

**Scripture:** Ephesians 1 Text: Col. 1:21-22 (2)  
**Singing:** 198:1, 4, 5, 7 – 71:1-5 – 123:1 – 355:3 – 83:1-3

Intro: God Triune delights to commune with His needy and unworthy people!  
A. Consider Ex. 25:8; 29:43; John 14:23; Rev. 3:20

B. Yet how can this be if even the heavens are not clean to Him? Job 15:15

**THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST'S LIFE AND DEATH (2)**

I. Redeems us from the demand of God's holy justice

II. Covers us to be presentable before God's glory

**I. It redeems God's children from the demands of God's justice**

A. Christ's life and death on the cross is central truth (Gal. 6:14; Conf. 23)

B. The story of Christ's life and death is also most powerful truth (Rom. 1:17)

1. The Holy Spirit uses the Gospel preaching to make sinners willing: Col. 1:6

**II. The Gospel of Christ's life & death will cover us before God's holy sight**

A. The reality of the Christian: *righteous before God but unrighteous in self*

B. The Gospel provision of Christ: His life and His death as Mediator

1. Though we cannot enough glorify God for Jesus' death on the cross, we must never omit to glorify God for Jesus' life on earth!

2. Jesus Christ as High Priest covers each of His people before God's sight

a. Eph. 1:6; 5:17; Jude 24

b. Col 1:22 details this glorious truth

- holy
- unblameable
- unproveable

C. A believer is called to live by *faith* instead of being defined by their *failures*

1. Recall Jesus' parting words: *John 14:1-3, 27-28* along with *Col. 1:21-22*

2. Recall Jesus' promise *that He will confess those before His Father who confess Him on earth* (Matt. 10:32)

3. Make use of Jesus' revelation about the Father's commitment, "*If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?*" (Luke 11:13)

### **GEMS ON JESUS' INTERCESSION**

If I could hear Christ praying for me in the next room, I would not fear a million of enemies. Yet the distances makes no difference: He is praying for me!

(Robert M. M'Cheyne)

Christ has taken our nature into heaven to represent us.  
He left us on earth with His nature to represent Him. (John Newton)

Prayer as it comes from the saint is weak and languid.  
But when the arrow of a saint's prayer is put into the bow of Christ's intercession, it pierces the throne of grace. (Thomas Watson)