



# THE INTERCESSION OF OUR HIGH PRIEST

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# WHAT IS JESUS DOING RIGHT NOW?

- We need to reclaim Jesus' continuing, present day ministry to us
- We often think about him this way: 2,000 years ago he was born; he died for our sins on the cross; and then he ascended into heaven to the right hand of the Father
- He didn't do his bit and then exit stage left; he's still at work because his Father is always at work, and whatever the Father does, the Son also does (see John 5:19)

## HEBREWS 7:25-26

“So he is able to save fully from now throughout eternity, everyone who comes to God through him, because he lives to pray continually for them. <sup>26</sup>He is the High Priest who perfectly fits our need— holy, without a trace of evil, without the ability to deceive, incapable of sin, and exalted beyond the heavens!” [PASSION TRANSLATION]

# HE LIVES TO PRAY CONTINUALLY FOR THEM

- NAS: “he lives forever to make intercession for them”
- AMP: “He always lives to intercede and intervene on their behalf [with God]”
- VOICE: “He will forever live to be their advocate in the presence of God.”

# THE PRIMACY OF PRAYER IN JESUS' LIFE

- **Mark 1:35** ESV

“And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.”

- **Luke 22:32** VOICE

“But I have prayed for you. I have prayed that your faith will hold firm and that you will recover from your failure and become a source of strength for your brothers here.”

# THE PRIMACY OF PRAYER IN JESUS' LIFE

- **Luke 22:44** NAS

“And being in agony He was praying very fervently; and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground.”

- **Luke 23:34** HCSB

Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, because they do not know what they are doing.”

# JESUS IS PRAYING FOR US

- **Romans 8:34** PASSION  
“Who then is left to condemn us? Certainly not Jesus, the Anointed One! For he gave his life for us, and even more than that, he has conquered death and is now risen, exalted and enthroned by God at his right hand. So how could he possibly condemn us since he is continually praying *for our triumph?*”
- **Romans 8:34b** PHILLIPS  
“...Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us!”

# THE WHOLE TRINITY IS ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN INTERCESSION FOR US

- **Romans 8:26** PASSION

“And in a similar way, the Holy Spirit takes hold of us in our human frailty to empower us in our weakness. For example, at times we don’t even know how to pray, or know the best things to ask for. But the holy Spirit rises up within us to super-intercede on our behalf, pleading to God with emotional sighs too deep for words.”



# JESUS IS ADVOCATING FOR US

- So what is Jesus right now doing in addition to praying for us? He is advocating for us, presenting each son and daughter to the Father as righteous and one of his own
- We must not imagine that God the Father is angry with us so that God the Son must constantly appeal to Him not to judge us! The Father and the Son are in total agreement in their love for us and our status as his beloved children [Warren Weirsbe commentary on Hebrews, adapted]

# JESUS IS ADVOCATING FOR US

- *“He always lives to intercede and intervene on their behalf...”* What sort of pledge and how great is this love towards us! Christ liveth for us, not for himself!” [John Calvin on Hebrews 7:25]
- This is a model for us, too: that people may say, “How great is this love towards us! These Christians live for us, not for themselves!”