

Intro:

READ WLC Q&A 181

Main Point of Text: Jesus says that there is only one true and living way of accessing God the Father: Him, God the Son.

Sermon Point: *Only Pray Through Christ.*

Move 1: Your prayers will not make it across eternity's chasm on their own.

LC: "The sinfulness of man, and his distance from God by reason thereof, being so great":

- Rom. 11:33: *O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!*
- Isa. 55:8-10: *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.* [Vs. 7: context is moral thinking].

LC: "as that we can have no access into his presence without a mediator": Isa. 59:2: *But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.*

Move 2: You need Christ to take your prayers to God in heaven to be heard and answered.

LC: "and there being none in heaven or earth appointed to, or fit for, that glorious work [of mediation/intercession] but Christ alone". No one else is qualified by calling, character, constitution:

- John 6:27: *... the Son of man ... him hath God the Father sealed.*
- Heb 5:4-6: *And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron. So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee* [Ps. 2:7]. *As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec* [Ps. 110:4]. J.G. Vos: "the absolute uniqueness of Jesus Christ.
- 1 Tim. 2:5; 1 John 2:1; 1 Pet. 5:8; Rev. 12:10; Heb. 7:25-27; Eph. 3:12.

LC: "we are to pray in no other name but his only":

- Col. 3:17; Heb. 13:15.
- John 14:6: Only true/living way to God in heaven is His Son Who came to earth/returned like us.
 - Way: "road/journey". Exclusive travel/communication plan.
 - Vss. 2-3: Jesus went ahead to prepare a place in God's house, and will return to take us there.
 - Jesus originally came from there: John 3:13; 6:38, 41-42, 51, 58. Jn. 12:28: When Jesus prayed to the Father from earth, the Father answered Him audibly from heaven.
 - Vss. 7-12: Phillip was talking to God on earth by talking to Jesus, so now when He is in heaven!

Conclusion:

Only Pray Through Christ.