

## A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED ON THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

### JESUS IS YOUR ETERNAL PRIEST

Hebrews 7:23-25 “ Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; but because Jesus lives forever, He has a permanent priesthood. Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them.”

There is nothing more maddening than a busy signal, especially when you are calling due to an emergency or urgent matter. Unless you have an alternate phone number, at that moment you are helpless. There is nothing more you can do than keep redialing until you finally are able to make connection.

Knowing you are a sinner; with a penitent heart you regularly make confession of your sins seeking God’s forgiveness of them. Imagine getting a busy signal when the sin you are confessing is weighing heavily on your heart. You are overwhelmed by it and are in great need to enter into a heartfelt confession of it to your heavenly Father through Jesus your priest. The last thing you need at that moment is a busy signal or worse yet no answer at all.

Three times in today’s devotional verses the writer to the Hebrews tells you, you will never experience a busy signal or be disappointed with no one to receive your prayers. “Jesus lives forever” . . . “He has a permanent priesthood.” Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them.” When Jesus invites you to give Him all of the sins with which you are burdened and you will receive peaceful rest (1 Peter 5:7), Hebrews 7: 24-25 says Jesus will always be ready for you to take Him up on His promise. There are no busy signals, hang-ups, unanswered calls with Him.

There is one more important statement found in today’s verses. The writer says, “He is able to save completely. . .” Not only is Jesus always ready for you to communicate with Him your every spiritual and temporal need, but He is able to do for you what you need Him to do. Therefore, you can pray to Him to intercede for you with boldness and confidence because He is faithful.

Prayer: Jesus, my priest forever, take my prayers to Your Father and plead my case before Him. In Your holy name. Amen.

Come, my soul, with ev'ry care, Jesus loves to answer prayer;  
He Himself has bid thee pray, Therefore will not turn away.

Thou art coming to a King, Large petitions with thee bring;  
For His grace and pow'r are such None can ever ask too much.

With my burden I begin: Lord, remove this load of sin;  
Let Thy blood, for sinners spilt, Set my conscience free from guilt.

Lord, Thy rest to me impart. Take possession of my heart;  
There Thy blood-bought right maintain And without a rival reign.

While I am a pilgrim here, Let Thy love my spirit cheer;  
As my guide, my guard, my friend, Lead me to my journey's end.

Show me what is mine to do; Ev'ry hour my strength renew.  
Let me live a life of faith; Let me die Thy people's death.  
(LSB 779)