

HEBREWS 7:1 – 8:13

October 13-14, 2021



1. In Hebrews 7, the author restates the truth that Jesus is our High Priest. Before you begin reading in Hebrews chapter 7, look back at Hebrews 5:5-6 and 6:19-20. Record all that you learn about Jesus as your High Priest in these verses.

Melchizedek was a mysterious high priest of whom very little is recorded in the Scriptures. Read Hebrews 7:1-3. The event recorded in verse 1 is also recorded in Genesis 14:13-20. In your own words, describe what occurs in Genesis 14:17-20.

List the descriptions of Melchizedek found in Hebrews 7:1-3.

How have you seen righteousness and peace work together in your life? Read Isaiah 32:17.

2. Continue by reading Hebrews 7:4-10. The Levitical priesthood comes from the tribe of Levi, great-grandson of Abraham. What is one role of the Levitical priesthood according to verse 5?

What makes Melchizedek superior to Abraham? See verses 2, 6 and 7.

3. The small amount recorded about Melchizedek reveals similarities to the person and ministry of Christ. Read Hebrews 7:11-14. We learn Jesus, the new priest, arose not from the Levitical priesthood, but rather from the order of Melchizedek. According to verse 11, what was lacking in the Levitical priesthood that necessitates a new priest coming from a different line of priesthood?

Since the Levitical priesthood was designated by the Law, what must accompany a change in priesthood according to verse 12?

4. Read Hebrews 7:15-17. Since Jesus was from the tribe of Judah, not the tribe of Levi, what qualifies Him to be our High Priest? Look also at Psalm 110:4.

5. Read through Hebrews 7:18-21. What was accomplished by Christ our High Priest which the former Levitical priesthood was unable to accomplish?

In your own words, how would you describe to an unbeliever what it means to be able to draw near to God?

6. Read Hebrews 7:21-22. God the Father has appointed Jesus to be our Priest forever. What additional information do we learn about Jesus our High Priest from the following portions of Scripture?

Hebrews 2:17-18

Hebrews 4:15

Hebrews 9:24

Hebrews 10:12

7. Read Hebrews 7:23-28 and record the differences between the former priests and Jesus our High Priest.

Former priests:

Jesus our High Priest:

Of the characteristics of Jesus recorded in verses 23-28, which one gives you the most confidence as you trust Jesus to be your High Priest?

Hebrews 7:25 says Jesus lives to make intercession for us before our Heavenly Father. What does this mean to you as you face difficult situations in your life?

8. Read Hebrews 8:1-2. The author of Hebrews calls Jesus the High Priest of a new and better covenant. What truths about Jesus our Priest are recorded in these verses?

Who set up the “true tent” mentioned in verse 2? How is this different from the tent of meeting (tabernacle) of the Old Testament? Read Exodus 25:1-2, 8-9.

9. Continue by reading Hebrews 8:3-7. Jesus is described as a mediator. Look up the definition of the word “mediator.” Explain why we need a mediator and how Jesus fulfills that need. Look also at Colossians 1:19-22.

10. Finish by reading Hebrews 8:7-13. In verses 8-12, the author of Hebrews is quoting directly from Jeremiah 31:31-34. The Lord announces His plan to make a new covenant with Israel and Judah. What reasons are given in Hebrews 8:7-9 for the new covenant?

The old covenant was unable to accomplish the once-and-for-all forgiveness of sin, nor was it able to ensure eternal salvation. According to Romans 7:7-8, what did the law under the old covenant accomplish?

11. Hebrews 8:6 speaks of a better covenant with better promises. Carefully read through Hebrews 8:10-12 and record the better promises included in the new covenant.

As a follower of Christ, you are assured of these amazing promises. Write out a prayer of gratitude to your Heavenly Father for the great promises He has given you through His Son Jesus Christ.

12. Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.

Jesus, Our Superior High Priest

Hebrews 7:1-8:13

We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek. Hebrews 6:19-20

Melchizedek, the Mysterious Man of God

7:1-3

- *He was the King of Salem and a priest of the Most High God.
- *He blessed Abraham with a gift of bread and wine.
- *Abraham offered Melchizedek a tithe of ten percent from his spoils of war.
- *The name Melchizedek means king of _____.
- *Without recorded genealogy, Melchizedek's priesthood resembled the eternal priesthood of Jesus.

Melchizedek, Superior to the Levitical Priesthood

7:4-10

- *Abraham's tithe validated Melchizedek's superiority to the future Levitical priests.
- *In a sense, as descendants of Abraham, the Levites participated in paying tithes to Melchizedek.

Melchizedek, the Likeness of Jesus

7:11-17

- *A better priesthood was needed since perfection was not attained with the Levitical priesthood.
- *Like Melchizedek, Jesus arose from a priestly order other than the Levitical priests.
- *Like Melchizedek, no one in Jesus' lineage had ever served as a priest at the _____.
- *Melchizedek's priesthood only appears to have no end, but Jesus' priesthood is eternal.

Jesus, Superior to the Levitical Priesthood

7:18-28

- *Because of Jesus, we are able to do something the Israelites were unable to do, draw near to God.
- *Unlike the Levitical priests, Jesus was made a priest with an oath from the Lord.
- *Unlike the Levitical priests, Jesus' priesthood is permanent and eternal.
- *The Levitical priests were limited by death, but Jesus lives eternally to intercede for us.

Jesus, the Superior High Priest of a Better Covenant

8:1-13

- *Jesus ministers in the true _____ made by God, not by man.
- *Jesus mediated a covenant enacted on better promises.

Jesus, your High Priest, is greater than all others.

**Trust Him to strengthen you, because He knows your _____ better than anyone.*

**Trust Him to provide for your needs as He sits at the Father's right hand and _____ for you.*

**Trust Him to _____ you as you grow in righteousness and become what God has made you to be.*

Greater > Than – Hebrews 7:1-8:13

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HEBREWS 5:6 [A]s he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

GENESIS 14:17-20 After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) And he blessed him and said, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!” And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

JOHN 3:14-15 “And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.”

ROMANS 5:14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

GALATIANS 3:19, 23-26 Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. . . . Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

GALATIANS 4:4-5 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

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

HEBREWS 4:15-16 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.