

WHO IS JESUS...Our High Priest

Hebrews 1.1-3; 8

There are two things I really appreciate in Life: simplicity and Jesus. And in reality, they both go hand in hand.

If we could simply live out the Sermon on the Mount...ideal Christians!

Turn the other cheek, pray, fast, not worry, give, etc...

You can summarize Chapter 8 by saying that it is a comparison between the shadow of the OT and the reality of the NT.

The OT preparation for the who of salvation (Jesus);

The NT The how of Salvation (How Jesus did it & how we obtain)

But before we get into the main points, digress on important point...*The shadow of the OT*

The shadow of the OT is a result of the reality of the person of Jesus. (Explain)

Which is real, my shadow or me? ME !!

Can there be a shadow w/out me? No. (Wherever I am, there is my shadow. If you remove me, then my shadow is gone).

If you remove Jesus from the new, *the Old* is meaningless.

So in the Old Testament,

The earthly Tabernacle or Temple was simply a shadow of the real Tabernacle in Heaven.

(The real tabernacle is casting a shadow back...)

- The OT priest was a shadow of the NT priest, who is Jesus
- The OT prophet was a shadow of the NT prophet, who is Jesus
- The OT king was a shadow of the NT King, who is Jesus

The OT shadow priest was temporary and earthy...The NT Priest (Jesus) eternal and heavenly.

The sacrifices of the OT were shadows or copies of the reality of the final sacrifice who is Christ..

Last week we started with the first title of Jesus for the church: PROPHET

Jesus is the culmination of all previous revelations, prophets, priests and Kings.

All of the prophets of the Old C find their fulfillment in the final Prophet, JESUS

All of the priests of the Old C find their fulfillment in the final priest, JESUS.

All of the Kings from David on in the Old C find their culmination in KofK, JESUS.

As the final prophet, (Rev 19), His "testimony is the spirit of prophecy."

He is the BREATH of REVELATION to us from the Father.

As He speaks through the Word, the breath of God is breathed INTO our spirits. (The Word is alive and powerful, and sharper...)

WHAT IS A PRIEST?

In short, an intercessor. Accord to Heb 8,9,10...The OT Priest would:

REPEATEDLY offer gifts and sacrifices for the sins of the people

REPEATEDLY (daily) offer sacrifices which would cover, but NOT take away sin

YEARLY offer blood in the Holy Place for His sins and the sins of people

So the priest is an intercessor between God and man who performed sacrificial duties.

DO I NEED AN INTERCESSOR?

YES. Why? The Bible is clear:

- All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.
- I was born in sin and shaped in iniquity, in sin my mother conceived me
- John tells us that if we say we have no sin we call him a liar and the truth is not in us.
- Paul in Rom 7 says that "All of the things he wants to do he does not do and all of the things he does not want to do, he does. (7.20) ...sin dwells IN me.

This law of sin is warring against the law of my mind, bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

Oh wretched man that I am, WHO is going to deliver me from this BODY of DEATH?

Thanks be unto God through Jesus Christ:

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Why???? Jesus has become my debt-paying sacrifice and my sin offering: But there is more!

He has become the High Priest that administers His Own sacrifice for my sin.

So, Do I need an intercessor? YES! Do I have an intercessor? YES!

BUT WHEN DO I NEED AN INTERCESSOR?...RIGHT NOW!

Remember Paul tells us that his battle with sin in his life is an everyday event. It never stops.

WHERE DO I NEED AN INTERCESSOR?...RIGHT HERE!

Under the old covenant, you had to present yourself to a priest for intercession.

Too bad if you lived in Australia! Too bad if you lived in China!

Good luck with that 2000 mile ocean crossing every year to get to Jerusalem!

A priest that lives 1000 miles away does me no good!

A priest at a church somewhere does me no good!

A priest (taking a well-deserved vacation) does me no good!

I have a Priest who is an ever present help in a time of trouble;

So WHO IS THIS INTERCESSOR?

Jesus, the intercessory Priest that suffers WITH us.

Hebrews 2:18 KJV

For in that he himself suffered being tempted, he is able to help them that are tempted.

Hebrews 4:15 KJV

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses,
but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Extremely unique word in scripture: Used Only of the suffering of Jesus: ***paschopathopento***

Pascho: Passover, paschal lamb

Patho: Sickness (pathology, pathogen)

Pentho: Mourning, sadness

Put them all together:

Jesus, the intercessory Priest that suffers for us.

Jesus is our PassoverLamb, slain from the foundation of the earth.

He bore our sickness in his body

He became sin-sick for us so that we might become strong and righteous in God

We know from the word that he was a man of sorrow acquainted with grief.

So as we put those all together we find out that this High Priest, Jesus...

Is touched by the feeling of our infirmities. He understands the moral frailty that we have

He understands the feebleness of our bodies He understands the limitation of our minds

He understands the disease, the infirmity, the sickness and the weakness that pervades our human body

But unlike the OT high priest, who (I'm sure cared) but could do nothing...Not only does Jesus care, but says:

I will come in your form; suffer for you; die for you and rise again ***for you!***

BY FAITH, I believe that...

I have a High Priest Intercessor that has no beginning...***and no end!***

BY FAITH, I believe that...

A High Priest that suffered once, but His suffering is ***still active for me!***

BY FAITH, I believe that...

He is not bound by elements, instead, He ***controls the elements!***