LESSON 6

The Mediator Who Saves

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Ephesians 2:11-19
Memorize: John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Timothy 2:5

A mediator is a person who settles differences between two disagreeing parties. Usually, mediation takes place by common consent and friendly invitation. By his sin man has offended his holy Maker and heavenly Benefactor.

Man, the sinner, is filled with enmity against his God. Therefore, God is justly displeased with, and His wrath is kindled against, man.

The all-important question is, how can sinners be forgiven and obtain peace with God? Some have suggested that God can pardon sinners without a mediator. However, in this lesson we will learn that this is altogether impossible.

The Bible clearly teaches that without a mediator, a holy God and sinful man can never be reconciled. The amazing wonder of God's love is that God Himself has provided a Mediator in the person of His only begotten Son.

Christ, the Son of God, is the only Mediator between God and man. He is such a Mediator both in respect of His person and His work. As person, He is One that has the same nature both with God and man; He is true God and true man.

As regards His work, the Mediator was required to live a sinless life and to die an atoning death, and thus to bring about the needed reconciliation that brings men to God. The Good Shepherd voluntarily gave His life for His sheep.

1. Q. How can we be saved from sin and its punishment?
   A. Only by the Son of God, who is the Mediator.
2. Q. Why is the Son of God called the Mediator?
   A. Because He stands between a holy God and sinful man.
3. Q. What kind of Mediator is the Son of God?
   A. He, in one person, is very God and a real, righteous man.

4. Q. What is the saving work of Jesus the Mediator?

   A. He graciously delivers sinners from the punishment, the guilt, and the power of sin. He restores them into fellowship and favour with God. By His Spirit's grace, He gives a love and desire in the heart for the service of God.

In this lesson we begin to study how God has provided to save sinners from their sins through Jesus Christ. God not only requires of us that we should know what sin really is, but He also teaches us what salvation is, and how we may obtain it. We gain this knowledge through a careful study of the Bible and the enlightening grace of the Holy Spirit. We must never forget to pray, "Lord be pleased to enlighten my heart and mind by Thy Holy Spirit's grace, that I may see the shame and guilt of my sin and Thy wondrous grace revealed in the Saviour from sin. Oh let me as a poor sinner fly to a rich Christ."

I. The Position Christ Occupies

1. Q. In what words is Jesus declared to be the only Mediator? (1 Timothy 2:5)

   A. "For there is one _ _ _ , and one _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ between _ _ _ and _ _ _ , the man _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ."

2. Q. How did Jesus declare in John 14:6 that He is the only way in which a sinner may be reconciled to a holy God?

   A. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the _ _ _ , the _ _ _ _ _ , and the _ _ _ _ : no _ _ _ cometh unto the _ _ _ _ _ _ , but by _ _ ."

3. Q. How does the Word of God teach us that the salvation of sinners is only through Christ? (Acts 4:12)

   A. "for there is _ , _ ."

II. The Requirements Christ Met

1. Q. What are the requirements of the Mediator?

   A. Christ, the Mediator, needed to be man because:

   (a) it was our nature that sinned;

   (b) our nature must suffer and die for sin;

   (c) God would not punish any other creature for man's sin;

   (d) God Himself cannot suffer and die.

   Underline the correct answers.

2. Q. In what way was Jesus the Mediator different from all mankind? (Hebrews 4:15)

   A. Jesus was without _ _ _ .

3. Q. Why did the Mediator need to be God?

   A. The Mediator needed to be God in order to:

   (a) support His human nature;

   (b) give His people the eternal life that He purchased for them;

   (c) be willing to give His life for sinners.

   Underline the correct statements.

4. Q. How do we know that Jesus was both God and man? (1 Timothy 3:16)

   A. We believe that Jesus was both God and man from the following words: "_ _ _ was manifest in the _ _ _ _ _ , justified in the _ _ _ _ _ _ , seen of angels, _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ unto the Gentiles, _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ on in the world, _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ up into _ _ _ _ _ ."

III. The Work Christ Accomplished

The Bible teaches that sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:2), God is angry with the wicked every day (Psalm 7:11), and we by nature are enemies of God (Romans 8:7).

1. Q. What great change has God wrought through the mediation of His Son? (2 Corinthians 5:18)

   A. "All things are of God, who hath _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ us to _ _ _ _ _ _ _ by _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ."

2. Q. In what words does the Bible teach that Jesus saves His people:

   (a) from the punishment of sin? (Isaiah 53:5)

   A. "But he was wounded for _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ , he was bruised for _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ : the chastisement of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ was upon him; and with _ _ _ stripes _ _ are healed."

   (b) from the guilt of sin? (Romans 8:1)

   A. "There is therefore now _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to them which are in Christ _ _ _ _ _ , who walk not after the _ _ _ _ _ , but after the _ _ _ _ _ _ ."

   (c) from the power of sin? (John 8:34b, 36)

   A. "Whosoever committeth _ _ _ is the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of _ _ _ . If the Son therefore _ _ _ _ _ make _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ , ye shall be _ _ _ _ indeed."

3. Q. Why cannot anyone approach God apart from Jesus the Mediator? (Isaiah 59:2)

   A. “But your iniquities have separated between _ _ _ and _ _ _ _ _ _ _ , and your _ _ _ _ have hid _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ from _ _ _ , that he will not _ _ _ _ .”

4. Q. How do believers benefit by Christ’s mediation? (1 Peter 3:18a)

   A. Believers do benefit by Christ’s mediation in that “Christ also hath once _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ , the just for the _ _ _ _ _ _ , that he might _ _ _ _ _ us to _ _ _ .”

5. Q. Does Jesus, the Mediator, mediate as

   (a) God? (b) man? (c) God and man?

   A. Jesus mediates as _____ .

6. Q. Why could the angels in heaven not be our mediators?

   A. Angels have neither a d_ _ _ _ e nor a h _ _ _ n nature.

7. Q. Why could the saints in heaven not be our mediators?

   A. They are _ _ _ divine and in their human n _ _ _ _ _ they themselves were sinners.

8. Q. How are we assured that no other mediator is needed?

   A. “Wherefore he is _ _ _ _ also to _ _ _ _ them to the uttermost that _ _ _ _ unto God by _ _ _ , seeing he _ _ _ _ liveth to _ _ _ _ intercession for _ _ _ _ ” (Hebrews 7:25).

   “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the _ _ _ _ _ _ in my _ _ _ _ , he will _ _ _ _ it _ _ _ ” (John 16:23b).

9. Q. Since believers have such an all-sufficient Mediator, what are they invited to do? (Hebrews 4:16)

   A. “Let us therefore _ _ _ _ boldly unto the _ _ _ _ _ _ of _ _ _ _ _ , that we may obtain _ _ _ _ _ , and find grace to _ _ _ _ in _ _ _ _ of need.”

Evaluator: _____