

Who Do We Address in Prayer?

- From the time of Adam's son, Seth, men have been calling on the name of the Lord.
- *And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth ... 26 Then men began to call on the name of the LORD. Gen. 4:25*
- There is great significance to the term LORD.

The LORD (YHWH) is One

- When Moses asked about His name, God told him it was YHWH (LORD –NKJV; Jehovah - ASV). Every recorded prayer in the OT was addressed to Him as LORD (YHWH – JEHOVAH)
- *"Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.' Ex. 3:15-16*
- *"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! 5 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Deut. 6:4-5*

The LORD revealed the Word

- He was in the form of God and possessed equality with God. (Jn. 1:1-3, 14; Phil. 2:5-11).
- He dwelt among us as Immanuel (God with us – Mt. 1:21-23).
- Thomas called Him my Lord and my God, (Jn. 20:28).
- God addressed Him as God. (Heb. 1:1-12).
- Yet, the entire time Jesus was in the flesh He gave all glory and submission to God.
- He came, not to do His will but only the will of the Father.

The Father is Greater than I

- *If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, 'I am going to the Father,' for My Father is greater than I. Jn 14:28*
- *go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'" Jn. 20:17*
- Jesus gave two commands about how we pray.
- *In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Matt 6:9*
- *Lord, teach us to pray, When you pray say:*
- *Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.*
- Even up to the moment of His ascension, nothing had changed. The same prayers that had been offered to the LORD since Seth were still to be offered.

After the Ascension

- At the right hand of God exalted, with all things under Him, the Father is still greater.
- *But when He says “all things are put under Him,” it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. 28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all. 1Cor. 15:27-28*

Word was with God and was God

- The Holy Spirit revealed that our relationship to Jesus as the Word who was with God and was God and to God our Father in heaven are different.
- We are commanded to glorify, bless and give thanks to “*the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*” (Rom. 15:3; 2Cor. 1:3; Eph. 1:3; Col. 1:3).
- They share the same attributes but have different roles God the Father is above all.
- *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Eph. 4:4*

When we think and call on God

- *For us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live. 1Cor. 8:6*
- *For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus 1Tim. 2:5*
- We have one God – The Father
- We have one Lord – Jesus Christ
- We have one Mediator between God and man – Jesus Christ

God the Father Reigns Supreme

- Jesus was approved of God by the miracles God did through Him.
- God raised Him from the dead.
- God said, “*sit at My right hand,*”
- *God made Him both Lord and Christ.*
- *Moses said to the fathers, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren.'*”
- It was never said that they had a co-reign.
- Jesus is on the throne of David His Father, Not God His Father. At God’s right hand God reigns supreme.
- We know no more than this ... Can’t go any further.

Jesus had Deity and Humanity

- Hebrews One emphasizes His equality with God.
- The rest of the book: His humanity
- God made Him the captain of our salvation
- God perfected Him through sufferings.
- Jesus now calls us His brethren (Heb. 2:10-18).
- He is our merciful and compassionate High Priest.
- While Moses was faithful as a servant, Jesus was faithful to Him in all things as a Son Heb. 3:1-6
- Jesus sits on David's throne at God's right hand as a High Priest forever. Jesus is called priest and High Priest about 30 times in Hebrews.

God Swore: He is a Priest Forever

- *The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool." ... 4 The Lord has sworn And will not relent, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek." Ps. 110:1-4*
- A High priest is “*appointed for men in things pertaining to God to intercede for us to God.*”
- He sympathizes with our weaknesses and ever lives to make intercession for us. Heb. 4:14-16;
- As High Priest of the good things to come,
- Mediator of a better covenant, Heb. 5:1; 7:25
- He is now High Priest over the house of God.

High Priest is Between God and Man

- If that role is now changed, we need Scripture.
- But Scripture reveals just the opposite.
- *“Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, ... 5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, ... (1Tim. 2:1-5)*
- When we pray to one God, Jesus is the one Mediator between God and man.
- This one mediator is *“the Man Jesus Christ.”*
- Why did the Holy Spirit call Him *“the Man Christ Jesus”* if God wanted us to pray to Him as God?

Our Father in Heaven ... In Jesus Name

- We are in harmony with every Scripture.
- We are fulfilling the commands of the Holy Spirit.
- *giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ Eph. 5:20*
- *And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. Col 3:17*
- How could the Spirit make it any clearer than this?

Habakkuk like Job wants to debate

- All thanksgiving always go to God the Father.
- Jesus is our Mediator and High Priest.
- We pray in His name because He is our Brother
- He made it possible for God to be our Father.
- But we pray to to our Father, not our Brother.
- *For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, (Heb 2:11-12).*

The Righteous Lives by Faith

- If we thank God in the name of Jesus
- We do exactly what Scripture reveals.
- If we thank Jesus directly, what do we do with the Father?
- Where do we place God in such a prayer?
- We can't pray to Jesus in the name of God our Father because there is no Scripture.
- We can't pray to Jesus and ignore God completely.
- We must answer before we pray directly to Jesus

To Pray to Jesus

- Must ignore Scripture that He is man, our brother, our high priest, and our mediator.
- If God truly authorized us to change our view of prayer and no longer address Him exclusively.
- Shouldn't there be one Scripture:
- Pray to Jesus
- There is not a single Scripture.
- Next week we will consider the Scriptural proof offered to set all this aside.