

Hebrews 7.11-28

Indestructible Intercessor

Well, we had an ELECTION --- Perhaps you Heard About It?

NEW Names, Laws, Ideas > just Re-ARRANGING Furniture on TITANIC

DEEPEST Problems NOT Political > More DEEPLY PERSONAL

No matter if Red, Blue, Purple GNAWING Sense Things are NOT RIGHT

BAD things happened TO US & We DID Bad Things to OTHERS

OLD Preacher CALLS the BAD > SIN: ‘Sinners who have been Sinned Against’

More Popular Voices > Dysfunction, Society Shaped You, Parents Abused You

NEW Governor, New Car, New Hairstyle >> Old BAD Feelings STILL There

New DRESS, New Pair GLASSES, New RESUME > But its SAME OLD YOU

Letter to Hebrews – 2000 yrs old – Very RELEVANT & Applicable to US Here

1st Readers > Seeking to QUIET Gnawing Sense Something WRONG w/ Them

Thought FIND Needed Relief in FAMILIAR Religious RITUALS

Writer been DROPPING HINTS about Melchizedek since Chapter 5

“I got something important to tell you!” > Are you MATURE Enough?

NOW > Chapter 7 > WHAT’S the BIG DEAL about Melchizedek?

PRIEST and KING that met Abraham 4000 years ago

They BLESSED God for DELIVERANCE and PROTECTION

Just a MAN – No Father/Mother > Unique in GENESIS > No Genealogy

Important Question - EVEN in KOHALA > “WHO YA FADDA?”

If DON’T Know FATHER >> I Don’t KNOW YOU! NO Category - *Malihini*

Melch. Had Father – AND Mother too! – Names Not vital to Story of Salvation

He was BORN like We Were – DIED like We WILL > TYPE of Christ

TYPE > Person who Symbolizes & Anticipates PERSON to COME

RESEMBLENCE is NOT Same Thing as IDENTITY --- Melchiz. IS Melchiz.

1. Priests that Failed

a. Transient Priests

God WISELY Designed everything for His Chosen People of ISRAEL

Set Aside TRIBE to MEDIATE between HOLY God and SINFUL Nation

Men of LEVI – NOT work Fields, Marketplace, Army > Work TEMPLE of God

LAW decreed Sons of AARON Administer Rituals & Regulations > Redemption

REGULAR Men – SINFUL, STRUGGLING, but SET Apart for God’s Work

v. 11 Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron?

What was SPECIAL was OFFICE they HELD and GOD they Served

Priest, Prez, King, Pastor, Prof, Lawyer, Dr., Tradesman > Men with JOB

PASTORS made from same Sinful, Human Fabric > SINNER w/ Church JOB

v. 28 For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests

Spoiler ALERT > POWER of Prayers of a PASTOR is NAME of JESUS

If you KNOW Jesus YOU have SAME Password GOD Too --- J-E-S-U-S

v. 23 The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office

SOME of those TEMPLE PRIESTS were Really BAD DUDES

But even the GOOD PRIESTS DIED > Mandatory Retirement age 50

b. Powerless Traditions

vs. 18,19 For on the one hand, a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness (for the law made nothing perfect)

In HEBREWS “PERFECTION” is a Synonym for SALVATION

LAW of Moses CANNOT Save! – No Full & Final FORGIVENESS from Moses

v. 11 Now **IF** perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood

If asked LEVITICAL Priest HOW to PLEASE God

He would assist you with RITUALS, CEREMONIES, SACRIFICES

That was GOOD – Fulfill Requirements of Law – Make Atonement for SIN

Paul “the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good” Rom 7.12

GOAL of Law & Good Intentions of Many Priests > Bring People to GOD

MOSAIC System could NOT Bring Worshipper TOO CLOSE to God

v. 27 "...need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people"

KILLED your Animal for Sacrifice > Brought BLOOD-Dripping Carcass

ONLY as Far as ENTRANCE to Tabernacle or Temple > You STAY OUT!

PRIEST Alone could Offer Blood to God in Temple > Perform RITUALS

ONLY High Priest could ENTER Most Holy Place > Just ONCE a YEAR!

THEN When You SIN AGAIN --- Gotta DO Whole BLOODY Thing AGAIN!

1. Priests that Failed >> 2. Priest Forever

Writer to Hebrews – Inspired by Holy Spirit – Pulls Out Forgotten NAME

KING and PRIEST – Something FORBIDDEN by MOSAIC Law

God is Making NEW Covenant – Sent Lord Jesus X > Prophet, Priest, KING

a. Indestructible Life

Jesus FULFILLED Law of Moses > but Priesthood NOT Based on Law IT

Law of Moses > PRIESTS – Sons of AARON – Tribe of LEVI

v. 12 For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well.

If PREZ of USA wants to become KING we would NEED to Change LAWS

1000 yrs BEFORE Jesus > God sent ADVANCE Warning > Change Priesthood

Careful READER of Scripture should NOT have been SURPRISED

David/Psa 110: v. 17 You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek

vs. 13,14 For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.

CONTRARY to Law of MOSES > KINGLY line of JUDAH > has a PRIEST

vs. 15 This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek

Because Mel. DISAPPEARS from Story > Priesthood appears TIMELESS
POINTS to the ETERNAL Priesthood of JESUS

ONLY One Priest who can APPEAR before God TODAY
Melchizedek has turned to DUST > LEVITICAL Priesthood been RETIRED
Jesus PRIESTHOOD REALLY is TIMELESS > ALIVE FOREVERMORE
v. 16 Priest...on the basis of...the power of an indestructible life

Jesus DEATH Fulfilled all DEMANDS of Levitical Priesthood
Then RISING from Death > Established NEW and Eternal Priesthood

New Testament NEVER calls a GOSPEL Worker a PRIEST
God has NOT Invited anyone into a HUMAN Priesthood Today > Not Needed

NEW Testament never Teaches Believers to Perform SACRIFICES
NO Teaching in NEW Testament that COMMUNION is a SACRIFICE

NOT Appropriate to have CROSS with MAN Hanging on It like Crucifix
Jesus DID Hang on a CROSS > Suffered and Died > Buried, Really DEAD
NOW Really ALIVE > ROSE from Death > NEVER to Die AGAIN

HIS Sacrifice for SIN was ONCE for ALL > BLOOD Will Never Lose its Power
PRIESTHOOD based on INDESTRUCTIBLE LIFE

b. Better Covenant

vs. 19,20 a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God. And it was not without an oath. For those who formerly became priests were made such without an oath

God is Making NEW Covenant – Sent Lord Jesus X > Prophet, Priest, KING

WHY? – OLD Covenant NOT Working --- LAW is Holy, Righteous, Good

But WE ARE – Unholy, Unrighteous, Bad > Covenant BREAKERS

Christianity RADICALLY Different than any Religion or Solution to LIFE
 ALL the Others – Are about YOU – Your Prayers, Penitence, Performance
 Right Technique, Right Mantra, Right Desires, Right Offering

Gospel > Don't Even TRY! More try Save Self > BIGGER Mess You Make!

Even your BEST Prayers COULD Send you to HELL

v. 22 This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant

SURETY or GUARANTOR – “one who stands security” Ancient Legal Doc

Man offered HIMSELF or his Possessions to ENSURE what was PROMISED

Jesus EVER LIVES to GUARANTEE our SECURITY

Without ceasing there streams forth from Him to the Father the prayer of His love for every one and every need of those who belong to Him; His very person and presence is that prayer, so closely and inseparably is He identified with those He calls His brethren” Andrew Murray

vs. 24,25 but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him

UTTERMOST --- In EVERY Direction

No matter how FAR AWAY – Uttermost DISTANCE

No matter how DISCOURAGED – Uttermost HOPE

No matter how ABUSED and ABANDONED – Uttermost COMPASSION

No matter how EVIL and SINFUL – Uttermost GRACE and MERCY

No matter your ALIENATION and SEPARATION – Uttermost FORGIVENESS

v. 26 For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

Jesus is perfectly FITTED for the Predicament we are IN

He was not set apart from us in his nature, for God sent his own Son “in the likeness of sinful men” (Romans 8.3). He was not set apart from men during his ministry on earth. He did not live apart from everyone in a desert. He spoke with tax collectors and prostitutes, and the hypocritical Pharisees rebuked him for this. Being set apart from sinners declares what Christ is, his state and condition. He is holy and undefiled...He was separate from sin, in its nature, causes, and effects. He had to be like this for our benefit. He became the middle person between God and sinners and had to be separate from those sinners in the thing he stood in their place for. John Owen

SET APART from SINNERS > but also a FRIEND of SINNERS

v. 25 since he always lives to make intercession for them.

NOTHING in Bible tells us to PRAY to Mary, Saints, or any PERSON

Nothing in Bible says DEAD have Ability to Hear your PRAYERS

Nothing in Bible says DEAD are Given Omniscient Understanding

Asked Catholic Priest about that Admitted > God has to tell your Prayers to Mary

Not only is that RIDICULOUS, It is BLASPHEMOUS and IDOLATROUS

Jesus already KNOWS your Prayers > Made You > Saved You > Forever w/ U

Many Verses in Scripture INVITE YOU to Call On Him > Lives to Intercede

Ask Friend, Pastor, to PRAY for You > MIGHT Remember, Maybe 1 X or 2 X?

Jesus Never Sleeps – Always Listens – All Authority – Fullness of Love!

v. 28 the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

If Jesus lives FOREVER you can TRUST Him FOREVER

He can GRANT ETERNAL LIFE because He is the ETERNAL GOD

When you DIE and are Presented before God's THRONE

Jesus will Be There POINTING to the Wounds He earned for You on CROSS

Your DEBT will be CHARGED to the Account HE has ALREADY PAID

His Priesthood is ETERNAL so He SECURES an EVERLASTING Salvation

Hebrews 7.¹¹ Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron? ¹²For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. ¹³For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. ¹⁴For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. ¹⁵This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, ¹⁶who has become a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent, but by the power of an indestructible life. ¹⁷For it is witnessed of him, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.” ¹⁸For on the one hand, a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness ¹⁹(for the law made nothing perfect); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God. ²⁰And it was not without an oath. For those who formerly became priests were made such without an oath, ²¹but this one was made a priest with an oath by the one who said to him: “The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, ‘You are a priest forever.’” ²²This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant. ²³The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, ²⁴but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ²⁵Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. ²⁶For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. ²⁸For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.