

A High Priest in the Order of Melchizedek

Text: Hebrews 7:1-10, Genesis 14:17-20, Psalm 110:4

Main Idea: We must embrace Christ as our perfect High Priest because unlike the Levitical priesthood, Christ is an all-together superior priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

1. Melchizedek was a real historical man from the OT who foreshadowed the _____ of Christ. (1-3)

- Melchizedek was a _____.
- Melchizedek was priest _____ by God Most High!
- Melchizedek's priesthood was characterized by _____ & _____.
- Melchizedek's priesthood was not according to human _____. (Ezra 2:61-62)
- Melchizedek's priesthood was _____ not temporal.

2. Melchizedek foreshadowed the _____ of Christ as our High Priest. (v. 4-10)

- The tithe _____ given by Abraham symbolized Melchizedek's superiority.
 - It's _____: The giver is in a subordinate role. (4a)
 - It's _____: Lavishness implies superiority. (4b)
 - It's _____: Abraham volunteered to give. (5-8)
 - It's _____: The Levitical priests in the loins of Abraham gave to Melchizedek. (9)
- The _____ given symbolized Melchizedek's superiority. (v. 1, 7)
- The eternal _____ of the Melchizedek's priesthood is superior. (v. 3, 8)

3. Jesus is our superior High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek who lives _____ to bring us near to God!

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Application Questions:

1. To you as a 21st century believer, the argument of Hebrews 7 may seem insignificant. Put yourself in the position of a 1st century Jew who has abandoned his upbringing of Judaism and all the Old Covenant rituals including the system of the Levitical Priesthood in order to follow Jesus. What argument is the author of Hebrews using to persuade these Jews that Jesus is our great High Priest?
2. What is typology? Think of a few examples in the OT that pointed to Christ in the NT (See Numbers 21:6-9 & John 3:14; Lev 22:19-21 & 1 Peter 1:18-19). In what ways was Melchizedek a type of Christ? List five characteristics that the author identifies.
3. Why is it significant that Melchizedek is superior to Abraham? (See John 8:53-59) What 2 examples does the author use to make his argument? Why is it important that the whole line of the Levitical priests actually be in the loins of Abraham? What does this say about the nature of Melchizedek's priesthood compared to the Levitical Priesthood?
4. Some believe that Melchizedek was a pre-incarnate Christ. What wording in verse 3b disputes this idea? What is the significance of the obscure description of Melchizedek's origin in v. 3? Is the author speaking directly about the man's birth & death, or is he directly contrasting the nature of Melchizedek's priesthood with that of the Levitical Priesthood? (See Numbers 8:23-26)
5. Why is it important for us that Jesus be our High Priest in the line of Melchizedek rather than the line of the Levitical Priesthood? What makes the priesthood of Jesus superior to the Levitical priesthood? Read ahead to Hebrews 7:18-19, 24-25. What important role does Jesus provide that no other priest has ever or ever could provide?

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