

# CHRIST ENTIRELY ON OUR BEHALF

## Part 21 Romans Chapter Eight

Romans 8:34 KJV

*Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession **[ON BEHALF OF] US.***

Throughout Christian history there have always been 2 differing thoughts regarding the ministry of the Lord Jesus. THEY INVOLVE, 'HIS FINISHED WORK & HIS ONGOING WORK'.

### SOME DON'T UNDERSTAND CHRIST'S FINISHED WORK

Some people who do not understand or believe what Christ has already accomplished through the cross and resurrection are continually repenting, praying, asking God for forgiveness (as the Catholics - 'Lord have Mercy') and entreating God's favour by trying to live better lives, to be more holy, so as to be acceptable to God and closer to Him.

Yet ...

AT LEAST, THESE PEOPLE HAVE SOME UNDERSTANDING THAT GOD IS STILL ACTIVE IN & IN CHARGE OF THEIR LIVES TODAY, AND THEY HAVE SOME KIND OF FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM.

### SOME DON'T UNDERSTAND CHRIST'S ONGOING WORK

On the other hand, there are those who **do believe** what Christ has already accomplished through the cross and resurrection, but tend to **not see ANY ONGOING MINISTRY** of our Lord Jesus Christ or any need to fellowship with Him today. THE PROBLEM HERE IS, MANY OF THESE PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE ANY UNDERSTANDING OF THE FACT THAT GOD IS STILL IN CHARGE & ACTIVE IN THEIR LIVES TODAY, AND THEY TEND NOT TO HAVE CLOSE FELLOWSHIP WITH HIM.

How do I know? I've listened to them speak and preach.

**THE WORD OF FAITH MOVEMENT** (Still around today) is one of the latter beliefs.

They believe very much in the finished work of Christ (as do we) but THEY DO NOT BELIEVE IN HIS ONGOING MINISTRY TO US. THEY DO NOT BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS IN CHARGE & ACTIVE IN OUR LIVES HERE TODAY.

They believe Jesus has done everything for us ... that He has gone back to heaven and we NOW have to continue to do the work here on the Earth that He started. They try and do this by conjuring up faith to make things happen. They think we (like God) can now speak things into being! - *Confess it and possess it ... Name it & claim it ... Blab it and grab it ...*

*YEARS AGO, I HEARD ONE OF THEIR MAIN LEADERS SAY, 'When Jesus sat down in heaven His work ended and **He's not going to do another thing until He comes back again**'.*

*He went on to say, 'He's given US the keys to the kingdom of heaven and we are the ones who have to use them'. **UNFORTUNATELY I BELIEVED IT!***

This was one of the misleading statements which the Lord corrected me on when I had cancer; which HELPED BRING ABOUT HIS ONGOING WORK IN MY LIFE, THAT LED TO MY RECOVERY. BEFORE THAT, I WAS DOING THE WORK FOR GOD. Oh, I prayed for God to bless my work but I was doing it because I had 'The Keys of the Kingdom' and Jesus wasn't going to do anything.

It was during this time of ill health the Father corrected me!

HE SAID TO ME, 'JESUS DIDN'T SIT DOWN IN RETIREMENT. HE SAT DOWN IN AUTHORITY - IN THE VICTORY OF THE FINISHED WORK.

**IT WAS AT THAT POINT, THAT JESUS' HEAVENLY MINISTRY STARTED.**

*This set me free from a crushing responsibility that I had carried for years and which I believed contributed to my body breaking down.*

I CAN SAY, 'BELIEVING SO HARD IN THIS DOCTRINE OF WELLNESS MADE ME UNWELL'. AND REJECTING THAT BELIEF SYSTEM BROUGHT ABOUT MY RECOVERY.

**SLIDE** THESE PEOPLE DO NOT UNDERSTAND.

- THE FINISHED WORK OF CHRIST USHERED IN -
- THE ONGOING, HEAVENLY MINISTRY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

**HIS FINISHED WORK IS THE FOUNDATION FOR HIS ONGOING WORK**

So, here we see in our text the wonderful correlation between the finished work of Christ and His ongoing work. We are told four ways in which Jesus works on our behalf.

Romans 8:34 **SLIDE**

... (1) *It is Christ who died, and furthermore* (2) *[it is Christ who] is also risen* (3) *[it is Christ] who is even at the right hand of God,* (4) *[it is Christ] who also makes intercession* [ON BEHALF OF] US.

TWO OF THESE MINISTRIES OF JESUS ARE HIS FINISHED WORK AND TWO ARE HIS ONGOING WORK ...

1. **PAST TENSE** - CHRIST'S FINISHED WORK, BEING CHRIST'S DEATH & RESURRECTION
2. **PRESENT TENSE** - CHRIST'S ETERNAL POSITION & ONGOING WORK OF ADVOCACY!

ONE IS COMPLETED, THE OTHER IS ONGOING, BUT ALL ON OUR BEHALF.

**SLIDE**

<u>CHRIST'S PAST WORK ON BEHALF OF US</u>	<u>CHRIST'S ONGOING WORK ON BEHALF OF US</u>
<i>It is Christ who died on our behalf</i>	<i>It is Christ who is at the right hand of God on our behalf</i>
<i>It is Christ who is risen on our behalf</i>	<i>It is Christ who also makes intercession on our behalf</i>

THERE IS AN ONGOING WORK, WHICH JESUS CONTINUES TO DO FOR ME, WHICH IS BASED UPON THE FINISHED WORK, WHICH JESUS HAS ALREADY DONE FOR ME.

THESE TWO ASPECTS ARE INTERCONNECTED ... THEY 'DOVETAIL' TOGETHER, THEY ARE INTERRELATED, INTEGRATED. To believe one without the other is to operate in error.

## **ON BEHALF OF US**

I'd now like to bring out an important point here which is consistent with both Christ's past and present work.

That is the fact that God and Jesus have done all, and still do all, **ON BEHALF OF US.**

### **SLIDE CHRIST'S FINISHED WORK WAS ON BEHALF OF US**

1. Romans 8:31 Interlinear Greek

*...If God [did this] **ON BEHALF OF US**, who [can be] against us, who indeed the own Son spared not,*

2. Romans 8:32 Interlinear Greek

*But **ON BEHALF OF US** all delivered him [up] ...*

If ever you thought, God offered up His Only Begotten Son for some kind of personal gain other than bringing you and me Home to Him ... these verses totally refute that.

### **GOD'S MOTIVATION WAS HIS LOVE FOR US, AND ALL WAS DONE & IS DONE ON BEHALF OF US**

Hebrews 2:9 NET Bible **SLIDE**

*But we see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honour because he suffered death, so that by God's grace he would experience death **ON BEHALF OF EVERYONE.***

**JESUS CHRIST DID NOT DIE FOR HIMSELF BUT ON BEHALF OF US.**

*Unlike other dedicated religious or political leaders like Ghandi or Joan of Arc, Jesus Christ didn't give His life because He had a cause He was willing to die for!*

*Or like Che Guevara who gave his life fighting for a new society.*

*Or like Socrates who died for what he believed and taught.*

**JESUS CHRIST GAVE HIS LIFE VICARIOUSLY – ENTIRELY FOR US.**

**SLIDE** JESUS WAS YOUR SUBSTITUTE WHO TOOK YOUR SIN, ABSORBED YOUR PUNISHMENT AND Poured HIS BLOOD OUT ON GOD'S MERCY SEAT IN HEAVEN, TO CANCEL YOUR SIN FOREVER. HE OVERCAME SIN, SATAN & THE BROKEN LAW FOR YOU!

Hebrews 10: 11-12 **SLIDE**

... Every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But this Man, after He had offered *one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God.*

**NB: WHAT IS TRUE ABOUT CHRIST'S DEATH & RESSURECTION IS ALSO TRUE ABOUT CHRIST'S HEAVENLY MINISTRY NOW! HE IS NOW POSTIONED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER ON YOUR BEHALF as we see in our text today.**

**SLIDE CHRIST'S ONGOING WORK IS ALSO ON BEHALF OF YOU**

Romans 8:34

... (1) *It is Christ who died, and furthermore (2) is also risen (3) who is even at the right hand of God, (4) who also makes intercession [ON BEHALF OF] US.*

**NB: CHRIST'S HEAVENLY POSITION & HIS HEAVENLY MISSION ARE LINKED**

THIS MEANS THAT EVERY DAY YOU WAKE UP JESUS IS THINKING ABOUT YOU.

HE IS STILL REPRESENTING YOU IN HEAVEN.

HE WANTS YOU TO KNOW YOU ARE NOT ALONE IN YOUR STRUGGLE HERE ON THE EARTH AND HE IS INVOLVED WITH EVERYTHING YOU GO THROUGH.

*HE IS POSITIONED AS YOUR REPRESENTATIVE BESIDE THE GREATEST POWER ON HIGH, ON BEHALF OF YOU.*

*JESUS DIDN'T JUST GET PAST THE CROSS AND RESURRECTION AND ASCEND TO THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER AND SAY ... 'THANK HEAVENS THAT'S OVER. I'VE DONE MY JOB... NOW IT PARTY TIME!' - AS IF HE ENTERS INTO THE GLORY OF THE RISEN MESSIAH AND SIT'S DOWN PUTS HIS FEET UP, STARTS SIPPING WINE AND COMPLETELY FORGETS US ...*

**NO, JESUS SAT DOWN ... WITH US IN HIS HEART.**

HE TOOK US WITH HIM AS IT WHERE, IN CONFERENCE WITH THE MAJESTY ON HIGH IN WHICH YOU & I ARE MENTIONED.

**WHAT IS THIS INTERCESSION?**

*I have always had trouble with this concept of Christ pleading my case before God ... especially since I have seen **that judgement has already passed for us** ... And yet I have heard many sermons on it.*

**SLIDE THIS CONCEPT OF THE HIGH-PRIEST PLEADING FOR MERCY IS WRONG**

JESUS ALREADY ACHIEVED ETERNAL FORGIVENESS FOR US WHEN HE DIED. THE RESURRECTION WAS THE CERTAIN SIGN THAT GOD HAD ACCEPTED CHRIST'S BLOOD-SACRIFICE AND ALL SIN WAS CANCELLED FROM OUR CASE.

**NB: This Eternal High Priest did something the Old Testament high priest never did ...**

**HE SAT DOWN ... HIS JOB OF DEALING WITH SIN WAS FOREVER COMPLETED.**

**THIS INTERCESSION IS NOT IN A COURTROOM**

*The Puritans used to say that Jesus is there before the throne as our defence attorney, as the prosecution, the devil, brings accusation after accusation against us.*

YET WE SAW LAST WEEK THAT THE DEVIL HAS BEEN CAST OUT OF HEAVEN AND GOD WILL NO LONGER RECEIVE ANY ACCUSATION AGAINST YOU EVER AGAIN.

**YOU HAVE BEEN MORE THAN AQUITTED. YOU HAVE BEEN JUSTIFIED, DECLARED RIGHTEOUS.**

We read, there is no condemnation, because there is nothing to condemn.

**THERE WAS A COURTROOM TRIAL, BUT THAT WAS WHEN JESUS DIED, AFTER WHICH WE WERE JUSTIFIED. SO THIS ADVOCATE IS NOT PLEADING FOR MERCY TO THE FATHER FOR OUR ONGOING SIN ...**

**SO HOW IS THIS ADVOCATE INTERCEDING FOR US TO GOD?**

TO UNDERSTAND MORE OF **HOW HE DOES THIS**  
WE SHOULD LOOK AT **WHERE HE DOES THIS ...**

**HE IS SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD**

**Jesus is seated at the right hand of God in the most privileged position anyone ever had. The right hand of the king was, in ancient times, the seat of honour.**

THE WORD ADVOCATE (*entynchanei*) to confer with; by extension to entreat.

**HE CONFERS AND ENTREATS ... BOASTS ABOUT US ... DECLARES OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

**SLIDE THE FATHER & THE SON ... SEATED SIDE BY SIDE 100% IN AGREEMENT**

**I see this concept of Jesus united with the Father forever, side by side ... rejoicing together ... discussing you as they both agree to give you more ... to cleanse you continually from the filthiness of this world ... to perpetually soften your hardness ... to encourage you when you feel discouraged ... to inspire you constantly to move on ... to hear you ... hug you ... hold you ... all in agreement together ...**

Hebrews 7:25 Berean Literal Bible **SLIDE**

Wherefore also He is able to save *[save, heal, protect, deliver, rescue]* to the uttermost *[completely for all time]* those drawing near to God through Him, always living for to intercede for them.

## BUT WHAT IF I SIN?

1 John 2:1 **SLIDE**

*My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.*

This doesn't mean if we sin Jesus pleads for mercy for us.

This means if we sin, Jesus declares our righteousness by faith to the Father and all of heaven.

*WE MUST NOW BEGIN TO SEE OURSELVES TOTALLY IN THE LIGHT OF GOD'S GRACE ...*

## HE KEEPS OUR RIGHTEOUS STATE PURE

Hebrews 7:26 Berean Literal Bible **SLIDE**

*For such a high priest indeed was fitting for us, holy, innocent, undefiled, having been separated from sinners, and having become higher than the heavens.*

Whereas we may become infected by the world ... He never does. And He is our sustenance ...

HE IS PRESERVED IN HEAVEN ... SEPERATED AND UNTOUCHED ...

WE GET AN INFUSION OF HIS BLOOD WHICH HAS ANTIBODIES AGAINST ALL SIN.

## HE PERPETUALLY CLEANSSES US ... ADJUSTS US ... REFRESHES US ...

Hebrews 2:18 **SLIDE**

*For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.*

## He Waits For You To Draw Near

Hebrews 7:25 Berean Literal Bible

*Wherefore also He is able to save *[save, heal, protect, deliver, rescue]* to the uttermost *[completely for all time]* those drawing near to God through Him, always living for to intercede for them.*

I have often lean into Jesus in the mornings and feel Him adjust me. He wipes away the uncleanness of the flesh ... He releases tensions that have built up in my body ... And He refreshes my soul ...

In these encounters I often feel His work deep inside me ...

*However, I often wondered why I see Jesus and not the Father doing this internal work in me. Or the Holy Spirit, as it is He who is performing the actual work. But I just accepted that that's the way I perceive this ongoing work in me.*

*It wasn't until I started studying and praying about this verse that it dawned upon me what was actually happening ...*

*I realise now, I am coming to my eternal High-Priest ... my Advocate ... who perpetually represents me to the Father ... And the one I face ... is JESUS CHRIST THE RIGHTEOUS. HIS ADJUSTMENTS IN ME ARE ACCORDING TO HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS.*

*He wipes away all unrighteousness in my soul and He replaces it with His righteousness ...*

### **1 John 1:9**

*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

... Whereas I believe that this is our first-time prayer for forgiveness, which is instantly granted, our confession keeps on going ... but as a disclosure of truth as to where I need to be adjusted.

I don't cry out for forgiveness, as this has already been granted ... but I do confess my unrighteousness as it manifests against His great righteousness which is already in me, and 'He is faithful and just to forgive [me my] sins and to cleanse [me] from all unrighteousness.'

### **Psalm 55:22**

*Cast your burden on the LORD, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.*

### **1 Peter 5:7**

*Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.*

GOD HAS MADE EVERY PROVISION FOR ALL YOUR TODAY-NEEDS

### **Hebrews 4:16**

*Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

**LIFE FOR US CAN NO LONGER BE INDEPENDENT OF GOD ...**

## SUPPLEMENTARY

- **NB: THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST'S FINISHED WORK, WE HAVE HAMMERED FOR THE LAST THREE & A HALF YEARS BECAUSE IT'S FOUNDATIONAL TO THE ONGOING WORK OF CHRIST**  
*Last week, somebody said to me, 'The last 3 years of teaching ... what a foundation we have received.'*  
CHRIST HAS FINISHED THE WORK OF JUSTIFICATION BUT IS NOW WORKING ON OUR COMPLETE SALVATION.  
Unless we understand that there is an ongoing work of Christ, we will miss what He is doing in our lives today ...  
Unless we understand the finished work of Christ we will never rightly / correctly perceive the ongoing work of Christ ...

**Hebrews 4:15** Berean Study Bible

*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who was tempted in every way that we are, yet was without sin.*

[Hebrews 4:14-16](#); [Hebrews 9:11-12](#); [Hebrews 9:24](#)

- **JESUS ALSO ROSE FROM THE DEAD ON BEHALF OF YOU**  
**Romans 8:34**  
*... (1) It is Christ who died ... furthermore (2) is also risen ...*  
Here we read a strong point where the death of Christ is mentioned only to be hastily left for the resurrection.  
**THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S CHRIST'S RESURRECTION, NOT HIS DEATH THAT DECLARES GOD'S ACCEPTANCE OF CHRIST'S SACRIFICE.**  
  
Just as God showed His **acceptance of Israel's sin offering** WHEN THE HIGH-PRIEST CAME OUT of the Holy of Holies on 'The Day of Atonement', He showed His acceptance of Christ's sacrifice FOR US when Jesus rose from the dead. It wasn't the fact that the High Priest went into the Holy of Holies that was cause for rejoicing, IT WAS THAT HE CAME OUT.  
If God didn't accept the blood sacrifice for the sins of the People ... the High-priest would die and not come out ... But when the people heard the jingling of the bells around the bottom of his robe and he emerged, they rejoiced because GOD HAD ACCEPTED THE SIN OFFERING & HAD FORGIVEN THEIR SIN.



SO FOR US TODAY... THE RESURRECTION DECLARES GOD HAS ACCEPTED CHRIST'S  
SACRIFICE & HAS CLEARED US OF ALL SIN PAST PRESENT & FUTURE.  
JESUS DIED & ROSE **ON BEHALF OF YOU.**