

Copyright © Two Journeys Ministry

Andrew M. Davis

Sermon Notes

www.twojourneys.org

Please use in accordance with the copyright policy found at twojourneys.org

The Perfect and Permanent Prayer Warrior

Hebrews 7:25

Introduction: The comfort of having a mighty prayer warrior on your side

Few of us have ever been in grave physical danger, trying to escape from an enemy that was hunting you down and seeking to kill you... but if you were trying to escape from a prison camp during the Vietnam War and had the luxury of having an expert jungle warrior to lead you out and keep you safe, how would that give you confidence?

How much more should we Christians yearn to have a PRAYER WARRIOR plead our cause?? And if you thought this would be valuable, who would you choose?

Throughout church history, there have been astonishing men and women of prayer, whose faithfulness and perseverance and faith in prayer have been mightily used by God to bless the people around them

How would you feel if Martin Luther devoted himself to praying for you every day, two hours a day for a full year? This is a man whose faithfulness in prayer was astonishing and whom God used to bring about an awesome Reformation of a whole continent

Or what if John Hyde came forward and volunteered to give himself fully to praying for you three hours every day for a full year? Covering your life... everything you were facing in life... all your weakness, your temptations, your ministry opportunities, your family circumstances, your health, your bible reading, your job situation... etc. Totally saturated in prayer by one of the most amazing prayer warriors in history

Suppose it were George Mueller, who had recorded over 50,000 specific answers to prayer in his life?

Or what if it were [FEMALE EXAMPLE]

Some people would just like to have their godly mother or father alive again and praying faithfully for them... I remember looking with awe at the physical evidence of Louise Ferrell's incredibly detailed intercessory prayer life... and a relative said to me, "What is irreplaceable is the sense of knowing that she was praying DAILY for us"

BUT dear friends, the amazing truth of Hebrews 7 is that you are COMPLETELY PRAYED FOR by the greatest prayer warrior in the universe... Jesus, your Great High Priest!! Hebrews 7:25 speaks openly and plainly of this intercessory ministry

Context:

- The superiority of Christ’s priesthood to the Levitical priesthood
- Christ’s life, death, resurrection and ascension to heaven has ended forever the Old Covenant
- First century Jewish Christians have to come to grips with the fact that their religion has been changed forever... that Judaism is OBSOLETE
- They were being persecuted and were being tempted to go back to their old lives in Judaism
- The Author establishes in many ways the supremacy of Jesus Christ... because to go back would be to FORSAKE CHRIST
- In Hebrews 7, the Author is specifically showing that Christ is a High Priest in the order of Melchizedek, and that priesthood is SUPERIOR to the Levitical priesthood
 - Melchizedek was a PRIEST-KING... King of righteousness, King of Peace... the Old Covenant had no power to make a sinner righteous or to give his conscience peace in the face of a Holy God
 - Melchizedek was greater than Abraham, because Melchizedek BLESSED Abraham and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything
 - Levi paid the tithe through Abraham
 - The Levitical priesthood had no power to make anything perfect
 - Neither could the Mosaic Covenant... which God established at the same time as the Levitical priesthood... the Mosaic Covenant AND the Levitical priesthood were completely linked together
 - Now that Jesus has come, a priest-king perfectly fulfilling this picture of Psalm 110:4, the OLD MUST PASS AWAY
 - We have now a BETTER HOPE by which we draw near to God
 - Jesus has been established as our High Priest by the command and OATH of God: **“The Lord has SWORN and will not change his mind, ‘You are a priest forever...’”**
 - Jesus’ ministry as our great High Priest is thus established forever, and it superior in every way
 - There were MANY of those Levitical priests... they were sinners who had to offer sacrifice for their own sins, and they were mortal... they died and could not continue their priestly ministry

Hebrews 7:24-25 but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

This is the focus of our study today... the astonishing power of the intercessory ministry of our Great High Priest, Jesus Christ... this is exactly what we need:

Hebrews 7:26 Such a high priest meets our need-- one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.

It doesn’t matter what you are facing today

You may be discouraged because of some besetting sin... some lust or failing or habit or weakness that is crushing you, oppressing you, weighing your conscience down with pollution: JESUS IS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD AND IS PRAYING FOR YOU

You may be anxious about your future... your job may be tenuous or you may be unemployed or you may be graduating from college and uncertain about what is to come: JESUS IS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD AND IS PRAYING FOR YOU

You may be afflicted with a chronic illness... agonizing back pain, a cancer diagnosis facing a difficult course of treatment—surgery or radiation or chemo—and you are dreading the pain and suffering; or this may all be true of your spouse or your parents or your children: JESUS IS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD AND IS PRAYING FOR YOU

On the other hand, you may be flourishing and successful, thriving in your job or business or academic life... all may be right with the world in your eyes and you've never been happier... your only concern is about the future... will it continue? Will you still have all that you cherish a year from now? Will your success corrupt you? What is Satan cooking up against you? No matter what your circumstances, JESUS IS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD AND IS PRAYING FOR YOU

My goal is simple: to unfold the intercessory ministry of Jesus with such clarity and power that you will be overwhelmed with joy, peace, security, and confidence... that you may rest completely BY FAITH in the work of Jesus, your Perfect High Priest

I. The Fact of Christ's Intercession

A. Christ is Here Said to Intercede, and to Do It Constantly

Hebrews 7:25 he always lives to intercede for them.

B. What is "Intercession"?

1. Greek: to approach, appeal, plead or beg a cause concerning another person
2. The sense is to take up the cause for someone, to plead for their cause with one in authority
3. When it comes to God, the word means to PRAY for them... to take their cause before God and plead for it in His presence
4. Hebrews 7:25 says that Jesus constantly lives to INTERCEDE for us, to take our needs, our concerns, our causes, our conditions into the throne room of grace and plead for them

C. Other Passages Teach the Same

1. Romans 8:33-34

Romans 8:33-34 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died-- more than that, who was raised to life-- is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

- a. The context there is of the Judgment Seat of God
- b. The possibility of a CHARGE being brought against God's elect... those whom God has justified
- c. Christ Jesus is stated to have died, was raised to life, and is now at the right hand of God INTERCEDING for us
- d. So any charge that the accuser—presumably Satan—makes against us concerning our sins, Jesus intercedes for us concerning His atonement

2. 1 John 2:1-2

1 John 2:1-2 My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense-- Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. ² He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

- a. Again, the image is one of a sinful people who could be accused before God
- b. Even as justified people, with the indwelling Holy Spirit, and the powerful word of God, we still sin... everything God has done for us was to make us pure from sin; John wrote the Scripture so that we WOULD NOT SIN...
- c. but if we DO SIN, we have an ADVOCATE, parakletos in the Greek

someone summoned, called to one's side, esp. called to one's aid 1a) one who pleads another's cause before a judge, a pleader, counsel for defense, legal assistant, an advocate 1b) one who pleads another's cause with one, an intercessor

- d. He is identified plainly: **Jesus Christ, the Righteous One**

3. So, the intercessory work of Jesus Christ is plainly taught in Scripture... it is a significant theme

II. The Recipient of Christ's Intercession

Simply put, TO WHOM does Jesus Christ make His intercession?

Hebrews 7:24-25 but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

A. Almighty God is the Right Recipient of All Prayers

1. God is the all-powerful ruler of the universe
2. The Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is the One to whom any prayer must be made

B. God is the Giver of Every Gift of Grace

1. Every grace we have ever received in life comes to us from God... nothing is ours except by His grace and mercy
2. This is especially noted in the Scripture concerning our SALVATION
3. Every grace that brings us close to God comes from God and from no other source
 - a. Repentance is a salvation grace, given only as God grants it
 - b. Faith is a salvation grace, given only as God grants it
 - c. The indwelling Spirit
 - d. Adoption as Sons
 - e. Perseverance in the Christian life is a salvation grace

Hebrews 6:1 ... let us leave the elementary things... and go on to maturity

Hebrews 6:3 ... and God permitting, we will do so

- f. God bestows all of these things from His loving hand

Psalm 145:16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

4. Jesus goes to His heavenly Father on our behalf because He alone can give the salvation graces that we need

C. God is Ready to Hear Prayer, If...

1. The person be in right relation to Him
2. The person prays according to His will

Our God is a PRAYER HEARING God:

Deuteronomy 4:7 What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him?

But those prayer must be from a godly heart asking for things according to His will

Isaiah 59:1-2 Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. ² But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

1 John 5:14-15 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us-- whatever we ask-- we know that we have what we asked of him.

D. How True this is of Jesus!!! Perfect holiness combined with perfect conformity to His Father's will

E. Application

1. Right Meditation on This Teaches Us the Centrality and Sovereignty of God
2. The Essence of Sin is Rebellion and Independence... Jesus Submitted and Expressed Perfect God-centered Dependence
3. Jesus' ongoing intercessory prayer ministry for us should teach us how totally dependent on God we are every single moment of our lives
4. This should also teach us to pray more consistently

III. The Position of Christ as Intercessor

A. Who He Is in Himself

1. God the Son... the creator and sustainer of the universe

Matthew 17:5 a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

Hebrews 1:3 The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

2. Thus He has all POWER to achieve anything He wills

Hebrews 7:25 he is able to save completely those who come to God through him

This verse speaks of Christ's POWER... His ABILITY

When Saul was first proclaimed King over Israel, some troublemakers asked the sarcastic question,

1 Samuel 10:27 "How can this fellow save us?" And they despised him and brought him no gifts

But Jesus is ABLE to save us... and to save us to the uttermost

3. Perfect and Holy

Hebrews 7:26... holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.

4. Wise, Knowing the Will of God

Isaiah 53:10 ... the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

Before the foundation of the world, God the Father worked out a perfect salvation plan

Ephesians 1:11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will

God the Son perfectly executes that plan

5. Zealous for the Glory of His Father

John 12:27-28 "Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again."

6. Loving, Yearning for the Blessing of God's People

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her

B. Where He Is in Relation to God

1. At the right hand of the throne

a. Four times in Hebrews

Hebrews 1:3 After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

Hebrews 1:13 God [said to Him] "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"?

Hebrews 8:1 We do have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven

Hebrews 10:12 But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God.

Hebrews 12:2 Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

b. When Stephen died

Acts 7:55-56 But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

2. Immediate, constant, and perfect access to God's face

3. Amazingly, the Book of Revelation ALSO has Jesus receiving from the right hand of the one who sat on the throne the scroll... but also depicts Jesus STANDING IN THE CENTER of the throne:

Revelation 5:6 Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing in the center of the throne

C. Applications

1. Our great High Priest has perfect constant access to the throne of Almighty God
2. He is deeply beloved of the Father and can speak to Him any time about anything
3. We should have the highest level of confidence knowing this is the One who is constantly interceding for us

IV. The People for Whom Christ Intercedes

Hebrews 7:25 Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

A. People Who Come to God Through Him

1. To come to God means
 - a. To believe in Him
 - b. To draw near to Him for worship and service
 - c. It speaks of our reconciled relationship through Jesus
 - d. We were distant... far off... aliens and strangers... rebels under the wrath and curse of God
 - e. Now we have COME NEAR TO GOD

2. “Through Him” = through Jesus

a. There is no other way to draw near to God except by Jesus

John 14:6 "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

b. Jesus is the “new and living way” into the presence of God

Hebrews 10:19-22 Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near to God

3. Thus Jesus is interceding for HIS OWN, for His flock, His sheep, His people who are drawing near to God through Him

B. The Elect: Chosen from the Foundation of the World

C. Sinners: Consistently Transgressing God’s Laws

1. These are clearly portrayed to be sinners needing to be cleansed of sin

2. That is why Jesus must constantly be praying for them

3. Our hearts are divided, wandering after lusts, dissatisfied with the things of God

Romans 7:21-25 So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²² For in my inner being I delight in God's law; ²³ but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. ²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God-- through Jesus Christ our Lord!

4. Jesus wants our final salvation infinitely more than we do!!!

V. The Basis of Christ’s Intercession

Christ is Pleading for Sinners to Be Saved... on what BASIS can He make the acceptable to a holy God??

A. Blood: the Perfect Sacrifice of Himself on the Cross

1. The priestly ministry of Jesus has two distinct parts

2. One of them is perfected NOW, already complete... nothing can be added to it

3. Jesus shed His blood “once for all time” on the cross... four times Hebrews uses this phrase “ONCE FOR ALL”

Hebrews 7:27 Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.

Hebrews 9:12 He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.

Hebrews 9:26 ... But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Hebrews 10:10 And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

4. This sacrifice of Himself, by His own blood, has made PURIFICATION FOR SINS
5. Thus the intercessory ministry of Jesus is CONSTANTLY LINKED to the blood He shed on the cross

Romans 8:33-34 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died-- more than that, who was raised to life-- is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

1 John 2:1-2 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

6. So, one aspect of Jesus’ High Priestly ministry is completed once for all, perfect, nothing to be done, nothing to be added
7. BUT... the second aspect of Jesus’ priestly ministry is CONTINUAL, ongoing, and that is His intercession for us
8. The basis of that second is not His death but His LIFE

B. Life: The Power of an Indestructible Life

Hebrews 7:24-25 because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

1. Jesus’ eternal priesthood is linked to His resurrection...

2. Unlike the Levitical priests who die and that ends their ministry, Jesus lives forever and His ministry will never end
3. Hebrews 7 speaks of the power of an indestructible life as the BASIS of His ministry

Hebrews 7:16 one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life.

4. So also Romans 5 speaks of the ministry of an ever-living Savior as proof of our final salvation

Romans 5:9-10 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰ For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

Logic: if a dead, blood Jesus justifies us when we were God's enemies, how much more will a resurrected, glorified, LIVING and INTERCEDING Jesus save us to the uttermost... saved from God's wrath through Jesus' life.

5. The same logic is used in Romans 8...

Romans 8:33-34 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died-- more than that, who was raised to life-- is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

This is an ASTONISHING STATEMENT!! Jesus who died... MORE THAN THAT... more than that He merely died on the cross... the real power is that He was raised to life and is at the right hand of God interceding for us!!!

Jesus' LIFE is the basis for His powerful ongoing priestly ministry for us

6. There is an unspeakable power of a living advocate, who stands in front of you and makes a personal appeal
 - a. The persistent widow stood in front of the unjust judge and pled for justice and the Judge heard her
 - b. Jairus came and pled to Jesus for his dying daughter
 - c. The father of the demon possessed boy in Matthew 17 begged Jesus to heal his son...
 - d. How powerful then is it for us to have an eternally LIVING Jesus standing on our behalf before His Father's face

VI. The Necessity of Christ's Intercession

A. Why Is Christ's Prayer Even Needed? Isn't His Blood Sufficient?

1. Look at all that He had already given us!!
2. Some could think
 - a. Jesus has declared the name of God to us, and revealed the whole counsel of God's will to us, AND...
 - b. Jesus has given us a demonstration of a life of perfect holiness lived under the Law of God, AND...
 - c. Jesus has perfectly fulfilled all righteousness by dying on the cross in our place, having completely atoned for all our sins, AND...
 - d. Jesus has been resurrected from the dead, demonstrating forever His power over death and powerfully proving His claim to be the Son of God, AND...
 - e. Jesus has ascended to the heavens until a cloud hid Him
 - f. NOW He has completely given us everything we need for us to finish the salvation journey ourselves... He can now leave us alone to finish the job
3. But this was UNTHINKABLE to Jesus!!!

John 14:18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

4. For Jesus to leave His church alone in the world would be to throw us to the most subtle, ferocious wolves to be totally devoured without remedy
5. Jesus knew that He must continue to exercise an ongoing ministry on our behalf or we would never complete our treacherous salvation journey

B. Jesus Must "Save to the Uttermost" His Church

^{ESV} Hebrews 7:25 Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

1. This Greek phrase can either mean "save forever" or "save completely"
2. I think BOTH are viable... but I lean toward "save completely"...
3. The sense here is that we Christians are still in danger... and that our salvation is not yet perfect and complete

C. Key Text: Luke 22:31-32

Luke 22:31-32 "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. ³² But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."

1. Satan has demanded to sift the entire church like wheat
2. The goal: to cause the elect to stop believing in Christ, that their faith would fail
3. Christ's remedy: prayer to the Father for Simon's faith
4. Lessons: the church is in constant need of Christ's intercession

D. Fact: Not All the Elect Have Come to Christ

Therefore, the Great High Priest has to pray to the Father to draw them to Himself

Jesus has asked the Father for the nations

Psalm 2:8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.

Jesus tells us to pray for laborers for the harvest field

E. Fact: Of Those Who Have, Our Salvation is Incomplete

1. As we've just seen, we have to be "saved to the uttermost"
2. We have to keep running this race with endurance right to the end

F. Fact: God Alone Can Supply What is Needed

1. God alone can keep our faith strong through the many dangers, toils and snares that we must endure to make it through this world
2. God alone GAVE US OUR FAITH to begin with, and He alone can SUSTAIN IT to the end

G. Fact: Christians on Earth are in Grave Danger

1. Satan is likened to a prowling, roaring lion seeking someone to devour... He is portrayed as the "god of this age" whose subtle schemes are all designed to destroy the faith of people
2. Our own lusts wage war against our souls every moment of the day; they threaten to pull us from Christ at every moment

3. The world's alluring program of lusts and temptations, of power, pleasure, possessions, pride is overpowering
4. We need Christ to filter our temptations... to keep Satan on a tight leash, to convict us powerfully of indwelling sin so we stay humble and close to Christ

H. Fact: We Continue to Sin... by Omission and Commission

1. Commission: Every single day, we violate our consciences by willfully doing something God has forbidden

Romans 14:23... everything that does not come from faith is sin.

2. Omission: Every single hour, we fail to do something that God has led us to do... some good work that God orchestrated for us to do... some prayer prayed, some word of encouragement spoken, some evangelistic opportunity capitalized on, some money given to the poor and needy

James 4:17 Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

3. ALL OF THIS RIVER OF SINS needs ongoing intercession by our Great High Priest

I. Fact: All of these Things Can Be Remedied by Prayer... but No One Prays as Needed

1. Though we Christians are commanded to pray, and though many promises are connected with our prayers, though we have plenty of opportunities to pray, and though we have many incentives to pray and though the Holy Spirit moves us to pray... we are actually MISERABLY WOEFULLY INADEQUATE as a line of prayer defense for the church of Christ
2. No human being prays as often as he should, as according to the revealed will of God as he should, as passionately as he should...
3. We NEED A PRAYER WARRIOR who will completely cover the church in prayer... and Jesus is that one!!

J. Therefore, We Are Constantly "Standing in the Need of Prayer" by our Mediator

VII. The Goal of Christ's Intercession

- A. That God May be Glorified AND
- B. That All the Elect be "Saved Completely"

John 17:24 Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

C. Focus: Faith in Christ

Luke 22:32 I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.

D. Protection from Temptation

Hebrews 2:18 Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted

E. Help in Times of Weakness

Hebrews 4:16 Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

VIII. The Manner of Christ's Intercession

A. Piety: Zeal for the Glory of God

John 12: Father, glorify your name!

Matthew 6: Father, hallowed be your name!

B. Holiness: Purity from all evil

Hebrews 7:26 Such a high priest meets our need-- one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.

C. Passion: "Loud cries and tears"

Hebrews 5:7 During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

Now that kind of praying is no longer needed from Jesus now that He is in glory at the right hand of the Father... no need for LOUD CRIES and TEARS... but there is no lessening of passion

D. Wisdom: According to the Will of God

Romans 8:27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

If the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God, so also does the Son

E. Love: Deep desire for the final salvation of the elect

F. Perseverance: He ALWAYS lives to intercede for us

1. Jesus will never grow weary, or be inattentive
2. Nothing slips through the cracks
3. Everything that

IX. The Outcome of Christ's Intercession

A. Success! He Gets Everything He Asks for!!

B. God Completely Glorified

C. All the Elect "Saved to the Uttermost"

X. How We Should Respond to Christ's Intercession

A. Repentance and Faith: Come to the Father Through Him

B. Security: Know for Certain That Your Salvation is Secure

C. Dependence: Grow in a Healthy, Total, God-Centered Dependence

D. Imitation: Join Christ in His Prayer Ministry

1. Prayer "in Jesus' name" = joining Jesus in His prayer ministry

E. Fruitfulness: Live Up to What Christ is Praying for

1. Christ is praying for you to be holy... then be holy!!
2. Christ is praying for your faith not to fail... then FEED your faith by the word of God
3. Christ is praying for you to produce fruit, fruit that will last... then BE FRUITFUL spiritually... use your spiritual gifts to grow the church, use the gospel message to reach out to a lost world
4. Christ is praying for the Lord of the Harvest to send out laborers into His harvest field... then be a laborer in His harvest field