

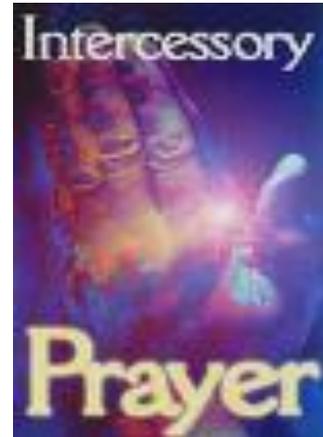


Intercession

What is Intercession

- ❖ To Intercede: To act between two parties with a view to reconcile differences – Webster dictionary

- ❖ Intercession is an action by those who are more able than we, to plead on our behalf.



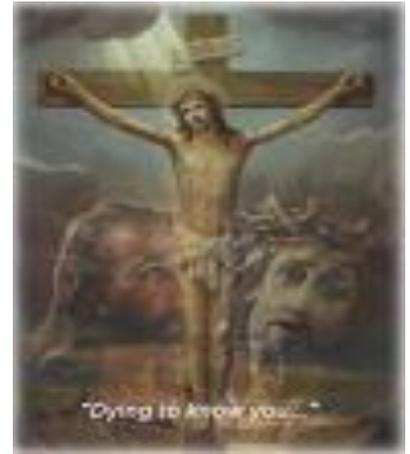
What is Intercession

- ❖ In Christianity—prayer to God on behalf of another that includes a level of intimacy – obtained through worship and speaking God’s words back to Him.
 - ❖ The one praying intercedes on behalf of the subject, believing that God will answer their prayer according to His will. Therefore praying His will is a key part of intercession.
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Kinds of Intercession

1. The Redemptive Intercession

The ultimate intercession



- The act of Jesus Christ on the Cross. He is the only reconciliation between God the Father and man in salvation.
- *“and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.” Heb 9:12*



2. Other Intercessors within the heavenly church

St. Mary, The Archangels, Angels, St. John the Baptist, Disciples, Apostles, Prophets, Martyrs, Saints.

Our Protestant brethren reject intercessions of the heavenly church based on the verse 1John.2:1 and 1Tim.2:5



- ▶ *Where in fact there is a fundamental difference between the mediation of the Lord Jesus Christ and the intercessions of the saints, while the intercession of the saints are of the pleading type, since they pray for us, which is completely different to Christ's atoning mediation.*



Intercession in the Church

Church asks for the intercessions of all the Saints all the time.



Raising of Incense:

Epsailah (Psalms)

Theotokia (magnifying the Thoetokos)

Doxolgia (Glorification of the Saints).

In the Liturgy:

Hiten –The hymn of the Intercessions

Agios

7 short prayers –pope, priests, deacons people, plants etc

Khenevran



Examples – Old Testament

- ▶ Abraham interceded for Lot .
- ▶ Jacob for Rachel – She cried to her husband & he cried to God, she bore Joseph & Benjamin.
- ▶ Moses for the people of Israel. God willed to destroy the people because they worshipped the golden calf.
- ▶ Eli the Priest for Hannah: he heard her hurtful cries and she was given Samuel. *“Then Eli answered & said, go in peace: and the God of Israel grant your petition which you have asked of Him “ 1Sam 1:17*
- ▶ *Nathan & David.*
- ▶ *Daniel & etc.*



New Testament Examples

- ▶ St. Mary (Theotokos) – wedding of Cana of Galilee.
- ▶ “...pray for one another” (James 5: 16)
- ▶ “...pray for us” (2Thess 3: 1)
- ▶ “...praying alwayswith all perseverance and supplication for all the saints – and for me” (Eph 6: 18–19)
- ▶ Jesus Prayer for His Disciples & The believers (John 17:6–26)

Intercessory act of Jesus Christ

- ▶ Read John 17 vs 1–25
- ▶ The purpose of Christ's (the anointed one) visit is revealed – **salvation, salvation, salvation**
- ▶ His mediation means that He says to the Father: "Do not count their transgressions because I have carried their iniquity" (Is.53: 6)

Jesus Christ pleaded to the Father

- ▶ He spoke aloud to teach us.
- ▶ He prayed for Himself –out of humility to the Father
 - As an example to us
- ▶ He prayed for His disciples and future believers
 - receive peace in this world
 - Eternal life in the next
 - have a relationship with the Father and Son.
 - have knowledge of the truth and minister to others
 - Unity within his body – the church

Conclusion

- ▶ Intercession is an integral part of prayer
- ▶ The intercessions of the saints are powerful and so we ought to seek their prayers as we do of one another
- ▶ The Lords prayer shows us how He stands as not only intercessor but Advocate before the Father, having been nailed to the cross of Calvary in my place
- ▶ This prayer is a source of peace and comfort. It also shows us that in the midst of any difficult time or decision, we ought to get alone with the Lord and pour our hearts out before Him, not only on behalf of ourselves but our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ