

FOR US AND OUR SALVATION

*An Integrative Study of the Person and Work of Jesus Christ
Lesson #31 – The Work of Christ – Jesus as Priest (Part 4)*

Overall Review

1) What does the phrase the “Work of Christ” refer to?

“In short, it refers to ALL that Christ did when he came to this earth ‘for us and our salvation,’ all that he continues to do now that he risen from the dead and at God’s right hand, and all that he will do when he returns in glory at the end of the age.” – Robert Letham

2) Why should we study the “Work of Christ?”

Essentially and simply put, our understanding of the work of Christ affects every aspect of our being. From the way we live our life to the message that we declare about eternal life, a Biblical understanding of the “work of Christ” is absolutely vital.

3) What is the threefold office of Christ?

Prophet, Priest, and King

4) What was the role of the Old Testament Prophet?

The Prophet was primarily the mouthpiece of God to the People.

5) What was the role of the Old Testament Priest?

The Priest was primarily the representative of the People to God.

Last Week Review

1) What are the five aspects of Jesus’ priestly ministry that we have considered in the last two lessons?

- **Jesus’ special relationship to the temple, where the High Priest worked, enabled him to transcend it.**
- **Jesus’ intercession is a prominent feature of his entire ministry.**
- **Jesus’ death was seen as the shedding of new covenant blood, which fulfilled the ultimate purpose of the death of the Passover lamb.**
- **Jesus pronounced benedictions over His disciples.**
- **The Sinlessness of Jesus is stressed clearly and consistently throughout the New Testament.**

Lesson #31 – The Work of Christ – Jesus as Priest (Part 4)

I. The Priesthood of Christ in the New Testament

- In His exaltation, Jesus constantly makes intercession for his people at the right hand of God. Jesus is presented as our advocate, the one mediator between God and men
 - **Romans 8:33-34** - ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.
 - **1 John 2:1-2** - ¹ My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.
 - **1 Timothy 2:5-6** - ⁵ For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.
- Jesus has obtained access for us to God
 - **Romans 5:1-2** - ¹ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
 - **Ephesians 2:17-18** - ¹⁷ And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father.
 - **Ephesians 3:11-12** - ¹¹ This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹² in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.
- Jesus has taken upon a human nature, thus identifying with us, qualifying himself as our representative
 - **Hebrews 2:14-18** - Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

- Jesus is one with us in human weakness – yet without sin. Thus he is able to sympathize with our struggles
 - **Hebrews 4:14-15** - Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

- Jesus is able to discharge the duties of high priest perfectly since he faced temptation successfully, emerging sinless from the ordeal
 - **Hebrews 7:26-27** – ²⁶ For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷ He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself.

- Jesus continues to make intercession for us
 - **Hebrews 7:25** - ²⁵ Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.