

CHRIST'S PRIESTHOOD ACCORDING TO MELCHIZEDEK

THE LAW:



Encounter of Melchizedek with Abraham

Melchizedek:

- >King of Salem.
- >priest of God Most High.
- >blessed Abraham who gave him a tenth of all.
- >King of Righteousness & Peace.
- >without father or mother.

Explanation of Melchizedek Priesthood

Melchizedek, 2-4:

- >without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life.
- >resembling the Son of God.
- >remains a priest forever.
- >Abraham gave him a tenth of all.

The Permanent Priesthood of Jesus

- >Greater Blessor, 7.
- >Better Hope, 19.
- >Better Covenant, 22.

Met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings

7:1— This MELCHIZEDEK was KING of SALEM and PRIEST of GOD. A Tenth MOST HIGH. He met ABRAHAM returning from the DEFEAT of the KINGS and BLESSED him, 2 and ABRAHAM gave him A TENTH of everything. First, the name MELCHIZEDEK means “KING of RIGHTEOUSNESS”; then also, “KING of SALEM” means “KING of PEACE.” 3 Without FATHER or MOTHER, without GENEALOGY, without BEGINNING of DAYS or END of LIFE, resembling the SON of GOD, he remains a PRIEST FOREVER. 4 Just think how GREAT he was: Even the PATRIARCH ABRAHAM gave him A TENTH of the PLUNDER! 5 Now the LAW requires the DESCENDANTS of LEVI who become PRIESTS to COLLECT a TENTH from the PEOPLE—that is, from their FELLOW ISRAELITES—even though they also are descended from ABRAHAM. 6 THIS man, however, did NOT trace his descent from LEVI, YET he COLLECTED a TENTH from ABRAHAM and BLESSED him who had the PROMISES. 7 And without doubt the LESSER is BLESSED by the GREATER. 8 In the ONE case, the TENTH is collected by people who DIE; but in the OTHER case, by him who is DECLARED to be LIVING. 9 One might even say that LEVI, who COLLECTS the tenth, PAID the TENTH THROUGH ABRAHAM, 10 because when MELCHIZEDEK met ABRAHAM, LEVI was still IN the BODY of his ANCESTOR.

In the Order of Melchizedek

11—IF PERFECTION could have been ATTAINED through the Priesthood LEVITICAL priesthood (for on the basis of it the LAW was given to the people), WHY was there still need for ANOTHER PRIEST to come, one in the ORDER of MELCHIZEDEK, NOT in the ORDER of AARON? 12 For when the PRIESTHOOD is CHANGED, the LAW must be CHANGED ALSO. 13 He of whom these things are said belonged to a DIFFERENT TRIBE, and NO ONE from THAT TRIBE has ever served at the ALTAR. 14 For it is CLEAR that our LORD descended from JUDAH, and in regard to THAT tribe MOSES said NOTHING about PRIESTS! 15 And what we have said is even MORE CLEAR if another priest like MELCHIZEDEK appears, 16 one who has BECOME a PRIEST not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the BASIS of the POWER of an INDESTRUCTIBLE LIFE. 17 For it is declared: “You are a PRIEST FOREVER, in the ORDER of MELCHIZEDEK”. 18 The FORMER regulation is SET ASIDE because it was WEAK and USELESS 19 (for the LAW made NOTHING PERFECT); and a BETTER HOPE is INTRODUCED, by which we draw NEAR to GOD.

Jesus, Guarantee of a Better Covenant

20—And it was NOT without an OATH! OTHERS became PRIESTS High Priest without any OATH, 21 but he became a PRIEST with an OATH when GOD said to him: “The LORD has SWORN and will NOT change his mind: ‘You are a PRIEST FOREVER.’” 22 Because of this OATH, JESUS has become the GUARANTEE of a BETTER COVENANT. 23 Now there have been MANY of those PRIESTS, since DEATH PREVENTED them from continuing in office; 24 but because JESUS LIVES FOREVER, he has a PERMANENT PRIESTHOOD. 25 Therefore HE is ABLE to SAVE completely those who COME to GOD through HIM, because he ALWAYS LIVES to INTERCEDE for them. 26 Such a HIGH PRIEST truly MEETS our NEED—ONE who is HOLY, BLAMELESS, PURE, SET APART from SINNERS, exalted ABOVE the HEAVENS. 27 UNLIKE the OTHER HIGH PRIESTS, he does NOT need to OFFER SACRIFICES day after day, first for his OWN SINS, and then for the SINS of the PEOPLE. He SACRIFICED for their sins ONCE for ALL when he OFFERED HIMSELF. 28 For the LAW appoints as HIGH PRIESTS men who are WEAK; but the OATH, which came AFTER the LAW, appointed the SON, who has been MADE PERFECT FOREVER.

THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW

THE CHANGE OF THE LAW

THE OATH OF THE SON AFTER THE LAW

Melchizedek in Scripture:

- >the historical person—Gen. 14:17-20.
- >the prophetic promise—Ps. 110:4-7.
- >the prophecy fulfilled in Christ—Heb. 5:5-10; 6:19-20; 7:1-22.



References to Jesus:

- >belonged to a different tribe.
- >our Lord descended from Judah.
- >has become a priest in order of Melchizedek.
- >became a Priest with an oath.
- >“You are a Priest forever.”
- >Jesus became Guarantee of a better Covenant.
- >Jesus lives for ever, leads permanent priesthood.
- >able to save completely & lives to intercede for His.
- >is holy, blameless, pure, set apart, exalted.
- >offered Himself & is Son made perfect forever.

(1) Melchizedek's priesthood was shown to be superior to the Levitical by the payment of tithes by Abraham, father of the Jews, to Melchizedek, as described in Gen. 14. (2) “And without doubt the lesser is blessed by the greater.” (7:7) (3) Advantages of Melchizedek's priesthood: It is permanent, indestructible, heavenly, perfect, complete, powerful, effective and efficient. (4) Heb. 7:3 says that Melchizedek appeared and like the Son of God, he remains a priest forever. (5) Perhaps in heaven today there exists a version of Melchizedek's priesthood alongside the pattern of the Levitical tabernacle as described in Hebrews. (6) There are several contrasts and comparisons in this passage: the two priesthoods; the tribe of Levi and of Judah; the old and new covenants, etc.