MINISTER of the SANCTUARY

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"Now this is the sum of things which we have spoken: we have such a **High Priest**, who is seated on the Right Hand of the Throne of the Majesty in the heavens; a Minister of-the Sanctuary, and of the True Tabernacle, which the Lord made, and not man. For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices; therefore it is necessity that this Man have something also to offer. For if He (Jesus) were on earth, He would not be a priest, seeing that there are priests who offer gifts according to the law; who serve as the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished by God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, 'See', says He (God), 'that you make all things according to the pattern showed to you on the mountain.' But now He (Jesus) has obtained a more excellent Ministry, by as much He also is the Mediator of a Better Covenant, which was established upon better promises." (Hebrews. 8:1-6)

Minister: from the Greek word *leitourgos* which means: a public servant, a minister, a servant; of an official character; (derived from *leitos*, which means "belonging to the people" and *ergon*, "work" - thus "the peoples worker"); properly, an official servant (minister) who works for the good of the community. In the New Testament *leitourgos* is especially used for the <u>priestly-service</u> given to God by priests, as intermediaries between the people and God.

Ministry: from the Greek word *leitourgias* which means: a ministry, a service; a public service in the widest sense; ritual-service as of a priest or Levite; sacred ministry to the Lord; properly, <u>official service</u> offered by a duly authorized minister. (It is the root of the English term "liturgy")

Sanctuary: from the Greek word *hagion* which means: a sacred place, a holy place. a Sanctuary; from *hagios* which means: <u>set apart by (or for) God</u>, holy, sacred; has the "technical" meaning "different from the world" - <u>thus holy</u> unto God.

Tabernacle: from the Greek word *skenes* which means: a tent, a booth, a tabernacle, a sanctuary, an abode, a dwelling, a habitation. In context, it is the Throne Room of the Majesty of God in the heavens.

<u>Jesus is the Father's Prime-Minister</u> seated at the <u>Right Hand of the Majesty of God</u> in <u>the heavenly Sanctuary!</u> There within, Jesus <u>serves</u> as <u>our Great High Priest</u>, and as the <u>Mediator of the better New Covenant</u> on behalf of God's people: <u>us!</u>
Consider these verses:

"God, who in various times, and in diverse manners spoke in times past unto the fathers by the prophets, <u>has in these last days spoken unto us through His Son</u>, whom He has appointed <u>Heir of All Things</u>, by whom also He made the worlds; and who being the <u>Brightness of His Glory</u>, and the <u>Express Image of His Person</u>, and upholding all things by the word of His power, <u>when He had by Himself **purged our sins**</u>, <u>He sat down on the Right Hand of the Majesty on High</u>." (Hebrews 1:1-3)

"But this Man (Jesus), because He abides forever, has an unchangeable Priesthood. Therefore He is able also to save those to the uttermost who come unto God through Him, seeing that He lives forever to make intercession for them. For such a High Priest He became for us, who is holy, innocent, undefiled, separate from sinners, and exalted higher than the heavens; and who does not need to daily, as those other high priests, to offer up sacrice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's; for this He did once, when He offered up Himself." (Hebrews 7:24-27)

MINISTER of-the SANCTUARY

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In the Sanctuary of Heaven, in the presence of the Father, Jesus intercedes for the benefit of God's people, as it says:

"It is Christ who died, yes rather, who has risen, who is even at the Right Hand of God, who also makes intercession **for us**." (Romans 8:34)

"For Christ has not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us." (Hebrews 9:24)

"My little children, these things I write unto you, so that you may not sin; and if anyone sins, we have **an Advocate** with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous; and **He is the propitiation** <u>for our sins</u>; and not for our's only, but also for the sins of the whole world." (1 John 2:1-2)

"Seeing then that <u>we have a Great High Priest</u>, who has <u>passed into the heavens</u>, <u>Jesus the Son of God</u>, let us hold fast our profession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses; but was in all points tempted like us, yet without sin. <u>Let us therefore come boldly unto the Throne of Grace</u>, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:14-16)

Before Jesus ascended to the Right Hand of the Father as <u>Minister</u> in the Holy and True Tabernacle in Heaven; and before Jesus died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, He had this to say to His twelve disciples:

"But Jesus called them to Himself, and said unto them, 'You know that they who are appointed to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever will be great among you, shall be your servant (diakonos); and whoever of you will be the first, shall be the slave (doulos) of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served unto (diakonthÿnai), but to serve (diakonsai), and to give His life a ransom for many.' " (Mark 10:42-45, Matthew 20:25-28)

On earth Jesus ministered to us as a low ranking foot-washing humble servant. In heaven Jesus ministers to us as the highest ranking Minister in the Sanctuary of God, serving <u>us</u> as <u>our</u> Advocate, and Intercessor before <u>our</u> Father in heaven!

JESUS is ...

the Minister of the Sanctuary

Seated at the Right Hand of the Majesty on High serving <u>us</u> from within the Holy and True Tabernacle of God Interceding forever for <u>us</u> before <u>our</u> Father in heaven!

All praise, and Glory, and Honor, be Yours forever Lord Jesus!

Thank you Lord Jesus for being my Savior, and my King!
May Your Name be Holy, May Your Kingdom come, and may Your will be done ...

... in my life now, as it is in the Your Kingdom in Heaven!