

## One Savior and Mediator

1 Tim 2:5; Exodus 3: 9-22, 32: 7-14

Series review: The Number One. There is only One God, and only one creature made in His image (i.e. humanity).

- Today: there is only one Savior, one Mediator. (John 14:6, Acts 4:12, 1 Tim 2:5)

History is the History of God's Salvation!

- **Broadly speaking, in Scripture God's salvation moves from the *external* to the *internal* and finally to the *eternal*.**

### (1) External

- Some of our problems are external– including enemies against us
  - God's salvation of Abraham and Israel from its (external) enemies would occur many times, supremely in the exodus from Egypt. See Gen 12:3, Exodus 3:9-22, etc.
- People may wrong you deeply, it's true. God takes this seriously.
  - Is this our deepest problem though? No, as Israel's history soon reveals...

### (2) Internal

- Blaming God after the Exodus: problems with the human heart
  - "For you have brought us out of this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger!" (Exodus 16:3, see also 15:24, 17:1-3)
    - "If I just saw great miracles, I would believe, I would obey." Are you sure?

- What's the solution? The (surprising) emergence of a *mediator* between God and sinful man. See Exodus 32:7-14, 33:17.
  - Moses the mediator turns away God's anger!
    - Which means low self-esteem isn't our deepest problem.
  - Other mediators: prophets, priests, and kings
    - They succeeded in some ways (2 Kings 17:13, Ezek 48:11, 1 Kings 3), and they failed, too (Jer 14:14, Lev 10:1-3, 2 Kings 17:21-22).

### (3) Eternal

- But God's plan was that these point to the effectiveness of a mediator, but also the need for a greater mediator, a *final* and *ultimate* mediator: **"For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."** (1 Tim 2:5)
  - You might say this is the theme verse for this series!
  - Jesus is the prophet, priest, and king that we need. See John 6:68, Hebrews 4:14-16, John 18:36.
- And he's the greater Moses, who was rejected when he offered himself as a substitute for his people (Ex 32:31-34). Only a perfect mediator could do that.

### Questions for further reflection and application:

1. Read Exodus 32-34. Note Moses' amazing role as mediator, and what God is teaching us about the efficacy of a mediator.
  - A. Yet Moses falls short. Consider 32:31-34, as well as Deuteronomy 32:51-52.
  - B. How does Christ exceed Moses as the mediator we need?
2. How does Scripture redirect our attention to our biggest problems that we need salvation from? Is this true for you? Describe it.

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