

LESSON 13



JESUS IS OUR MEDIATOR

Scripture Texts: *Hebrews 2:9-18; Ephesians 4:13-15; 1 Timothy 2:5*

For mankind to find joy and satisfaction with God, man must be joined with Him in a permanent union. Man is bound to God by having His nature, tastes, habits, and purposes. He must have His quality and likeness.

It was and is God's intent to unite Himself with man. This He accomplished in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. How it is done—what it means and what it will accomplish in each one—is a sphere of thought too great and marvelous for our little minds to take in. But we can look in, enter and walk and, with our hands in His, trust Him to lead us into complete unity with the Father.

MEMORY VERSE: *And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.*

Hebrews 9:15

A Mediator Needed

A mediator is one who intercedes. He is a conciliator between persons or sides.

Hebrews 2:9-19 The writer has just been speaking of men and angels. Now he turns to consider Jesus. Jesus Christ the Son of God is the highest plane of existence, highest life. Yet He came down past the plane of His created angels, on down a **little lower** to the plane of man, sinning man. He did it freely because of His great love for lost mankind. He became man for a purpose. It was to **taste death for every man**. God cannot die. To die Jesus had to become man. Man received the sentence of death when sin came in through Adam (Genesis 2:17; 3:19; Romans 5:12). So Jesus became man to take man's place in death. **For it became him**, was fitting for Him. It was the only way from the depths to the highest. Through suffering He brought perfection to man. He takes with Him **many sons unto glory** because He first went down far enough to reach them—us.

Basis for Unity

Hebrews 2:11-13 **For both . . . are all of one.** Christ and His redeemed ones are joined together in one body. As Jesus said to the Father, **I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one.** And as Paul wrote to the saints at Colosse, **For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God** (John 17:23; Colossians 3:3). Jesus joined us in quality. Jesus is pure and holy. He sanctifies or makes His people holy like Himself. He puts in them His life and nature. He makes them partakers of the divine nature. He identifies with His one people. He seals them with **that holy Spirit of promise** (Ephesians 1:13). The Holy Spirit lives in them to teach, guide, empower, and shine. He fills the heart with the love of God (Romans 5:5). These sanctified brethren of Christ live like Him

because they are united with him. Because they share the same life, **he is not ashamed to call them brethren**. Jesus acknowledges His saints. He owns the Father before them; He owns them before the Father. He takes His place as one of them, unashamed.

Jesus Partook of Flesh and Blood

Hebrews 2:14-18 As the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also . . . To substitute for man He must be man with all that flesh and blood includes--human nature, joy, sorrow, weakness, weariness, hunger, thirst, pain, death . . . It was especially that death He came to take. Why? For love, that He could be our Mediator, that missing link that was needed to bring lost mankind back to God (Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25; 9:15, 24). His love shines through these Scriptures. It was to bring sons unto God's glory, to sanctify them, to destroy the devil's power over them in temptation, to free them from fear of death, to redeem them from sin. As our Mediator He is able **to make reconciliation** with God for our sins. Because **he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted**.

Grow Up

Ephesians 4:13-15 Jesus became one of us that we may become one with Him. The goal of the program He set in motion is to bring man to **the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we . . . may grow up into him in all things**. He will, if we let Him, make us like Him and part of Him. This blessed union is planned to continue eternally. The Church of God is the union of God and man linked together by Jesus Christ. Christ is the Head, saints are the body; or Christ is the Vine, saints are the branches. Life cannot flow without this union.

Only One Way of Union

First Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. As Mediator, Jesus joins God and man. To experience this blessed, holy, happy union, we must go through Jesus, must repent, believe on, and follow Him. Only as we abide in Him, not in Mary or any other one, can we pray and reach the Father. Only in Jesus is unity with God (John 14:6).

Jesus is the light of the world. He shone while here. Now He shines through His people. It is impossible for His saints to shine without receiving daily a supply of oil to keep shining. We cannot shine if the connection between us and God is loose or broken. Jesus is that connection. Jesus united God and man.

JUST A THOUGHT

**People tend to put more faith in the Weather Bureau
than they put in Jesus Christ.**