

**I. Glimpses of the mediator**

- A. What is a mediator?
- B. Old Testament mediators
- C. All human mediators fail
- D. Is there a greater mediator? (references from *ISBE*, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ed, "Angel" Genesis 16:7ff.; 18; 22:11ff.; 24:7,40; 31:11ff; 32:24ff.; Exodus 3; 13, 14; 23:20ff.; Joshua 5, 6; Judges 2; 6; 13)
- E. The divine lawsuit – Psalm 81:8-16; Hosea; Zechariah 3:1-10; Isaiah 59:15b-21; Micah 7:8-9

**II. Worship**

- A. Worship is a holy dialogue between God and his people
  - i. recounting of his acts of creation and redemption (reading the Scriptures; Deuteronomy 1-3; Nehemiah 8:3; Acts 20:32; 1 Timothy 4:13)
  - ii. declaring the terms, penalties, and rewards of his covenant (preaching the Scriptures; Deuteronomy 4-28; Ezra 7:10; 1 Timothy 4:13; 2 Timothy 3:15; Titus 2:1,15)
  - iii. sealing with sacrifice and a sacramental meal (the Lord's Supper; Exodus 24:9-11; Deuteronomy 29; Joshua 8; Luke 22:14-23; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)
  - iv. responding with praise (singing the Psalms; 2 Chronicles 29:28-30; Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 13:15; Revelation [throughout])
  - v. lifting up needs in prayer (prayer; "calling on the name of the Lord;" Luke 10:21; 1 Timothy 2:8)
- B. Worship is a special occasion in an ongoing relationship (1 Corinthians 11,14; Romans 12:1-2; Hebrews 12:18-29; see also Ezekiel 40-48 "graduated holiness")
- C. Worship is formative as well as expressive (Romans 1:20-28 with Psalm 106:20)
- D. Worship does not save us; it points to the one who does. (Psalm 50:12-13)

**III. The church worships together through Jesus Christ**

- A. Jesus is the mediator we need
- B. King – triumphal entry; the Father has covenanted me a kingdom; the Lion of the tribe of Judah (Matthew 21:9; Revelation 17:14)
- C. Priest – Hebrews high priest (3:1; 4:14-15; 5:5; 7:26; 9:11-14,23-28)
- D. Prophet – the one who reveals the Father to us (John 1:14,18; Mark 1:27)
- E. Lamb – the one whose death makes atonement for us; whose blood redeems men from all nations (John 1:29; Genesis 22:7-8; 1 Peter 1:19)
- F. Therefore we may enter his presence boldly (Hebrews 10:19-25)

**IV. Why think about this?**

- A. If we understand that worship is a conversation with God through Jesus Christ then we will ...
- B. Worship *humbly*
- C. Worship *boldly*
- D. Worship *joyfully*
- E. Worship *with our whole lives* (Psalm 84:5)