

Waiting for the Priest

Advent Series, #3

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

**23 “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”**

(which means, God with us).

24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Matthew 1:18-25

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What is a priest?

“A priest is a religious leader authorized to perform the sacred rituals of a religion, especially as a mediatory agent between humans and one or more deities.”

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

Genesis 2:15

“Bring the tribe of Levi near, and set them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister to him. 7 They shall keep guard over him and over the whole congregation before the tent of meeting, as they minister at the tabernacle.”

Numbers 3:6-7

God created the system of the priesthood in order to mediate a relationship between a holy God and unholy people.

For from the least to the greatest of them, everyone is greedy for unjust gain; and from prophet to priest, everyone deals falsely.

Jeremiah 6:13

**“For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge,
and people should seek instruction from his
mouth, for he is the messenger of the Lord of
hosts. 8 But you have turned aside from the
way. You have caused many to stumble by your
instruction. You have corrupted the covenant of
Levi, says the Lord of hosts,**

**9 and so I make you despised and abased
before all the people, inasmuch as you do not
keep my ways but show partiality in your
instruction.”**

Malachi 1:7-9

“And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split”

Matthew 27:51

11 And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. 12 But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, 13 waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. 14 For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.”

Hebrews 10:11-14

“5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.”

1 Timothy 2:5-6

Jesus is the Great High Priest!

**Through knowing Jesus, we are all the
priesthood!**

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

1 Peter 2:9

14 Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

Hebrews 4:14-16

