

The Story of Jesus: 4 Ways He Serves Us

(Lesson 52)

Introduction:

1. The apostle Peter concluded his writings with the admonition to grow in the knowledge of Christ (2 Peter 3:18).
2. "Searching the Scriptures" is the key to attaining this growth (John 5:39).
3. We learn from Hebrews 9:24 that Jesus ascended to heaven *"to appear in the presence of God for us."*
4. In this lesson we are concentrating on "four ways in which Christ serves His followers."

Discussion:

- I. CHRIST MAKES INTERCESSION FOR US (Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:34)
 - A. Intercede: to plead or make a petition on behalf of someone else
 - B. To illustrate, see:
 1. Romans 8:26-27
 2. 1 Timothy 2:1.
 - C. When we pray, we pray to the Father through Christ (John 16:23b).
 - D. As we pray, Christ makes intercession in that He pleads on our behalf.
- II. CHRIST IS OUR MEDIATOR (1 Timothy 2:5-6)
 - A. Mediator: a go-between, one who reconciles, one who intervenes between two parties to make peace
 - B. Illustration: Moses (Numbers 14:11-21)
 - C. Christ, who gave Himself for us, serves as our mediator with the Father.
- III. CHRIST IS OUR ADVOCATE (1 John 2:1-2)
 - A. Advocate: one who pleads another's case before a judge
 - B. To help us appreciate this:
 1. John said he wrote certain things to help Christians avoid sin.
 2. Unfortunately, we do sin (1:8).
 - C. When we sin we have a very special advocate with the Father.
 1. He is called *"the righteous."*
 2. He is *"the propitiation for our sins."*
- IV. CHRIST IS OUR HIGH PRIEST (Hebrews 3:1)
 - A. (Hebrews 5:5-6) The Father made Christ a High Priest *"for ever after the order of Melchisedec."*
 - B. (Hebrews 7:26) Christ is a perfect High Priest.
 - C. Christ is also a compassionate High Priest because He became a man and faced our temptations.
 1. Hebrews 2:17-18
 2. Hebrews 4:14-16

Conclusion:

1. In the presence of God in heaven, Jesus:
 - a. makes intercession for us
 - b. is our mediator
 - c. is our advocate
 - d. is our High Priest.
2. The fact that Christ serves us in these four ways should lead us to serve Him faithfully.