



The Supremacy of Christ and Christianity

YOUR WORTHY MEDIATOR:
THE COMPASSIONATE
SON OF GOD

HEBREWS 4:15-5:10

Message Guide
September 6, 2020



Your Worthy Mediator: The Compassionate Son of God

Today's Message (6 September 2020) / *Hebrews 4:15-5:10*

NO MATTER
WHAT
TRIALS WE
MEET, JESUS
CHRIST IS
ABLE TO
UNDERSTAND
OUR NEEDS
AND HELP
US.

What is the function of a High Priest? To serve as mediator between God and man. Specifically, he is appointed by God “to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins” (HEBREWS 5:1).

To prepare ourselves for Worship through Communion, we look at one of the key things the Lord Jesus accomplished as mediator on our behalf through His suffering and death, the very thing we commemorate and celebrate today:

1. JESUS CHRIST IS YOUR COMPASSIONATE MEDIATOR: GO TO HIM (4:15-16).

- “...tempted as we are, yet without sin”. Who understands suffering better: the person who when tortured gives up and tells everything, or the person who resists despite continuing torture? We, who give in to temptation so easily, cannot even guess how strong temptation can be. Jesus, who never gave in, *knows*.
- “Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace”. God calls you to come confidently before His throne to receive mercy and grace through Jesus Christ (HEBREWS 10:22). Prayer is the best way by which we approach God. We reach out beyond ourselves, and look to Him in our time of need; and—mystery of mysteries—our seeking His presence is as much desired by God as it is needed by us.

2. JESUS CHRIST IS YOUR WORTHY MEDIATOR: GO THROUGH HIM (5:1-6).

- To “deal gently” means to manage your feelings to avoid the extremes of self-righteous anger and depressing sadness. For a human high priest, sympathy grew out of an awareness that he was prone to his own failures. If you’ve had struggles and setbacks, hurts and failures, once you turn those over to the Lord, you’ll have compassion on people you wouldn’t have otherwise (2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-7).

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- Jesus was “without sin” (4:15), and is “a priest forever” (5:6). His priestly task is to create an order of salvation that is valid forever, making human priests obsolete. It is foolish to return to the inferiority of human priests when we can enjoy the superiority of Jesus Christ. Jesus, the great High Priest is superior to all other mediators (ACTS 4:12, 1 TIMOTHY 2:5).

3. JESUS CHRIST IS LORD: GROW IN HIM (5:7-10).

- **He became compassionate through suffering** (vv. 7, 8). Though He was the Son of God (v. 8), Jesus was tempted to swerve from the will of His Father because of the suffering involved. But in His most intense moment of prayer, Jesus shows us that the purpose of prayer is not to get God to do what we want. It's to get us in harmony with what God wants. When we get in harmony with what God wants, you ultimately find it's what you needed all along.
- **He became worthy by divine appointment** (vv. 9, 10). To be “made perfect” means “made complete”. By His suffering, Jesus Christ was equipped for His heavenly ministry as our compassionate High Priest. Jesus is now the “Source” of deliverance from the power and presence of sin for Christians who want to live obediently. All the resources made available through Christ's priestly activities make a Christian's life of obedience possible (HEBREWS 7:25).

FINAL THOUGHTS

Jesus experienced the ultimate in suffering and is therefore able to sympathize with us when we are suffering. No matter what trials we meet, Jesus Christ is able to understand our needs and help us. We must never doubt His ability to sympathize and strengthen.

What then? “Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (HEBREWS 4:16) ■

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why can we confidently say that for true Christians, the throne of God is a throne of grace, not a throne of judgment?
2. Among many reasons, give at least one reason why Jesus is superior to all other mediators and human priests, and therefore the only mediator God accepts. Explain your answer.
3. Pray together as a family/group, and if there is anyone among yourselves needing to be assured either of forgiveness (mercy) or God's care (grace) intercede for them before the Lord, or better, let them tell God in prayer what their need is, being assured they come before His throne of grace.

The Shepherd's Voice

by Pastor Larry Pabiona

THE GCF FAMILY'S HOUR OF PRAYER

We invite you all to join us every Thursday at 8:00-9:00 p.m., for the GCF Family's Hour of Prayer. It is a post-prandial prayer time that is quite different from most prayer meetings you attended before. First, it is purely online, conducted over Zoom because of the lockdown. But that's expected. What might be new for you is that we spend most of that hour in silence, broken only by my announcing the categories to pray for and then the summary prayer for each category. I will not tell you more than that in the hope that your curiosity prods you to join us this coming Thursday, right after your dinner, and just before bedtime. I promise you, that learning to pray in silence together with many of the GCF flock will be one of the most rewarding experiences you will go through. We will post the Zoom link and password online by Viber and Facebook. See you Thursday!

WILL TODAY'S COMMUNION BE OUR LAST ONLINE COMMUNION?

Without imposing anything, I just wish to express to you all my fervent prayer that our Communion today, which as you know we do every first Sunday, and which has been online since the lockdown, will be the last online communion we will do. Why? Because I am praying that whether at 10% or 50% of Auditorium B's capacity, by the first Sunday of October, October 4, we will already be allowing even just a trickle of GCFers to start worshipping with us. But this is just a prayer. We don't want to start too soon and cause people to get

infected, or start too late and give the impression we're not enthusiastic about resuming live worship. Will you please join me in this fervent petition before God?

REMEMBER THE BEREAVED AMONG US

We are praying on for God's comfort for the families of two of our faithful ministry servants (formerly "volunteers") as the head of each home went home to the Lord. We are referring to the San Jose family of usher Nesty San Jose, and the Armonio family of Deacon Norman Armonio. Nesty and Norman had completed their ministries before God, and are now with the One they served and loved. They are in the midst of eternal joy, but their families and friends miss them. Pray for the San Jose and Armonio families please.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS IN STEWARDSHIP

We take this opportunity to take you all for your faithfulness in supporting the finances of the church through your offerings. What amazes us, is that despite the lower total offering, our expenses have also gone down considerably so that our bottom line and cash flow remain positive. Some of you have even gone to the extent of physically going to GCF and dropping your offering in the metal box near the lobby guard. You are amazing people! The Lord knows who you are, and may He return many times over in His perfect way and time the love you have shown for His church and ministry! ■

THE CHURCH ONLINE

BELONGING: CREATING SPACE FOR CONTEMPLATION

September 9 (Wed), 6:30 p.m., on GCF Facebook Page

REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS

Mondays and Fridays, 7:00 p.m., GCF Facebook Page

LIVestream (GCF Youth LIVE Worship)

Saturdays, 5:00 p.m. on youtube.com/user/gcfyouthlive

KIDS' L.I.F.E. ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Uploaded every Sunday, 1:00 p.m. on youtube.com/user/gcfmain

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

For offerings during this time, please consider the following options:

BANK DEPOSIT OR TRANSFER

Account Name: Greenhills Christian Fellowship, Inc.

- **BDO** (BDO Corporate Center Branch) • **GCash (L) and PayMaya (R)**
Savings Account 000661590216 (Scan QR code below)
- **China Bank** (Ortigas ADB Branch)
Savings Account 1112-02006218
- **UnionBank** (UB Plaza Branch)
Checking Account 0005-9001-0426
- **Robinsons Bank** (Main Office Branch)
Savings Account 1000-3010-0017-355
- **Metrobank** (Ortigas Sapphire Branch)
Savings Account 629-3-62919733-9



CREDIT/DEBIT CARD THROUGH PAYPAL

Please visit www.gcf.org.ph/give for instructions.

Please email a copy of your transaction document to finance@gcf.org.ph so your giving can be properly recorded and an official receipt can be sent to you.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE EFFORTS

You may also designate your giving to our church's efforts to help frontliners and the vulnerable. Just indicate "For COVID-19 fund" when you email your transaction document ■



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