea simply of a representative: One who does represent both sides.

B) Here in 1 Tim 2 has that idea as well, only with a bit more depth and substance.

C) But 3 times the word is used in Hebrews, and it is used consistently the same way.

Heb. 8:6 is a good example of how it's used: **“But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.”**

The Focus of Hebrews Ch.5-9 is on how Jesus is a better High Priest than Aaron and the other High Priest in Israel's History who followed him.

A) Part of His High Priestly ministry was to Mediate.

B) In Hebrews Mediator is a contractual term. The 'mediator' is actually more like a 'guarantor.'

1) He is one who legally secures and validates the covenant or contractual agreement.

C) Jesus is the Mediator or Guarantor of the new Covenant that God has made with man.

D) The Way the word is used here in 1 Tim 2 is actually the most graphic & the most faithful use of the word.

1) Here the idea is more than just a **'representative,' but of a 'go-between, a true mediator.'**

E) **One who brings peace to a severed relationship.**

In order to do that A mediator must possess certain qualities in order to perform his function properly.

1) **He must be fair and unbiased.**

2) **He must understand and appreciate the positions of each party in the dispute.**

3) **He must be able to communicate the meaning of each party's position to the other party.**

4) **He must be trusted by both parties.**

5) **He must be patient, humble.**

Jesus possesses those qualities! He is the One Mediator between God and man.

Why is Jesus the Perfect Mediator:

A) **#1 He has both natures of the parties involved!**

B) He understands both parties & does so experientially!

B) In Old Testament times the Israelite went to the temple where there were many priests who tried to fulfill that role – but they could only do it partially.

C) Now Paul is saying there is no need for a priest, a minister or any other person to fulfill that role.

D) **Who can explain God to man?**

1) Who can fully understand God, yet also be able to speak to us in terms that we can appreciate?

Jesus fulfills this obligation.

As God, he understands what it is like to be God; he understands the divine perspective.

A) As God, he has the same divine distaste for sin.

1) The same zeal for holiness-

2) The same anger against oppression and injustice!

B) **So He Helps man to understand God!**

1) He allows us to see the person of the deity in a form that we can relate to,

C) He became the image of an invisible God, [Col. 1:15](#).

D) By looking at the man Jesus we are able to see what God is like under conditions familiar to us:

working, speaking, serving, and teaching in the streets of an earthly community.

E) We know that God is love, but we come to understand the nature of that love in the actions of the man Jesus!

Seen me you have seen the Father! – I do what my Father does!

So Thru Jesus we have a better understanding of Who God is – What is His Heart toward us.

Now God is all knowing – He knows us Perfectly

A) He is not and was not in anyway in need of learning about man –

B) Who Knows what is in the heart of man accept God.

C) 1 Chron 28:9 God Searches heart – knows the thoughts and intents of the mind.

So God did not need to learn about man!

A) But By becoming a Man and going thru life on this earth with all of it's temptations and Struggles –

B) Jesus made it possible for us to believe with a greater confidence that God Knows us & understands us.

C) Before his incarnation man could accuse God of being distant and removed.

1) What do you know God about me my life – Your up there in heaven....

But When Christ came to the earth – We discovered – We have a Mediator who can sympathize with us –

A) He was tempted in all things like us – yet he didn't sin – **But he knows the struggle.**

B) Because God loved us so much it was important to Him that we could feel that way.

1) If you have had a root canal – sympathize – been thru 20 hrs of labor – Sympathize

Don't ever want to be pregnant again.

C) Woman water broke 5 minutes later the baby was out!

Not going to be able to sympathize – Child birth no big deal – **pop them babies out –**

Dr. Maxwell Maltz is a plastic surgeon. True Story: A man who was badly burned in fire attempting to rescue his older parents from their burning home.

He failed, and they perished. In his attempt, he himself got horribly scarred from the flames, face was disfigured and **he saw those scars as divine chastisement for his failure.** As a result, he withdrew from everyone including his wife.

His wife went to Dr. Maltz for help. He told her, 'I can help him; I can restore his face.'

Problem was He refused help before, and she knew he'd refuse it again. So she asked, **'What I'd like you to do is surgically disfigure my face.**

Maybe if I can become just like him, he'll open himself up to me and love me again.'

DR. Maltz was both moved and shocked. His oath as a Dr. just would not allow him to honor this request, but he could not help but be moved by her request .

So he went to the house to try to reason with her husband.

I can help you – No response – Finally Dr. Matlz – told the man – thru the door

'Do you know that your wife wants me to **disfigure her face?** She thinks that by making her face just like yours, maybe you'll accept her and let her back into your life.

That is how much she loves you!' With those words, the door opened and he came out. That's love, isn't it.

Do you realize what she was willing to do...God did? A) "The word became flesh & made his dwelling among us, & we beheld his glory... full of grace and truth."

B) God said, 'I will live as a human. I will ache as a human. I will know human hunger, and longing.

1) I will feel the pain of rejection. I will endure the ache of a given love unreceived.

C) And I will know the pangs and lure of temptation.

I will take on flesh!

1) I will connect with my creation...because I love them.'

"He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness." Hebrews 5:2

He is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness.

To deal gently," means to treat with mildness or moderation.

So Jesus is the Perfect Mediator #1 because He has both natures of the parties involved!

A) He understands both parties and does so experientially!

B) If Jesus is not God, we cannot truly connect with divine transcendence.

1) If he is not human, he does not connect with humanity experientially.

C) The full humanity and deity of Jesus Christ is more than just textbook systematic theology.

1) It is the substance, the hope, and the proof of our salvation.

#2 Perfect Mediator: Because He is able to be our advocate and plead our cause.

A) Lives to make intercession for us – Always interceding – always talking to the Father about you.

B) Satan comes to accuse – He is our Defender / Our Defense attorney:

#3 Because He was able to Mediate a Better covenant between us and God.

A) For two parties to be reconciled there usually must be an agreement worked out by which the two parties can establish a working relationship.

B) Moses served as the go-between when God made the first covenant with Israel,

1) Key word: DO ! Do this and Live – Follow the commandments –

c) Result: Frustration and Guilt - – Show us the need – we can't !

Jesus established a better Covenant based on Better Promises –

A) Key Word: DONE !!!!

B) Result: Enjoy and Live { Realize the work is done – enjoy –

C) NC God said – My spirit in you cause you to walk in my ways

1) Live walk in the Spirit and you will find yourself doing these things!

Two Key Component of the NEW COV.

1) Superior in His sacrifice

A.) The High Priest in O.T. offered sacrifices continually for people - the fire on the altar always going / only covered not cleansed

B) Jesus One Sacrifice – Himself Hebrews 7:26-27

²⁶For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; ²⁷who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.

C) He offered Himself as a sacrifice once for all - His sacrifice didn't cover - but cleansed!

He gave Himself a ransom for many – Jesus paid the price!

1st Superior Sacrifice – 2nd Superior Priesthood.

King and a Priest !

A) As a Priest He represented the Father to us / As a Priest He offered a Sacrifice / as a priest He mediates between us & God / Continues to Aid

B) As a King He supplies us w/ all the resources of the kingdom all been made available to us in Christ

Ephesians 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.”

2 Peter 1:3 *Divine Power Knowledge of Him*

As King He supplies us with the necessary goods to make it in this life

A) The Necessary resources that we need to carry out His will & plan

On June 12, 1979, a young man made aviation history when he flew a pedal-powered plane across the English Channel. Taking off from England, he flew for three hours, rarely more than 15 feet above the water. Finally, after covering 22 miles, he landed exhausted on the coast of France.

Now As dramatic as this was, man-powered flight could never be practical.
Because A man simply cannot maintain the necessary energy output for extended flights.

B) In the same way, **no one can live the Christian life pedaling** on his or her own power.

1) But Christ supplies us w/ the **resources needed** to make it to the other side

C) **I CAN'T** – are not words that He likes to hear coming from the mouth of His servants –

C) Because When it comes to any thing that he would call us to His very Presence in our lives = I can

D) So as King He supplies us w/ the resources of the kingdom to help us walk w/ Him & serve Him in this life

Christian life like walking in a river

Ankle deep – Unstable

Knee deep or waist deep - a little better – but hard

Up to the Neck – Go with the Flow –

Ankle deep – you see a lot of me { Look at Rob

Knee deep – ½ of me – more rive

Neck deep barely see me – All Him!

E) **And As KING HE WANTS TO REIGN IN OUR HEARTS**

COME BOLDLY !!!!