

5: What Did Jesus Do?

In our last study we saw how Jesus who was both God and Man is the only one who could be our mediator: representing us before God.

God appointed His Son, to be our mediator giving Him authority to serve as prophet, priest and king; to be the head and saviour of the church; to be the heir of all things and to judge the world. Jesus took on that role willingly, out of love for His people.

In this study we are going to think about how He discharges His role.

Jesus Fulfilled the Law

As our representative Jesus was subject to God's law and, on our behalf, He fulfilled it perfectly.

“God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law.”

Galatians 4:4

“For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens.”

Hebrews 7:26

Jesus Suffered

As our representative Jesus also suffered the punishment that we should have and suffered. He took our sins upon Himself and faced not only death by crucifixion but also physical pain and anguish of soul beyond anything we can imagine.

“He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”

Isaiah 53:5 – 6

By offering Himself to God as a sacrifice, Jesus fully satisfied all the claims of God's justice: He made propitiation, removing the enmity between God and man, and He redeemed us, setting us free from enslavement to sin.

“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit.”

1 Peter 3:18

Jesus Reigns

Jesus arose from death in the same body in which He suffered, and ascended to heaven. He now sits at the right hand of His Father where He continues His role as mediator.

“He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.”

Mark 16:19

Prophet

Through the Holy Spirit, He guides and governs the hearts of His people by enabling them to understand the way of salvation through His word, by teaching them to love His word and by persuading and enabling them to believe and obey it.

“No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.”

John 1:18

“And when He [the Holy Spirit] has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment... I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth.”

John 16:8 – 13

Priest

He intercedes with God on behalf of the church, His redeemed people.

“It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.”

Romans 8:34

King

Having all authority in heaven and on earth, by His almighty power and wisdom He overcomes all the enemies of His people and orders everything for their good.

“You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him.”

John 17:2

“...He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church.”

Ephesians 1:20 – 22

So Jesus continues to work to ensure the eternal redemption of all those for whom He suffered, and He will continue to do so until they enter His heavenly kingdom and He, as judge, has finally destroyed their enemies.

Jesus Is the Only Saviour

Jesus, and Jesus alone, is fitted to be mediator between God and man. He is the prophet, priest and king of the church of God and no part of the role of mediator can be transferred from Him to anyone else.

“For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus.”

1 Timothy 2:5

Although Jesus did not actually pay the price of redemption until after His birth the benefits of His work have been available to all His people from the beginning of the world. The promises, symbols and sacrifices of the Old Testament merely help us to understand His work.

“...the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”

Revelation 13:8

Memory Verses

- ☺ 2 Corinthians 5:21
- ☺ Isaiah 53:4 – 6
- ☺ Ephesians 1:20 – 22