

## Jesus' Post-resurrection Ministry

**2 Corinthians 5:16** <sup>16</sup> Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him thus* no longer.

He is **no longer the Babe** in a manger...The **Suffering Servant** on a cross. Today we will look at the current ministry (post resurrection) of Jesus.

**Philippians 2:9-10** <sup>9</sup> Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him **the name which is above every name**, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in **heaven**, and of those **on earth**, and of those **under the earth**,

People tend to **reflect** on Jesus in one of **3 ways**: the **Man of sorrows** (physical, human existence); the **Son made Sin** (the mission of the cross); or the **Ascended Ruler** seated at the throne of majesty with the name above all names. Jesus is no longer the man from Galilee; He is the **seated conqueror of Satan, sin, sickness, and death**.

**Matthew 28:18** And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority** has been given to Me **in heaven and on earth**."

He sits at the throne as One who is the **total assurance of better things**:

**Hebrews 7:22** by so much more Jesus has become a **surety** of a **better covenant**.

**Hebrews 8:6** 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**.

He is the **Surety** of a better covenant. He is also **Mediator, High Priest, Intercessor, and Advocate** of this new covenant.

**High Priest**: As High Priest, He is **not limited as men were** by their own sinfulness; their frailty; or their ultimate death and need of replacement.

When Jesus rose as the faithful High Priest of the new covenant, He **rose with the blood that wrought forgiveness of Adam's high treason**:

**Hebrews 9:23-26** <sup>23</sup> Therefore *it was* necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. <sup>24</sup> 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; <sup>25</sup> **not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another**—<sup>26</sup> He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

**He rose and lives as the One who sanctifies (makes holy)**:

**Hebrews 9:10-14** <sup>10</sup> concerned only with foods and drinks, various washings, and fleshly ordinances imposed until the time of reformation. <sup>11</sup> But **Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come**, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. <sup>12</sup> Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup> For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, <sup>14</sup> how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

He **sanctifies**: the literal meaning is “to set apart.” That is, you are **set apart to God and from Satan**.

**Hebrews 8:2** a **Minister of the sanctuary** and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

Today, as your faithful High Priest, He is the Minister of the sanctuary, **keeping you connected to God and separated from the evil one**.

**Notice the description of His High Priesthood:**

**Hebrews 2:17-18** <sup>17</sup> Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His* brethren, that He might be **a merciful and faithful High Priest** in things *pertaining* to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

**Hebrews 4:14-16** <sup>14</sup> Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Hebrews 6:19-20** <sup>19</sup> This *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence *behind* the veil, <sup>20</sup> where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become **High Priest forever** according to the order of Melchizedek.

**Mediator**: He is High Priest. He is Mediator.

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

There are 2 joined reasons why it can only be “*the Man Christ Jesus*”:

**#1) He is the God-Man and the Man-God (This, by itself, is not enough.)**

**John 1:1 and 14** “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us”

**#2) Only in Christ is man, the eternal criminal, forgiven and reconciled.**

**Colossians 1:22** “in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—“

**Hebrews 9:15** And for this reason He is the **Mediator of the new covenant**, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

**Hebrews 12:24** to Jesus the **Mediator of the new covenant**, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than *that of* Abel.

**Man now has the right to approach God (in Christ, the Mediator)**

**2 Corinthians 5:18** Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ...

As **High Priest His blood satisfied the eternal claim of justice**. As Mediator, **He introduces Man to God and God to man. He is Mediator for the sinner:**

**John 14:6** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. **No one comes to the Father except through Me.**

**Intercessor:** He is **Mediator for the sinner but for the saved He is Intercessor.** Why, if we are saved, do we need intercession? Because the **new birth is instantaneous but sanctification is ongoing:**

**Ephesians 4:22-24** <sup>22</sup> that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, <sup>23</sup> and **be renewed in the spirit of your mind,** <sup>24</sup> and that you **put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.**

**Sometimes we offend God...**

Often, we are **persecuted**, sometimes **by men** and sometimes by **demons**, though these two often blend and we become subjected to demon-possessed or demon-inspired men.

**Persecution for righteousness and on account of the Word comes from demons.**

**Matthew 5:10** Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Matthew 13:21** yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.

Demonic persecution is to **steal away the Word** and **make you unfruitful** in righteousness. Other persecutions come from men

**Matthew 5:11-12** <sup>11</sup> "Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great *is* your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**Because we are the righteousness of God but do not walk in the fullness of the authority we have been given, these persecutions can cause us to stumble...BUT:**

**Hebrews 7:25** Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since **He always lives to make intercession for them.**

**Romans 8:33-34** <sup>33</sup> Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> 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.**

**Advocate:** He is also Advocate (**Mediator for the sinner; Advocate for the child of God**).

**1 John 2:1** 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.

If we sin, we have a Defense Attorney who is **the Son of the Judge of the Universe.** We also **have a way of escape**, a way back...

**1 John 1:3-9** <sup>3</sup> that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly **our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.** <sup>4</sup> And these things we write to you that your joy may be full. <sup>5</sup> This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie

and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and **the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us** from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to **forgive us our sins and to cleanse us** from all unrighteousness.

He cannot act as Advocate until we confess (acknowledge) our sins... but when we do, we have **full fellowship restored**. **Note: fellowship is more than relationship**; it is harmony within that relationship.

Wow! Jesus is High Priest, Mediator, Intercessor, and Advocate. We have One seated at the right hand of God.

**Because He carries these ministries...**

**Hebrews 7:22-25** <sup>22</sup> by so much more Jesus has become a **surety of a better covenant**. <sup>23</sup> Also there were many priests, because they were prevented by death from continuing. <sup>24</sup> But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood. <sup>25</sup> Therefore **He is also able to save to the uttermost** those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

**Faith reaches out to take hold of the better promises of the better covenant. It reaches for JESUS who is:**

**The Messenger of the covenant**

**The Guarantor...Surety**

**The High priest...**

**The Mediator...**

**The Intercessor**

**The Advocate**

**The One seated in Majesty at the right hand of God who lives forever to:**

**SAVE TO THE UTTERMOST...**

**IN CHRIST, START MAKING DEMANDS ON YOUR COVENANT WITH GOD!**