

## Belgic Confession, Article 26, “Christ’s Intercession”

Scripture Lesson: Hebrews 9

<b>Lesson Aim</b>	To understand how Christ is our sole mediator as our merciful and faithful high priest.
<b>Steps to Learning</b>	Read <a href="#">Belgic Confession, Article 26</a> and <a href="#">Hebrews 9</a> . Discuss the sermon and the particulars of the lesson below. It may be best to work through the material over several days or sessions.
<b>Discuss</b>	<p><b>When we say that there is a great distance between God and us, what do we mean?</b> There is a great distance in terms of nature; God is the one, divine being and we are creatures. Also, God is utterly holy and we are sinful.</p> <p><b>Can the distance between God and man be overcome in any way?</b> There will always be a Creator/creature distinction. But man can be brought close to God through faith in the work of Jesus Christ to be crucified for our sins and raised from the dead.</p> <p><b>What in the Old Testament symbolized the need for Christ’s sacrifice on the cross?</b> The sacrificial system that took place in the Temple. The shed blood of animals pointed forward to the shed blood of Jesus Christ on the cross.</p> <p><b>In the sermon we discussed the two types of Christ’s priestly work. What are they?</b> The first type was his completed work of being sacrificed on the cross. The second type is his continued work of intercession on our behalf.</p> <p><b>What are the four ways in which Christ’s priestly work of intercession continues?</b> <u>First</u>, there is a perpetual presence of Christ’s completed sacrifice in heaven (cf. <a href="#">Heb. 9:24</a>). That is, Christ’s sacrifice on the cross has continuing effects as a reminder before God. <u>Second</u>, there is a legal element to Christ’s intercession: Satan’s charges against us are made null and void because of Christ’s sacrifice. <u>Third</u>, Christ’s intercession relates to our sanctification: Christ sanctifies our prayers and our service to God so that they are acceptable to him. <u>Fourth</u>, Christ prays for us.</p>
<b>Bible Reading</b>	<a href="#">2 Samuel 11-15</a> (covering the great Bible stories)