

Hebrews 7.25

To the Uttermost

Whenever we see something displayed about Jesus - we ought to stop and ponder the wonder and beauty of its implications and allow the revelation of God's mercy in Christ to bolster and uphold our faith in all things. When it comes to the manner and effect of His work and labor in the salvation of His people, the beauty is indescribable. We are the beneficiaries of such grace and mercy, such condescension, such unrestrained love that a billion, billion lifetimes would not be enough to scratch the surface of its wonder.

I. HE IS ABLE -

- A. this is about the power of His office... one that no one else shares in any part of it... There is no one who has any claim on our gratitude or allegiance for the fact of our salvation. Others may carry the message, others may show the effect in the mercy that they themselves show to others. Some may fight for the practical implications of the gospel message and its

impact on society... and as good and necessary as those things all may be, they are NOT the saving grace of God in Christ. No one else was ABLE to save us, no one else was qualified, no one else was willing.

- B. He has power - the raw strength and might to accomplish the needed tasks
- C. He has ability - the knowledge and will to do the hardest thing possible,
 - 1. He alone could fulfill the law of God without error or sin
 - 2. He alone could communicate the heart of God to His rebel creation
 - 3. He alone could impart life to us
 - 4. He alone could endure the wrath of God
 - 5. He alone could die and take His own life back up again
- D. He has authority
 - 1. He spoke the words of God with that authority

“for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.” (Matthew 7:29, NKJV)

2. He possessed His authority with the ease that comes from using and holding what is your own. It was not foreign to Him, but a part of His own divine nature. It was both inescapable, and inherent. And it was recognizable to all who were watching...

Matthew 8.5-13

3. An inherent aspect of authority is that it can be transferred. Jesus sent his followers out 2x to prepare the way for Him and both times He gave to them *authority over the enemy...*

4. He has the authority to judge the earth and all who are in it...

John 5.24-27

E.He has desire

1. All of this power and might mean nothing if Christ is being forced into this work. The salvation of another by substitution of this kind must be willing, or it is worthless. He desired to save a people, and so He did. No one had to force Him, no one had to twist His arm.

No one had to command Him to come and die. He desired to save His own.

F. He is actively willing - all of the blessing we receive from Christ as Priest come because He is willing to fulfill the role of priest and intercessor. He is the source of our new and radically beautiful covenant. He stands between us and God, brokering the covenant, and that place of willing mediation is the fountainhead of all our blessings. We have no chance at relationship with God from any other source.

II. TOTALITY IN CHRIST

A. It is an exclusive thing, no one else has access to that which is in Christ's purview... and we have no other hope from any part outside of that office. Our hope in Christ is not anchored in His nature as God-made-flesh **per se** - but rather our hope is in the eternal Son of God becoming man and fulfilling the role of High Priest in His sacrifice on our behalf. He had to DO what

He came to do. And more than that, He has to keep on doing it, for our eternal salvation is attached to His eternal work on our behalf.

1. He is Prophet - declaring the shape of the covenant
 2. He is King ruling over those inside of that new bond
 3. He is Priest - eternally interceding with sacrifice on behalf of those He has chosen to save... His work as mediator is still happening now... and will be for all eternity. We will still have our access to God THROUGH Jesus for all eternity.
- B. The effects of the office and its works are fulfilled in Him
1. Redemption
 2. Sanctification
 3. Protection
 4. Salvation

III. HE SAVES BY HIS PRIESTLY OFFICE

- A. If He does not, we are not saved

1. For there is no one else who is able to do what He alone can do...
 2. He saves to the uttermost
- B. He alone is the power and the wisdom of God

1Corinthians 1.23-24

- C. Being an eternal priest, we have from Him an eternal salvation. The word *uttermost* may also imply and deal with the issue of duration.
- D. But also there is the reality that He has completed all of the work needed for our salvation. He has carried the work to its ultimate conclusion.
- E. All the temptations and failures that await us have been met and overcome by Christ our High Priest.
- F. All of our weaknesses have been cast away and we are found safe and secure in Christ.

IV. THUS HE SAVES TO THE UTTERMOST

- A. The word save implies a **threat** from which we are being rescued.

our sins - *“And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”* (Matthew 1:21, NKJV)

the curse- *“Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”),”* (Galatians 3:13, NKJV)

the wrath to come - *“and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.”* (1 Thessalonians 1:10, NKJV)

B. He brings us into present grace and future blessedness

1. All that He has He shares with us
2. He facilitates our adoption as sons

Romans 8.14-17

3. He shares His own birthright with us...
4. He speaks to us as friends...

John 15.13-17

C. There is nothing that He cannot and will not save us from

1. We are saved from death through Him

2. We are saved from sin
3. We are saved from despair
4. We are saved from meaninglessness
5. We are saved from all of the things that make this life so hard and unbearable... it is not to say that they will not touch us, but they have no power to harm us in any way that matters. In this life we will have trouble, it is the hand of God to shape us. But the things of this life are not the things that actually touch US... they cannot for our essence is hid with Christ.
6. Therefore the huge thing is not what you are saved FROM, but what you are saved TO
7. Christ is that which defines us for He is the very arbiter of the new and glorious covenant... and there is NOTHING outside of Himself which can alter that which He has done, and there is nothing INSIDE of Himself that would ever desire to change it. It is the best

possible ground for an identity... and the only one that will last.