

The disciples witnessed every miracle that Jesus worked  
They heard every message that He ever preached  
They witnessed every deliverance and observed every prayer

- Yet, they never asked Him to teach them to heal, prophecy, or do miracles
- They asked Him, *“Lord, teach us to pray”* (Luke 11:1)

*“So He said to them, “When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.”* (Luke 11:2, NKJV)

- We would think that if an all-knowing, all-seeing God wanted His will to come forth on the earth then it would happen
- But if that were true then Jesus would have never started His instruction on prayer in this manner
- God Needs Our Help!

The answer to why you and I need to pray lies in the very creation of man

- Adam – *“man; human being.”*
- Adam represents all of us – Man or human-kind

(Genesis 1:26–28, NKJV) (Psalm 8:3–8, NKJV)

- Have Dominion, Rule – *indicates that Adam and his descendants were to be God’s manager, steward, or governor*
- Adam was God’s mediator, go-between, or representative
- He has crowned us with glory (weight or clout)

It is no small task to represent God

*“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”*

**(Genesis 1:27, NKJV)**

- Image – *“shadow, phantom, or illusion”*
- When the rest of creation saw Adam they thought they were seeing God, until they took a double take
- Adam was similar or *“comparable”* to God
- **Genesis 1:26** – *“likeness”* – to compare
- God even gave us the ability to create living spirits
- *“Glory”* – *“Heavy or weighty”* – **Psalm 8:5**
- Adam carried a lot of weight or **clout**

When creation saw Adam they were supposed to see God – and they did until Adam fell

- God was no longer recognized in fallen human-kind
- We must be changed back into God’s image – In Christ!

*“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the **same image** from **glory to glory**, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”*

**(2 Corinthians 3:18, NKJV)**

- If the earth remained a paradise it would be because of human-kind
- If things became messed up, it was because of human-kind

Intercede – *“to go or pass between; to act between parties with a view to reconcile those who differ or contend; to interpose; to mediate or make intercession; mediation.”* – Webster’s

- Adam was to be God’s representative or mediator between creation and God
- To represent God’s will on the earth
- Of course, we all know Adam failed
- God became flesh and dwelt among us enabling us to be ministers of reconciliation between God and man

*“For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,”* (1 Timothy 2:5, NKJV)

*“Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.”* (Hebrews 7:25, NKJV)

Because Jesus, the perfect Mediator/Intercessor has made us one with Himself and made us new creations in Him we can now intercede on behalf of mankind with all authority and glory!  
– in Jesus' Name!

- 2 Corinthians 5:11-21
- John 17

*“No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has **declared** Him.”*

(John 1:18, NKJV)

“Explained” (NASB) – Eng. Word, Exegete – *“an expounder or textual interpreter, especially of scripture”* – Oxford

Jesus came and drew us a picture of God

– **John 10:30-33; John 14:9**

*“Great irony exists in the fact that Man who was meant to be God’s intercessor, mediator, or representative on Earth now needed someone to mediate for him. He who was made to represent God on the earth now needed someone to represent him to God. Christ, of course, became that representative, intercessor, or mediator. Not only did He represent God to man, but He also represented man to God. This God-man was the attorney for both sides!”* – Dutch Sheets

- Jesus is the ultimate final go-between or advocate

*“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.”* (**1 John 2:1, NKJV**)

Not only did Christ redeem us and clear our charges of sin against us, but he also represents us to the Father as righteous and one of His own

- We now ask the Father in His Name and He petitions the Father for us – **John 16:26**
- He declares before the Father that we are approaching His throne not based on our merits, but His
- Jesus isn’t praying for us He is interceding for us so that we can pray
- This is why we ask *“in His name”*

In fact, not only did we need to be reconciled to God we also needed someone to “*go-between*” themselves and Satan to separate themselves from him

- Our prayers and intercession are always and only an extension of His work of intercession
- God won't honor any intercession except Christ's

We don't produce anything on our own we are merely distributing the work of Jesus

- We are Re-presenting the Father's will to mankind through Christ
- *“Your kingdom come, Your will be done”* – **Matthew 6:10**

Jesus was the “sent” one or representative

*“Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.”*  
**(John 14:10, NKJV)**

- Everything Jesus did was under the authority of the Father

We are the “sent” ones – representing Jesus

*“So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.””* **(John 20:21, NKJV)**

- Everything we do is under the authority of Jesus

Intercession means “*to meet*” (original language)

- Intercession is not primarily a prayer a person prays
- It is something a person does that can be done through prayer
- Although the word “*Intercession*” has come to mean prayer it is not its primary meaning

As our understanding of what Christ accomplished through His intercession for us, it will help us understand what God wants to do through our lives in the area of intercession

- Intercession creates a meeting
- We meet with God as well as the powers of darkness
- We become a go-between between our Heavenly Father and someone else
- We meet with God and ask Him to meet with another person

We also meet with the enemy in “*spiritual warfare*” to break or sever a stronghold as we intercede for one under the influence of the powers of darkness

- All of our praying and intercession will involve one or both of these facets
- Reconciliation or breaking
- Uniting or disuniting

*“Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be (already) bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be (already) loosed in heaven.” (Matthew 18:18, NKJV)*

*“Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.”*

**(2 Corinthians 5:18–19, NKJV)**

- God has reconciled us to Himself through Christ
- We now represent Christ in His reconciliation
- He has given us the ministry of reconciliation
- We release the fruit of what Christ has done through praying intercession
- We are setting up a meeting between God and the person or nation that needs to hear the message of the cross

Sometimes our intercession can be a battlefield

*“He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”* **(1 John 3:8, NKJV)**

Destroy – *“to pronounce or determine that something or someone is no longer bound”* and *“to dissolve or void a contract or anything that legally binds”*

- Jesus came to dissolve the legal hold that Satan had over us
- He *“voided the contract”*, breaking Satan’s dominion over us

Through intercession, we are to bear one another's burdens

Two words used for "*bearing*" in the New Testament

Number One

*"bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do."* (Colossians 3:13, NKJV)

*"with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,"* (Ephesians 4:2, NKJV)

- He is not only saying that we are to "*put up with*" one another – even though that is true
- We are called to share the load

We are to come alongside and "*stake*" ourselves to one another when a weaker brother or sister is "*weighted down*"

- Like staking a tomato plant
- To strengthen and comfort another
- My strength is now yours
- You are not going to fall and be broken or destroyed
- Go ahead, lean on me
- As long as I can stand, so will you



## Number Two

*“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”*  
(Galatians 6:2, NKJV)

*“We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, leading to edification. For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, “The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me.”*

(Romans 15:1–3, NKJV)

- In both cases, the word means to bear, lift or carry, to “carry away” or “remove it”
- Prayer is only part of intercession
- It is not only prayer that is prayed but action or work

When Jesus interceded for us it was an action as well as a prayer

*“All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”* (Isaiah 53:6, NKJV)

*“Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.”* (Isaiah 53:12, NKJV)

- Laid on, Intercession – Hebrew synonym for the Greek word used in – Romans 15:1-3, Galatians 6:2

*“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”*

**(2 Corinthians 5:21, NKJV)**

- Jesus doesn't just take away our sin He makes it as if we have never sinned
- Both the Hebrew word in **Isaiah 53** and the Greek word in **Romans 15** and **Galatians 6** mean “to bear away”
- Jesus is not just carrying our sins he has taken them away

*“As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us.” (Psalm 103:12, NKJV)*

- Like Christ, we don't just carry someone's burden we remove or take it away
- We help them get rid of it
- This is part of intercession

We are helping to implement the work of Christ on the cross

*“I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,” (Colossians 1:24, NKJV)*

- What could possibly be lacking in Christ's afflictions?
- Of course, we are not carrying another person's sin, curse, or blame
- We are re-presenting or enforcing the completed work of Christ

*“But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God,”*

**(Hebrews 10:12, NKJV)**

Even though Jesus took the sins of the world upon Himself there is still a “*sharing*” and “*a filling up*” that which is lacking in Christ’s afflictions

- It’s the re-presenting and mediating, going between and enforcing
- That is our part

In implementing Christ's priestly ministry of intercession we don't merely carry the burdens of others, we carry them away

- Just as Jesus did – The Scapegoat
- We are not re-doing we are re-presenting
- He bore our sins, infirmities, diseases, reproaches, and rejections
- He is the balm of Gilead – **Jeremiah 8:22**  
– We apply the healing salve
- He is the Fountain of Life – **Jeremiah 2:13; 17:13**  
– We are the dispensers of His living water
- His is the comforting shepherd’s staff – **Psalms 23:4**  
– He allows us the privilege of extending it

*“who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.”* **(2 Corinthians 3:6, NKJV)**

We *administer* the blessings and provision of the New Covenant

## We Enforce The Covenant and Tread Upon the Enemy

*“Then Joshua said, “Open the mouth of the cave, and bring out those five kings to me from the cave.” And they did so, and brought out those five kings to him from the cave: the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon. So it was, when they brought out those kings to Joshua, that Joshua called for all the men of Israel, and said to the captains of the men of war who went with him, “Come near, put your feet on the necks of these kings.” And they drew near and put their feet on their necks. Then Joshua said to them, “Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed; be strong and of good courage, for thus the LORD will do to all your enemies against whom you fight.” And afterward Joshua struck them and killed them, and hanged them on five trees; and they were hanging on the trees until evening. So it was at the time of the going down of the sun that Joshua commanded, and they took them down from the trees, cast them into the cave where they had been hidden, and laid large stones against the cave’s mouth, which remain until this very day.”*

**(Joshua 10:22–27, NKJV)**

- Joshua is an Old Testament picture of a type of Christ
- Israel pictures the Church
- Joshua was about to practice a familiar custom after defeating five Canaanite armies
- Placing his foot upon the defeated kings before executing them

Many times the defeated army or armies would be paraded before the conquering general or king, observing him as he displayed his conquest

*“Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.”*

**(Colossians 2:15, NKJV)**

Joshua was about to do something very different than the original custom and very prophetic

- Rather than place his foot on the necks of the conquered kings he summoned some of the soldiers and had them do it
- This is a literal picture of Christ (*Joshua*) and the Church, (*Christ's army*)
- Jesus is saying to us, *“you put your feet on the necks of these enemies”*

*“and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,”* **(Ephesians 2:6, NKJV)**

Jesus is saying,

*“It's not only My victory but it's also yours. What I have done you must enforce. I have put them under My feet legally – but you must exercise that authority in individual situations. Causing the fulfillment of it.”*

*“And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.”*

*(Romans 16:20, NKJV)*

*“Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.” (Luke 10:19, NKJV)*

*“And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,” (Ephesians 1:22, NKJV)*

*“For “He has put all things under His feet.” But when He says “all things are put under Him,” it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted.” (1 Corinthians 15:27, NKJV)*

*“The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.” (Psalm 110:1, NKJV)*

- This is a Messianic prophecy
- If Jesus is already ascended to the Father's right hand aren't those enemies already under His feet, or will they be placed there?
- YES! – Both
- *Legally*, through the cross, *literally*, as we do our part as the officers or soldier

We are policing a war zone! – until Government rule is established

*“The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies! Your people shall be volunteers In the day of Your **power**; In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth.”*

**(Psalm 110:2–3, NKJV)**

- Power – could also have been translated as *army*
- Christ is looking for a volunteer army that will stretch forth His strong scepter of authority
- We are to rule in the midst of our enemies enforcing His great victory!

*“Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses.” **(Joshua 1:3, NKJV)***

- Tread – both Hebrew and Greek words involve the concept of war
- Hebrew word came to be used for “*bending the bow*” when loading to shoot an arrow – Locked and loaded!
- The generation lost in the wilderness were afraid to fight because the giants were too big
- It's no different for us!

*“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,” **(2 Corinthians 10:4, NKJV)***

- Will we fight and enforce the covenant of the Lord?