# WHO'S THE GREATEST?

(Letter to the Hebrews)

#### JESUS THE MEDIATOR

(Hebrews 8:1-6)

### NOT JUST AN EARTHLY COPY

- Old Testament priests were appointed to make gifts and sacrifices on behalf of the people (3,4).
- This system was a man-made copy, patterned after something heavenly (2,5).

# THE REAL THING

- Jesus Christ is not part of the old, earthly priesthood (4).
- He is a unique High Priest who is seated at the right hand of God in heaven (1).
- Christ has entered into the true dwelling-place of God that is not man-made (2).
- He is the Mediator of a new and better covenant, established on promises superior to that of the old covenant (6).

# Why Do You Need a Mediator?

As members of the human race, we all require fundamental blessings in our lives. Much of human effort is focused on obtaining these things, but most of those efforts result in failure to achieve the desired goal. Some of these things include forgiveness and love. God is the true source of these blessings; but, how do we "connect to Him" in order to experience these things?

As part of our human nature, we generally resort to "manmade" methods to obtain the spiritual things we are most in need of. In order to achieve forgiveness, we attempt to offset our wrongdoings with good works, but ultimately find ourselves sinning again. There is only one way that we can be connected to God – Jesus Christ is our only Mediator (1 Timothy 2:5). Through faith in Him, we have the forgiveness of sins (Ephesians 1:7), and we learn to forgive others as God has forgiven us. Similarly, each of us has a basic need to be loved and to love others. We seek this on our own terms, not realizing that God is the only true source of love (1 John 4:16). In Christ, we find God's love and are empowered by His Spirit to love others as He has loved us.

Many other things that we fundamentally need are found in Christ (our lifeline to God), including wisdom, freedom from anxiety and true joy in the midst of difficult times. Are you pursuing man-made things that are mere shadows and counterfeits of the real thing? God has what we really need and Jesus Christ is the only way that we can come to Him to receive the multitude of spiritual blessings He wishes to bestow upon us.

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