# the Gospel according to

## 30. Christ - A Better High Priest Exodus 28, Hebrews 7:11-28

The High Priest – A man who goes between the people and God (a Mediator)

- 1. A Picture of a Mediator
- His clothes tell us about the character of a mediator
  - a) A Heavenly Man (Colours of ephod, sash etc)
  - His colours link him to the Tabernacle Ex 28:1-5 compare 25:4, 26:1,31,36
  - A man from God's presence 'glorious & beautiful'
    = 'for dignity & honour' v2
  - b) A Holy Man (Clothes and sign on turban)
  - v2 'sacred' his garments set him apart.
  - From turban (v36) to shoeless feet. From inside (v42,43) to outside. Everything signifies his holiness.
  - c) A Representative Man (Shoulders & Breastpiece)
  - The High Priest represents before God the people whose names he carries on his shoulders and chest (v9, 21)
  - He bears their guilt, needs, sacrifices.
  - d) An Interceding Man (Urim & Thummim)
  - (v30) a means of making decisions
  - High Priest comes before God bringing the needs of the people to God, pleading for wisdom and guidance.

## e) A Sacrificing Man

- High Priest offers sacrifices for the people's sin (Ex 29:38,39)
- v38 bears even the guilt of their sacrifices "Our very holinesses are so impure as to need pardon" Calvin
- But High Priest only a picture many shortcomings. A stream of failures. Sinful men.
- A sense of longing for a better Mediator Priest

## 2. A Pointer to a Better Mediator

- A promise of a better High Priest "You are a priest forever" (Psalm 110:4)
- "Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood... Such a high priest meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners." (Hebrews 7:24-26)
- Jesus is the true and better Mediator and High Priest to which all the others pointed
  - a) A Heavenly Man
  - Jesus is the man who has come from the presence fo God to us (John 3:13)
  - b) A Holy Man
  - No garments needed. Jesus was perfectly holy in all aspects of his character





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Welcome to our service this morning - today we are remembering Christ's death for sinners as we take part in the Lord's Supper.

If you are a Christian and haven't joined with us for the Lord's Supper before, or spoken to the elders, we'd invite you to watch, and come and speak to Mark before our next communion.

If you aren't a Christian, or not sure, we'd invite you to watch as well, and if you have any questions, speak to Mark or one of the elders afterwards.

## Notices

Sunday	Thanksgiving service at Trinity Hall	8pm
Wed	Morning study at Sergio and Lisa's	10.30
Thur 22	United Prayer Time - Lecture Hall Letterkenny Presbyterian Church	7.30-9.30
Fri 23rd	Relief Fund information evening on work in Romania @ Bready	<b>8</b> pm
Sun 25th	Church lunch after the service	
Fri 27 April	Galway focus evening - Cullybackey	8pm

## Sermon Continued

- "Unlike other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices ... for his own sins." Heb 7:27
- c) A Representative Man
- Jesus represents his people bearing their sins, punishment and carrying them into God's presence
- d) An Interceding Man
- "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses... he always lives to intercede for them." (Heb 4:15, 7:25)
- e) A Sacrificing Man
- "He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself." Hebrews 7:27
- A High Priest who offered himself as the flawless sacrifice to bring forgiveness to his people

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