



# CHRIST OUR MEDIATOR

CHRIST OUR BRIDGE OF  
STRENGTH AND HOPE

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Rev. Dr. Lahtaw, Zau Sam

**"For there is one God, and one Mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, ..." I Timothy 2:5;6**

## **TITLE: Christ Our Mediator**

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# CHRIST OUR MEDIATOR

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## CONTENT

Preface.....	3
Introduction.....	4
1. The Mediator as God .....	6
2. The Mediator as the Only One .....	8
3. The Mediator as our Intercessor and Advocate....	12
4. The Mediator's New Covenant.....	14
5. The Mediator's Gospel Story .....	22
6. The Mediators Cross and Ministry .....	27
7. The Mediator as the "I am" .....	29
8. The Mediator is Head of the Church .....	44
9. The Mediator as Peacemaker .....	51
10. The Mediator as our Wise Builder.....	56
11. The Mediator's as Servant, Saviour and King.....	60
12. The Mediator of Justice, Righteousness and .....	66
Truth	
Conclusion .....	70
Appendix.....	72
Bibliography .....	73
Project Lambs .....	74
Discipleship / Leadership Booklets.....	77

# CHRIST OUR MEDIATOR

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## Preface

### Dominican Republic

My trip to the Dominican Republic was supposed to be a time for me to teach, but it turned out that God wanted to teach me. At the time, I was reading several books; one of them was by Dietrich Bonhoeffer and called “The Cost of Discipleship”. I read it many years ago, but it seemed that the Lord was prompting to throw it in my suitcase. It was at the beginning of my time in the Dominican that things began to change. I was to teach at first through the week, then I was to do a Friday night and all day Saturday training. But it ended up that I would be preaching in various communities throughout the ten days that I would be there.

The school in the Dominican Republic had been started by Dr. Chuck Nichols and Rev Ben Funk. The following year there would be a graduation service where over 80 students would receive their diploma, which meant they had completed the 12 courses of Project LAMBS International.

Because of the above events, the door opened where I could sit by the seashore and pray, read and reflect on what God was saying to me. As I thought and pondered, the word “Mediator” came up over and over again. So, I began to write. Out of that came this book, titled “Christ our Mediator”.

We pray that through these words you will begin to see Jesus Christ in a new way. And because of our new understanding, we will become bolder in sharing the Gospel of peace with others.

Rev. Dr. James Paul Humphries

# CHRIST OUR MEDIATOR

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## Introduction

The title, “Jesus Christ Our Mediator” needs to be explained because each word is a title or name of who God is. This title is the foundation and footing to this whole booklet.

“The Christ”, is the Greek name for the Hebrew word, “Messiah”. In the Old Testament, the Jewish people were looking for a day when the Messiah would come to deliver His people. He would be the “anointed one,” the King of kings.

“The Jesus”, is the Greek name, for the Hebrew name Joshua. The name Jesus or Joshua means Saviour. Jesus would be the Saviour who would come to be a deliverer for the people of the world. Through His shed blood, he would set people free from bondage and sin.

“The Mediator”, is a name that describes to the lost world what the ministry of Jesus Christ would be to us. Some synonyms of this word could be advocate, go-between, diplomat, moderator, umpire, one who meets halfway, arbitrator, or bargain on behalf of another.

Christ, through His death and resurrection, became the advocate or peacemaker that is a link or connection between God and man. Because of man’s fallen sin nature, we needed a Mediator to stand in the gap for us.

Jesus Christ the Mediator is the bridge that spans over the gap or the gulf that has kept man and God apart from each other. Sin has separated us from God, but Christ made a way of escape. Christ was sent into the world by the Father to be that “meditator bridge” on our behalf. Bonhoeffer states, “Since the whole world was created through Him and unto Him (John 1:3; I Cor 8:6; Heb 1:2), He is the soul Mediator in the world”. (*Dietrich Bonhoeffer p.106, The Cost of Discipleship.*)

Our hope in writing this booklet is to see another side of the ministry that Christ has come and given to the people of this world. The key idea to the title of “Mediator,” is that Christ is a cover -

# CHRIST OUR MEDIATOR

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like an umbrella – that protects us from the rain or hot sun. He is interceding for us on our behalf. As we pray we make Christ the focus and He then implements and sends forth His Spirit to do the work of God in our midst. Christ is our Mediator and all things must go through Him and line up to His will for our lives. We are to be obedient as disciples to His calling and direction for our lives.

# CHRIST OUR MEDIATOR

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## Chapter One

### The Mediator as God

Paul teaches Timothy concerning this all-important truth of Christ Jesus being our “Chief and only Mediator”.

*“For there is one God, and one **Mediator** also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at a proper time”.*

1 Timothy 2:5-6

Throughout the New Testament we are taught that Christ Jesus is God. We serve One God who functions or is representing to us as a Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Paul wants Timothy to know the oneness, unity and harmony of God. Christ’s function is to mediate from us to God and from God back to us.

Scripture points out this truth of oneness between Christ and the Father,

*“I and my Father are **one**”* John 10:30

*“... Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom you have given Me, that they may be **one** as We are.”* John 17:12

*“that they all may be **one**, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be **one** in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be **one** just as We are **one**: I in them and You and Me: that they may be made perfect in **one**, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.”* John 17:21-23

God desires relationship and as man and woman become one through marriage, we also through a personal relationship can become one with Christ Jesus. The Godhead is one within each other and we can through faith in Christ as our Mediator become one with God our Creator.

# CHRIST OUR MEDIATOR

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Jesus is our “go between” and the way this position came about was by His willingness to give His life as a ransom, the Scripture says for all. The idea of ransom means, one who first of all gives, something given in response to a demand for the return of a captured person; payment for the release of someone; the act of freeing from captivity and or punishment. Some synonyms would be price, cost, to rescue, to save, to redeem, one who comes to the rescue, and to restore.

Scripture states it this way,

*“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life a **ransom** for many.”* Mark 10:45

*“who gave Himself as a **ransom** for all, to be testified in due time,”* 1 Timothy 2:6

Jesus gave Himself as a ransom for us and the result of His willingness to lay down His life on the cross resulted in Christ becoming our Mediator. His life became a testimony of who the triune God is. We learn from the testimony of Christ which is given to us in the gospels. Here Christ is painted for us as a picture of one who is our Mediator. The Gospel bears this truth out. He is one with the Father, sent by the Father to redeem us from sin and bondage. When we come to Christ in payer from our heart, He then speaks to the Father in heaven on our behalf. As we ask, seek and knock, He opens ways for our needs and desires to be fulfilled. (Matthew 7:7)

The key is to have our spiritual eyes opened by God so that we may see clearly that Christ is the only One Mediator that is God. He stands up for us and Has paid the price for us. He is there to be our way to an eternal life that is both in Him and with Him in heaven.



# CHRIST OUR MEDIATOR

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## Chapter Two

### One and Only Mediator

John chapter 1, verses 3-6 states, *“All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him we have life, and life was the Light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it”*.

For one to be a Mediator in our lives it requires that one puts their full trust in that person, to guide us and to do and know what is best for us. This Scripture actually defines these principles for us. That “through him” we are to put our faith and trust in, that all things come “through him” and not through anyone else. When we make Jesus Lord of our lives we then become the channel or vessel that He flows through to touch the world with.

Next we see the word “from”. Apart “from” Him there is no hope. Everything that we are and will be as a disciple of Christ comes “from” Jesus Christ. Everything we face comes through the will of the Father in heaven (Matt 6:10). We are told that from Him we live and move (Acts 17:28). Everything is somehow connected to Christ because He was there at the beginning when all things were created. By knowing this, we must give our lives totally to Him because He is the author and finisher of all things (Heb 12:2). We need to enter into a place of surrender and submit to His will for our lives.

As disciples, we are not to be people looking from the outside in. Through Christ’s shed blood, we are now in the very Holy of Holies, looking out to the world through the eyes of Christ. We are now in Christ (Eph 1:2). We are surrounded by His love and grace. We are covered by His righteousness which in turn allows us to stand before Him as a priest of our God. Paul teaches the Ephesians church, that in Him we have redemption through His blood (Ephesians 1:7). Paul goes on to state in chapter one that all things are **IN CHRIST** only;

# CHRIST OUR MEDIATOR

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*to the saints who are ... faithful **in Christ** v2; who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places **in Christ** v3; He chose us **in Him** v4; He purposed **in Him** v9; **in him** also we have obtained an inheritance v11; you were sealed **in him** with the holy spirit of promise v13.*

There is so much more that could be said from this passage of Scripture, but the key is to see that we are **in Him** and that everything must flow out from that personal relationship that we have **in Him** as our Mediator. The change comes when we surrender our will to Him and become one with Him and live our life in and through Him. He is our counsellor, director and teacher, a light that guides us moment by moment - if we are willing to surrender to Him and become a child of God (Rom 8:12-17).

Jesus' purpose for coming to earth was to give to those that believe the gift of life. Only through Him can we have eternal life. Jesus stated to the disciples in John 14: 6 that He was the only way, truth and life. In fact, He states it very boldly, by using the Old Testament name for God by saying "I am" the way, truth and life. Or to put another way he is saying, I am the only way, I am the only truth and I am the only life that one should live. Everything for life here on earth must come through Christ and when we see this truth, then we will be able to see that all things are possible through Christ Jesus (Matthew 19:26). We just have to trust and obey as the hymnists said, "for there is no other way to be happy in Jesus". Our Mediators purpose is to give us life and give it more abundantly to all those who would receive Him (John 10:10).

Light has a revealing affect to it; it helps us to see what is ahead of us. Light destroys all darkness but it must first be allowed to shine forth. When light is shining upon a hill it can be seen for miles. Our Mediator Jesus Christ comes to be a light that will expose our weakness and struggles, but He also comes to fill us with light so that we can shine the truth of His gospel to a dark world.

# CHRIST OUR MEDIATOR

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Paul states in 1 Corinthians 8:6, *“Yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him; one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him”*. The idea of oneness or togetherness is to give us a picture of unity and wholeness. When we invite Christ into our hearts He becomes one with us. Again, it is like a marriage where the two become married and in God’s eyes they become one with each other. Christ is the head of the church; He is the Lord of the body which we as disciples become part of. As our Mediator, He also becomes Lord over everything that affects our daily lives. We are in a lordship relationship with Him. He is our head and we become part of His body. He guides and teaches us and we commit to serving Him.

Hebrews 1:2 proclaims, *“In these last days He has spoken to us in His Son, who He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the Worlds.”* Because He mediates for us and joins us together with, Him we become joint heirs with the Son Jesus Christ. Paul tells us that we have been appointed or called to be spokespersons for Him. He Mediates on our behalf and we come under His leadership. We move from living our will to fulfilling His will here on earth.

He has given Himself to be the “go between one”, the one that stands between man and God, He is our negotiator who acts as a link between parties, intercessor; one who stands firm and speaks out on our behalf; the one who has given His life and paid the price of death so that He can bestow on us eternal life to all those who will believe and obey Him. He stands as our shield and strong tower between God our Creator and the destructor of our soul, Satan.

Bonhoeffer goes on to state, “Between father and son, husband and wife, the individual and the nation, stands Christ the Mediator . . . . We cannot establish direct contact outside ourselves except through His Word, and through our following of Him” (p. 108). Bonhoeffer continues: “Christ stands between us, and we can only get into touch with our neighbours through Him. That is



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