

“WITH UPLIFTED HAND”

The Triune Oath of God

The Biblical revelation of God's plan of redemption for fallen mankind, indeed, for His whole creation, is bound up in **three special oaths** which God made : ONE TO **ABRAHAM**, ONE TO **DAVID**, AND ONE TO **JESUS CHRIST**.

III. THE THIRD OATH OF GOD:

**IS TO HIS SON, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST,
OUR HIGH PRIEST**

Heb 7:17-22 *“You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek. 18 The former regulation is set aside because it was weak and useless 19 (for the law made nothing perfect), and a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God.”*

*“20 And it was not without an **oath!** Others became priests without any oath, 21 but he became a priest with an **oath** when God said to him: **“THE LORD HAS SWORN AND WILL NOT CHANGE HIS MIND: YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER.”**” 22 Because of this **oath**, Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.”* (See also Gen 14:18-20; Heb 5; Heb 7:1-28; and Ps.110:4).

Now this Oath of God, sworn to His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, directly involves our salvation. It involves our total relationship to God the Father. Jesus Christ, born of Mary, of the seed of David, of the seed of Abraham, He, and He alone, is our High Priest, He alone is our Savior. And it is in His function as Priest that He is our Savior.

Now what exactly is a Priest? Who can serve as Priest? and What is his function?

FIRST: WHO CAN SERVE AS A PRIEST?

Hebrews 5:1 tells us that *“Every high priest is selected from among men”* therefore angels cannot serve as priests. And it is not an office that anyone can apply for. Hebrews 5:4-6 states that *“No one takes this honor upon himself; he must be called by God, just as Aaron was. 5 So Christ also did not take upon himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father.” 6 And he says in another place, “You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.”*

SECOND: WHAT IS THE WORK OF A PRIEST? This is decreed in Hebrews 5:1 which says that a priest is *“appointed to represent us in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.”* A priest’s work is twofold:

- (a) He represents us to God, and,**
- (b) must offer sacrifices for sins.**

(a.) The fact is that fallen, sinful man cannot approach God directly. Our sin separates us from God, we must have someone to represent us, to intercede for us. And God, in His love and mercy for fallen man, has Himself provided that priest, that intercessor, that mediator, that go-between that we could not provide. Because all have sinned, because all are guilty before the righteous God and are therefore unable to select anyone to represent us, to offer sacrifice for us, because we all are sinners under condemnation.

The glorious truth is that Jesus is our High Priest, and He is the *only* one who can represent us to God, the *only* one who can make us acceptable to God. Indeed He, **Jesus alone** is the way,

the **truth**, and the **life**. John 14:6 states emphatically that *no one can come to God except through Him*.

Now this is not an arbitrary thing. It is not as though God decided it would be more efficient if there was only one savior, only one mediator, only one acceptable priest. It is necessarily true by the very nature of the case. We must have a mediator who is himself without sin, and Jesus is the **only man** who is completely sinless.

(b.) This priest must offer a sacrifice for our sin that can be eternally acceptable to God.

The wages of sin is death. The soul that sinneth must die, and since all have sinned, all are under the sentence of death. But God has allowed that Jesus, the only sinless man, could take our sins upon Himself and die in our place (Rom 3:23-25).

Here is the “**power of God unto salvation**,” the *GOSPEL, THE GOOD NEWS*, that “**Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day**,” — Rom 1:16 1Cor 15:3-4.

THE PERFECT SACRIFICE

Isaiah foretold this in Isa 53:6, “*We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*” and in verse 12 “*He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.*”

Now the major work of the Mosaic priests was to offer sacrifices for the sins of the people. These were repeated over and over multiplied times. The repetition showed that the blood of sacrificial animals was not permanently effective to the removal of sin. The animal that must be sacrificed must be without any blemish. That pictured the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Himself. He was without any sin, He was absolutely spotless and holy.

John 1:29, declares: Jesus is, “the **Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”**

In Heb 9:26, we learn that Jesus “has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the **sacrifice of himself.”**

In verse 12 of Hebrews 9, we find that Jesus entered the Most Holy Place in heaven itself “*once for all **by his own blood**, having obtained eternal redemption.*” It was there before the throne of God that Jesus offered His own blood, sprinkled His own blood in atonement for our sins.

Therefore the Scripture testifies in Rom 5:9 “Since we have now been **justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him!”**

Eph 1:7 “In him we have **redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace.”**

1Peter 1:18-19 “For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were **redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, 19 but with the **precious blood of Christ**, a lamb without blemish or defect.”**

1John 1:7 “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the **blood of Jesus, his Son, **purifies** us from all sin.”**

Rev 1:5-6 “To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins **by his blood, 6 and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.”**

Revelation 5:9-10 *"And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and **with your blood** you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. 10 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth."*

Our salvation depends wholly and completely upon this work of our **High Priest, the Lord Jesus Christ**, upon the perfect sacrifice of Himself, His sinless self. It is by His blood that we are cleansed.

OUR MEDIATOR.

Our salvation likewise depends upon His role as Mediator. Jesus is the Mediator of that New Covenant in His Blood by which we may come to God.—Lk.22:20. According to Heb.9:15, *"**Christ** is the **mediator** of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance"*

Hebrews 10:12 tells us, *"when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God."* It is there, at the Right Hand of God the Father, that He serves as our Perfect Mediator administering the Grace of God to us.

1Tim 2:5-6 tells us that, *"there is one God and **one mediator** between God and men, **the man Christ Jesus**, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all men."*

Do not be misled into thinking that some saint (no matter how exalted) can intercede to God for you. God has said that He will only accept Jesus as our mediator. Just as in our earthly courts, no one can represent an accused unless he be a qualified and licensed lawyer; in the heavenly court above, Jesus Christ is the **only one** qualified and permitted to represent us.

When we first came to Christ our sins were forgiven, but what happens if we sin after becoming Christians? We need an intercessor to continually intercede for us. *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."* (1John 1:9).

*"Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because **he always lives to intercede** for them"* (Heb 7:25).

We have an enemy, a very powerful adversary - that is the Devil, Satan - who continually works against the people of God. According to Revelation 12:10, Satan is *the great accuser who accuses us before God day and night.* - See also Zechariah 3:1.

Visualize heaven as a great court room. The sitting Judge is God the Father, Creator of all things. He is both the Law Giver and the Judge. You are the accused sinner, indicted before that heavenly court. Satan is, as it were, the prosecuting attorney. Satan brings your name before the judge, He lists your sins and demands the death penalty. He says, *"Your Honor, it is written in the law that the wages of sin is death, the soul that sinneth must die. The sin of this person is evident and admitted by this court, therefore I demand the death penalty, he must be consigned to the lake of fire for all eternity."*

What defense can you give? Absolutely nothing, you hang your head in shame and know you are doomed.

But then, Jesus, who has been sitting at the right-hand of the Judge, stands up. He says, *"Yes it is true, this person is guilty of all these sins, and deserves the lake of fire. But the death penalty has already been taken care of, **I died for him**, He now belongs to me. I shed my blood that he might be forgiven."*

The Judge then rules, **"Not guilty, case dismissed."**

If you have never accepted and confessed Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God, your Lord and Savior, then you do not have anyone to intercede for you and you will indeed end up in the lake of fire.

I urge you to turn to Christ in true repentance, confess and accept Him as Lord and be baptized for the remission of your sins as Jesus Himself commanded, and the blood of Jesus will wash away all your sin and you will be given the gift of the Holy Spirit, you will be born again. Then, as you walk in the light, the blood of Jesus will continue to cleanse you from all sin (1John 1:7).

In Conclusion:

- 1. Jesus is the promised SEED OF ABRAHAM** who inherits and implements the Oath that God swore to Abraham.
- 2. Jesus is also the promised SEED OF DAVID** who inherits and implements the Oath God swore to David.
- 3. Jesus is our only HIGH PRIEST, SAVIOR AND MEDIATOR**, according to the Oath sworn by God.

Thus, the **THREEFOLD OATH OF GOD** sums up God's plan of salvation to **"bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ."** (Eph 1:10),
- - - and that is why He is

**King of Kings and
Lord of Lords**

(Rev.19:16)

We who are in Christ shall share the promises with Him—Gal 3:29; Rom 8:17; Eph 3:6; Titus 3:7; Heb 6:17; James 2:5; Rev 2:26-28.

We have then, a sure hope, Because it is based upon **"both his promise and his oath. These two things are unchangeable because it is impossible for God to lie."** (Heb 6:18, NLT).

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