



HOW DOES MEDIATION WORK?

## What Is a Mediator?

.... one that reconciles differences between disputants - American Heritage Dictionary

## The Problem of Evil

From our limited viewpoint it may appear that people get away with murder, figuratively and literally. Atheists sometimes point to this illusion as “proof” that God doesn’t exist. They reason that if an all-powerful God does exist, he would put a stop to man’s ability to harm himself and others. The bible teaches that God’s solution to evil does not involve God taking away man’s capacity to make moral choices as some imagine they would be happy with. Many times the voices protesting the loudest about God not eliminating man’s ability to harm others are the same voices calling for more freedom of choice. This is illogical. Many fail to also reason that a Being capable of creating the apparent infinite complexity of the universe, likely can also “see” the beginning and the end of things without being restricted by space-time and therefore can choose the most appropriate junctures when acting to maximize his purposes.

Notwithstanding, most would probably agree that it is the natural wish of law-loving people to see for themselves justice served; rather than have liberties curtailed just to accommodate the wicked. However, there is a problem.

While most of us think of ourselves as good by comparing ourselves to others, God is above all the fray. He compares us to a justice that is plumbed straight. Nothing is hidden from Him. In other words, while most people detest liars; have you ever told a lie? What does that make you? While most people will call the police on a car thief; at a store have you ever accepted extra change that wasn’t yours?

While most people are intolerant of adulterers; have you ever looked at a married woman or any woman (or man) who is not your spouse with lust? God says you are an adulterer if you have. (*Mt. 5: 28*)

Should God only punish certain sins and not others? If God failed to punish all sin, would not that make him an enabler of sin?

## The Bad News

The bad news for man is that there will be a judgment after you die:

...it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: - *Hebrews 9: 27*

And I saw a great white throne ... And I saw the dead, small and great, *stand before God*; ... and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.  
- *Rev. 20: 11-13*

But I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. - *Matthew 12:36*

Dear friend, please do not ever let someone lull you to sleep regarding judgment. For instance, Catholic doctrine teaches that you might end up in purgatory and once there, your friends (if you were nice to your friends who are still alive) can pray you out of that terrible place. Not one scripture supports this fiction.

Additionally, the Watchtower Corporation views God’s judgment as being mediated by them when literature is offered to householders. In the Jehovah’s Witness view, the response to, and the progress in Watchtower doctrine determines whether people are marked judged favorably or not. Not one scripture supports this view either.

People will not be condemned based on if they had enough friends praying for them or were receptive or not to certain literature. People will be adversely judged based on **whether or not they have broken any of God’s Laws.** (*Matt. 5:18*) The greatest threat to mankind is not a terrorist attack, all-out nuclear war, or the battle of Armageddon. No. The greatest threat to mankind is the judgment of God at the *Great White Throne.*

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.  
- *Matthew 10: 28*

## God's 1<sup>st</sup> Mediator

God's response to the problem of evil is to leave man's ability to choose intact but at the same time punish wrong moral choices (*Isaiah 26:21*). God has done this by sometimes allowing the punishment of morally innocent (animals) *in place of* the guilty one, and at other times by punishing the sinner himself.

...without shedding of blood is no remission. -  
*Hebrews 9: 22*

Under the old Law Covenant mediated by Moses, a provision was made whereby a person's sins could be transferred onto a sinless animal, first by the priest and then by the sinner by laying their hands on its head:

And Aaron shall lay both his hands upon the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and ***all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat***, and shall send him away by the hand of a fit man into the wilderness: - *Lev.:16:21*

And the Levites shall lay ***their hands upon the heads of the bullocks***: and thou shalt offer the one ***for a sin offering***, and the other for a burnt offering, unto the LORD, to make an atonement for the Levites. - *Numbers 8:12*

Then, the animal was slaughtered *in place of* the sinner. The sentence of death was still carried out according to the LAW. However, this process of animal substitution had to be repeated because the sinless animal, while suffering the death sentence for the guilty person, could not thereafter impart PERFECT LIFE to the sinner, making future sin inevitable.

## The Importance of Identifying God's Mediator

Once, when some Israelites tried to share Moses' position as mediator, Moses suggested that they burn incense before the Lord and see what his response was. The ground opened up and swallowed the rebels alive into the earth. A short time thereafter when many in the general population protested this action by God, another fourteen thousand were consumed with a plague. They would all have died had not Moses, as *God's exclusive mediator*, "stood between the dead and the living; and the plague was stayed". Please read Numbers Ch. 16. A careful reading will reveal that Korah, Dathan and Abiram were not so much opposed to Moses and Aaron as they were opposed to the *exclusivity* of the office.

And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them -  
*Num. 16:3*

Although these prominent men had already been given responsibility in the house of God, they sought more than they were given. They "reasoned" that Moses needed some help as mediator between them and Jehovah God. Apparently they wanted some kind of democracy in this position. They clearly went against what God had purposed and received a swift and violent response from the Lord. Why? It is because they were sinners. When they sought to share with (and thus remove) God's exclusive mediator, God granted their request. Hence, there was nothing standing in between them as guilty sinners and the wrath of God demanded by his justice. In other words, without Moses as exclusive mediator, the Law Covenant with its provisions to circumvent the death penalty were off the table so to speak. They were left to face God alone with only his justice. This was very foolish. But so what? How does this affect us today?

Referring *specifically* to this issue regarding the *exclusivity* of God's Mediator, God issues this strong warning for our day:

Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. Now all these

things happened unto them for ensamples: and **they are written for our admonition**, upon whom the ends of the world are come. - *1 Cor. 10: 10, 11*

This Old Testament example shows how deadly serious God is about whom he chooses to mediate and commute death sentences, which Moses did several times on behalf of the people. Never forget: All deserve to immediately die because of their sins. The offer of a Mediator is a kindness from the Lord, not a right. Just as the exclusivity of Moses as Mediator foreshadowed the exclusivity of Jesus Christ as Mediator, God's intolerance for modifying the Mediatorship of Moses shows his intolerance for those that would modify Jesus' Mediatorship. **Jesus' exclusive position as Mediator cannot be modified in any way without at the same time removing the provision for commutation of death sentence.** This applies to those who try and modify it *and* their supporters, just as it did in the wilderness long ago with Moses.

## God's 2<sup>nd</sup> Mediator – The Good News

For *there is one God, and one mediator between God and men*, the man Christ Jesus  
-1 Tim. 2: 5

The Good News is that a New Covenant has been mediated by Jesus Christ for the *vicarious* punishment of YOUR sins. It is available to all men, not just Jews. Just as under the Old Covenant the death penalty was carried out for the punishment of sins, so too under the New Covenant the death penalty was carried out for YOUR SINS. However, simply ending your prayers with **we-ask-all-this-in-Jesus-name-amen** will not remove your sin. God does not deal in mantras, which is what the ending of many people's prayers have become little more than. The death sentence for your sins must still be carried out. God hasn't changed. (*Malachi 3:6*) You must allow Jesus to pay YOUR penalty as your *one and only* Mediator, Sacrificial Lamb, and Savior through the New Covenant; or pay for it yourself. That is God's offer. There is no other.

As for your part of the bargain – you must die as unto your SELF and be born again with the spirit of God inside you. (*John 3:3*) Unlike the sinless

animals under the 1<sup>st</sup> agreement, Jesus can (and does) impart LIFE into the believer. (*Gal. 2:20*) As unnatural as it may seem, you must sincerely tell God that this is your wish. He alone will make this possible since it is usually against everything in our experience and psychology to do so. Surrender to God alone seems to go against our survival instincts at some level. Yet, ironically our survival depends upon it. (*Luke 17:33*)

ye have not, because ye ask not. – *James 4:2*

Why not stop, right now, and ask God to supply you with what you need to surrender your will to Him and to receive the eternal LIFE that dwells in his Son?

Under the New Covenant agreement, the WORD of GOD Himself, Jesus Christ has agreed to be sentenced in your place and take your punishment for you. That is why he is called the Lamb of God. He is YOUR sacrificial Lamb, just as if you were living in Old Testament times. All a person has to do is to put faith in the Mediator of that New Covenant and righteousness will be credited to you. "It sounds too easy; how can that be so?" you say?

The answer has to do with understanding what happened in the Garden of Eden. There, *unbelief* resulted first in sin and then punishment. Eve chose not to believe God's warning of punishment if she disobeyed. Had she truly believed God, she never would have chosen unwisely. God has made the opposite of what Eve did the pathway back to fellowship with God..... *BELIEF*. Just as *unbelief* preceded Eve's sin, in God's plan of salvation he has made *belief* precede righteousness and sonship to him.

To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name [Jesus] **whosoever believeth** in him shall receive remission of sins.  
- *Acts 10:43*

Still sound too simple? God THREE TIMES for emphasis MAKES THIS VERY POINT regarding the sinner Abraham.

For what saith the scripture? **Abraham believed God**, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.  
- *Romans 4: 3*

Even as **Abraham believed God**, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.  
- *Galatians 3:6*

And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, **Abraham believed God**, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. - *James 2:23*

Now, some may still object and say that they can cite other scriptures showing the importance of works. However, Jesus himself stated what the PRIMARY work would consist of:

What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? Jesus answered and said unto them, **This is the work of God**, that ye **believe** on him whom he hath sent. - *John 6: 28,29*

People who believe God when he says that there will be judgment after death, will naturally seek God's exclusive Mediator, Jesus Christ regardless of cost. They will put their trust there, rather than in some human agency acting as if they are mediator. In other words, if a person truly believes God, they will not foolishly entertain any modification to the office of Mediator now held exclusively by Jesus Christ. Belief precedes choices. That is why God puts so much emphasis on belief.

Note: All will be judged; however *there are two Judgments available for man*. Generally, belief is important for one kind of judgment while works are important for the other kind of judgment. In reality, God has extended to mankind the opportunity to choose where he will be judged. You should choose wisely.

## Judgment for Unbelievers - The Great White Throne

Unbelievers who are damned include not only sinners opposed to Jesus Christ as their Mediator, but also religious people who are opposed to the *exclusivity* of Jesus Christ as their Mediator. Recall the fate of those opposed to the exclusivity of Moses as God's mediator. Tragically, this includes many people who try very hard at being good but do not accept Jesus *exclusively* as their Mediator. Ironically,

those that accept multiple mediators between them and God as well as those who claim no mediator at all, many times are those that work the hardest at trying to be good. But remember, Korah and his band of rebels weren't trying to do less for God, but in their mind, they were trying to do more for God. Yet, without an exclusive and approved Mediator, their "good works" could not cover the penalty for their sin. So, they had to pay for it themselves.

But we are all as an unclean *thing*, and all our righteousnesses *are* as filthy rags  
- *Isaiah 64: 6*

Notice how God says that YOUR *righteousnesses* are dirty; not only your sins? In other words, on your *best day*, you cannot stand alone before God. This scripture assaults man's vanity. In the New Testament as well, God is clear about how he views those who persist in working to gain his approval for eternal life:

Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but *of debt*. But *to him that worketh not, but believeth* on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for *righteousness*. - *Rom. 4: 4,5*

For those who try and change God's terms of salvation and work for it, God says their efforts will only result in more *debt* to him. Why?

Please try to clear your mind of for a moment and understand this incredible truth. In order for you to inherit life, real LIFE, you would need to be perfect. This is God's requirement for eternal life. (*Matt. 5: 48*) You cannot grow to perfection because each and every sin along the way would require punishment by death. That is the sentence prescribed by the Law. God's plan involves putting something inside man, at his rebirth that *is* perfect. That "something" is called the "Spirit of God" and cannot sin. That is why a person *must* be "born again" to enter God's Kingdom. (*John 3:3*) It is a down-payment (*1 Cor. 1:22*) or deposit for the total perfection to come later, which includes your mind and flesh, when the believer is glorified. This is God's method for getting around the death penalty for some, while still preserving it for those who choose otherwise. Instead of putting God on trial and questioning his methods because they seem strange, we should ask him for the faith needed to accept *his* plan. Why?

It is because judgment is every person's destiny. The idea some promote that a person's slate is wiped clean after he dies; is totally destroyed by the scriptures that describe those resurrected to judgment (*John 5:29*) at the Great White Throne. Remember what happened to all liars there at that judgment? Perhaps you should refresh your memory and read about it again in *Rev. 20: 11-13; Rev. 21:8*. If those people had a clean slate simply by dying, why didn't they get a second chance? The Great White Throne Judgment is to be avoided at all costs.

## Judgment for Believers - The Judgment Seat of Christ

But why dost thou judge thy brother? ... for we shall all stand before the **judgment seat of Christ**. For it is written, *As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. - Romans 14: 10-12*

For we must all appear before the **judgment seat of Christ**; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad. - *1 Cor. 5: 10*

It is clear by the context of both these scriptures above that Paul was addressing believers within the congregation, not unbelievers. The Judgment Seat of Christ is where believers give an account of their lives to Christ. This judgment, which is reserved for believers only, *does not* determine salvation. A person's salvation is determined by (1) our agreeing to allow Christ to substitute in our place and suffer the just punishment due us (*1 John 2:2*), and (2) our faith in him ALONE. Both are really just two sides of the same coin:

And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is **broken for you**: this do in remembrance of me.  
- *1 Corinthians 11: 24 (KJV)*

But as many as received him, **to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name** [Jesus]  
- *John 1:12*

Many have found it helpful to re-read the above two scriptures several times until they can fully grasp their meaning. For the believer, Jesus has total power to forgive sin (*Matt. 9:6*) and a believer will *never* be condemned. Scripturally, this is literally what the believer... believes in. Notice the present and past tense in these additional scriptures:

*There is* therefore **now** no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus - *Romans 8:1*

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, **hath** everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but **is** passed from death unto life  
- *John 5: 24*

We know that we **have passed** from death unto life -  
*1 John 3: 14*

Isn't that good news? This is the gospel that was originally delivered unto the first Christians. It cannot be changed without it being "another gospel" (*Gal. 1: 6, 7*). This doesn't mean however that believers are not judged. Remember, it is man's destiny to face judgment. Believer and unbeliever alike are both appointed to such a fate:

...it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: - *Hebrews 9: 27*

However, at the Judgment Seat of Christ, unlike the Great White Throne Judgment, this judgment is for rewards, not condemnation. The rewards are based on how faithfully believers served Christ the King (*2 Timothy 2: 4, 5*). The things believers will likely be judged on are how well they obeyed the Great Commission (*Matthew 28:18-20*), how victorious they were overcoming sin (*Romans 6:1-4*), how well they controlled their tongues (*James 3:1-9*), etc. Speaking to born again believers, Paul makes this point clear:

If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.  
If any man's work shall be burned, **he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved**; yet so as by fire. Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?  
- *1 Corinthians 3: 14 - 16*

So, for the born-again believer who has the spirit of God living inside him as a deposit of the full perfection to come, he might suffer loss of rewards, yet clearly he himself will still be saved. This teaching removes (well-founded) fear between man and God and paves the way for God to perfect the believer. (*1 John 4:18 - Rom. 8:29*)

Isn't that Good News? Furthermore, the Bible speaks of believers receiving crowns for different things based on how faithfully they served Christ:

an incorruptible crown - *1 Corinthians 9:25*

crown of joy - *Philippians 4:1*

crown of rejoicing - *1 Thessalonians 2:19*

crown of righteousness - *2 Timothy 4:8*

crown of life - *James 1:12*

crown of glory - *1 Peter 5:4*

hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. – *Rev. 3:11*

That last scripture above indicates that believers can lose crowns (rewards); but no man can take their salvation. (Compare with *John 10: 28*) While the scriptures do not elaborate on exactly what the crowns entail, we can be sure that when the Creator of the universe bestows a reward, it will not be a cheap gift. But rather, will likely involve inestimable beauty and delight to its recipient.

So good works, while utterly insufficient to gain life, do provide evidence that a person has actual faith and is born again. (*James 2:18*) Real works show evidence of the existence of salvation in a person, but are not the vehicle to salvation. Isn't it interesting that nowhere in the scriptures are people told that they should "clean up their lives" *before* they can get saved and then baptized? Cornelius the Roman army officer wasn't told this, the woman at the well wasn't told this, and neither was the Ethiopian eunuch. When a person tries to clean up their life "good enough" to merit life, the best you'll be able to do is to construct some sort of illusion of personal righteousness, but then you will likely only end up irritating those around you with your *self-righteousness*.

So, in summary, works provide the basis for rewards from the Lord in his Kingdom, but *never* for salvation.

... by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.  
- *Gal. 2: 16*

Christ was the "end of the Law". Praise God! The Law Covenant mediated by Moses was like a mirror, allowing man to see the extent of his sin nature; it also cursed us because no one could keep it. However, for members of the New Covenant, Jesus becomes that curse instead of them. (*Gal. 3:13*) For all outside of that Agreement, the curse remains.

## Modern "Mediators"

As pointed out earlier, on ONLY two occasions (once through Moses and once through Jesus) God has set forth his terms to commute the death sentence due each person. In both instances the mediator of each agreement (covenant) was chosen directly by God and that position was, (and is) not open to modification in any way; it is exclusive. Should that Mediator be rejected for *any* reason or more than one mediator be looked to; in that case God's offer for a commutation of sentence is off the table and a sinner is on his own before the Judgment God. And make no mistake; Jehovah God's wrath is renewed each day toward the wicked. (*Psalms 7:11*)

It is the goal of many Catholics and Jehovah's Witnesses to please God. This is a worthy desire. However, most are not aware of how the official teachings of their organizations relate to the Mediatorship of Jesus Christ. As we learned earlier in this study, that one point is critical to God. So in order to clear this up we'll print a few of those official teachings here:

**Catholic Catechism #969** "Therefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked in the Church under the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and **Mediatrix**."

Clearly the Catholic Church has lifted titles for the Holy Spirit and applied them to Mary. The title Mediatrix is the feminized version of Jesus' title as Mediator. The RCC makes Mary a co-mediator.

**Catholic Catechism # 882** The *Pope*, Bishop of Rome and Peter's successor, "is the perpetual and *visible* source and foundation of the unity both of the

bishops and of the whole company of the faithful. For the Roman Pontiff, by reason of his office as **Vicar of Christ**, and as pastor of the entire Church has full, supreme, and universal power over the whole Church, a power which he can always exercise unhindered."

The Pope sees himself as the **visible** head of God's Kingdom on earth as opposed to the invisible authority of Jesus Christ. However, early Christians walked by faith, not by sight. (2 Cor. 5:7). Additionally, one of the Pope's titles is the *Vicar of Christ*. The word vicar comes from the Latin word *vicarius* meaning substitution. The on-line version of the *Pocket Catholic Dictionary* defines the Vicar of Christ as: "The Pope, visible head of the Church on earth, acting for and **in the place of Christ**". However, this is in serious conflict with scripture. Can there be two heads on one body?

... **Christ is the head of the church:** and he is the saviour of the body. - *Ephesians 5:23*

**1994 Catholic Catechism Paragraph # 82** - As a result the Church, to whom the transmission and interpretation of Revelation is entrusted, does not derive her certainty about all revealed truths from the Holy Scriptures alone. **Both Scripture and Tradition must be accepted and honored with equal** sentiments of **devotion and reverence**.

Here the Catholic Church demands their own traditions be revered **as if** they are the word of God. Of course these traditions include the sharing of Christ as Mediator with others.

There are many other examples of the Catholic Church appropriating titles, terms, and authority reserved only for Jehovah, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and God's Word the Bible. But the main point for this discussion is that the RCC teaches that there are numerous mediators that can intercede for your salvation including saints, popes, Mary, priests etc. This is a direct affront to God's kind provision of Jesus Christ as Mediator. Remember that the issue of exclusivity was settled in Numbers Ch. 16.

It is also instructive to be aware of how Popes have historically treated Christians who recognized Jesus as their *sole* Mediator and Scripture as their

sole authority. Contrary to what you might have been aware of, Europe was already full of perhaps millions of Christians when the RCC sent out "missionaries" beginning in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries. You can internet search YOU TUBE with the term: *Catholic Inquisition* for a truly mind boggling history lesson on the plight of those who historically believed in SALVATION BY FAITH ALONE as opposed to salvation through an organization. This one-hour video is produced by [www.BereanBeacon.org](http://www.BereanBeacon.org). For a more in-depth look at Catholic doctrine, please visit: [www.whateverycatholicshouldknow.com](http://www.whateverycatholicshouldknow.com)

While the Roman Catholic Church seems content with *merely* sharing Christ's Mediatorship, the Watchtower Corporation has completely severed Christ's Head as Mediator from off the body of the congregation. The February 15, 1991 issue of the Watchtower, pgs. 15-20 paragraph 11; makes this announcement:

<sup>11</sup> Nevertheless, in a preliminary way, the great crowd have already "washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." (*Revelation 7:14*) **Christ does not act as Mediator of the new covenant toward them**, yet they benefit from this covenant through the *work* of God's Kingdom.

The Watchtower here is teaching that a person can be clean before God *without* Christ as their Mediator. They say sins are forgiven in some sort of "preliminary way" but fail to explain from the bible exactly what that way is. What is likely meant is in the last sentence of the quotation above: *yet they benefit from this covenant through the work of God's Kingdom*.

In other words, they are saying that the *works* of congregation members in the visible part of God's Kingdom (their organization) is what "benefits" or saves them. Read it again. In one sentence it is claimed that members (in an unexplained *preliminary way*) washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb and in the very next sentence they claim that they are cut off from the New Covenant which is the very agreement that provides that clean standing. (*Revelation 1:5*) If it is true, that "**Christ does not act as Mediator of the new covenant toward them**" then, who does act as



mediator of the New Covenant toward them? Surely a Jehovah's Witness would not try to stand before God on their own would they? There is no other access to Jesus' blood that washes us clean except through the New Covenant. Biblically, it just doesn't exist.

This is the one question that every Jehovah's Witness should ask themselves: Using only the bible, how can I show that my sins are forgiven? Since you are not part of the New Covenant and are cut off from Jesus the Mediator, how could your sins possibly be forgiven? Are you counting on: we-ask-all-this-in-Jesus-name-amen, at the end of your prayers? How is that different than other mechanical prayers? Remember, when Jesus said he would grant requests made in his name, he was speaking to his New Covenant members, not those outside of that agreement.

Many times our Jehovah's Witness friends and neighbors get a little miffed when they hear the accusation that they don't believe in Jesus. So for clarification: Christians aren't saying that Witnesses don't believe in the historical figure of Jesus; Christians are simply pointing out that they don't believe in Jesus as Mediator for them. And hence biblically, a Jehovah's Witness has nothing preventing his/her judgment before the Great White Throne for their sins.

For *there is* one God, and **one mediator** between God and men, the man Christ Jesus  
- 1 Tim. 2: 5

Unofficially, the Watchtower Corporation, like the Catholic Church sees itself as a co-mediator with Christ. This is clear to anyone honestly observing. Just as Moses "stood between the dead and the living" and negotiated peace between the people and God, the Watchtower Corporation sees itself as the only thing standing between life and death for people. Watchtower witnessing work teaches a salvation through *their* organization as opposed to exclusively through Jesus:

The Nov. 15, 1981 Watchtower page 21 reads: "the [Watchtower] witness yet includes the invitation to *come to Jehovah's organization for salvation*"

By contrast, this is the witness message taught by the apostles:

the gospel of Jesus Christ - *Mark 1:1*  
the gospel of the grace of God. - *Acts 20:24*  
my gospel ... the preaching of Jesus Christ - *Romans 16:25*  
the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: - 2 *Thessalonians 1:8*  
our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, ... the gospel - 2 *Timothy 1:10*

Similar to the Catholic Church, the Watchtower also applies exclusive titles of Jesus to their organization. Members are socialized to refer to their organization as "The Truth". This is a title taken directly from Jesus Christ as the Word of God:

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, **the truth**, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. - *John 14: 6*

Also like the Catholic Church which claims its traditions and unique teachings is equal to that of the bible, the Watchtower views its teachings as part of the bible with the same authority:

Watchtower December 15, 2008, pg 28 – "Our coming to know „the truth” - the entire body of Christian teachings that **has become part of the Bible** - and adhering to it are essential for our salvation".

Simply put, the Catholic Church, the Watchtower Corporation, and others have made the deadly mistake that other foolish people have made; they've added their traditions, good works, and another mediator to "Jesus the author and finisher of our faith". (*Heb. 12:2*) Because of this, they have nullified God's offer of salvation for some. (*Mark 7:13*) There is only one way into God's favor:

I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber... Verily, verily, I say unto you, *I am the door* of the sheep. - *Jn.10: 1-7*

God's sheep are scattered far and wide today. However, both the Lord and the sheep themselves **know** who they are. (*Rom. 8:16*) Know this: Jesus will not share his position as Mediator/Savior with

any person, organization or church. When you choose any person or association to share in Jesus' role as Mediator/Savior, God removes his offer to commute the death sentence for your sin at the same time. No one goes to hell unless he or she *chooses* to go there:

"And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life" - *John 5:40*

Our heavenly father puts great value on freedom of choice, and so does his son Jesus Christ. If you don't choose Jesus *ALONE* and be born-again you are choosing hell. Clearly, *inaction* is a choice for hell:

"He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." - *John 3:18*

This booklet has tried to explain the biblical position on God's loving provision of the Mediator Jesus Christ and how his *exclusivity* is a CRITICAL feature as to whether or not a person will receive a full pardon from Judgment. This isn't about trying to get you to quit or to join some religion. It isn't about being a Baptist, Methodist or any other ...ist. It is about *where you will spend eternity*. Why not come before the King Jesus Christ, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, and recognize him as YOUR one and only authorized Mediator right now? Ask him to mediate your sentence that is awaiting you at the Great White Throne. God has guaranteed with his own blood that he will not turn you down. (*Acts 20:28 – KJV*). Then, walk and trust in him ALONE.

Be it known unto you all... that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth ...there is *none other name* under heaven given among men, *whereby we must be saved*. – *Acts 4: 10-12*

But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.  
- *Galatians 1: 8*

*If you would like to learn more about Jehovah's Witnesses and other biblical topics, please see [www.bibleready.org](http://www.bibleready.org)*

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