



OUR HIGH PRIEST

HEBREWS 7:1-3; 11-28

REMINDER

Hebrews written to Jewish believers

**Over 100 references to the Old Testament in Hebrews
and 40 direct quotations**

ITS PURPOSE

**To show how Jesus completes and fulfils the
basic laws of the Judaism**



REMINDER

**It is show how Jesus brings
a better and lasting new
covenant**



REMINDER

How does this relate to us?

It demonstrates

**The importance and
completeness of our faith in
Jesus**

MELCHIZEDEK

- Who was he?
- King of Salem
- Priest of God
- Not from the tribe of Levi

MELCHIZEDEK

- Where did he come from?
- No origin, no beginning or end (v3)
- Melchizedek – “King of Righteousness”
- King of Salem – “King of Peace”

ABRAHAM

GENESIS 14

- Abraham and Lot (his nephew) went separate ways
- Lot gets captured and loses everything
- Abraham goes to Lot's rescue
- Lot and all his family and possessions are recovered



ABRAHAM

GENESIS 14

- Melchizedek appears on the scene
- V18 “King of Salem, a priest of God most high”



ABRAHAM

GENESIS 14

- Salem can be identified as Jerusalem
- Psalm 76:2 “His (God’s) tent is in Salem, his dwelling place in Zion.”



ABRAHAM

GENESIS 14

- Melchizedek brings bread and wine
- Maybe refreshments but also thoughts of communion
- Abraham tithes to Melchizedek

MELCHIZEDEK

- So Melchizedek is Priest and King
- Bringing together two roles
- Is this not a prefiguring of Jesus?
- Jesus is our high priest and the king of kings

MELCHIZEDEK

Look at the order

- King of **Righteousness**
- King of **Peace**

Righteousness comes
before **Peace**



MELCHIZEDEK

- Righteousness
is the path to
peace



Spurgeon said
“**peace without
righteousness is
like the peaceful
waters of the
Niagara before it
goes over the
falls**”



**People may look for peace
but it won't last without
righteousness**

**True lasting peace can only
come from a heart cleansed
by the blood of Jesus**



The Jews had to realise that the priesthood was not just Levites

- **Aaron's line was limited**
- **This new priesthood was after the order of Melchizedek**
- **Jesus is High Priest for ever**

MELCHIZEDEK GREATER THAN ABRAHAM

- Abraham gave a tenth of all he had taken in battle

The lesser gives to the greater

- Melchizedek blessed Abraham with the authority of
God

Only one who is greater has the power to bless

MELCHIZEDEK GREATER THAN LEVITES

- Tithes were normally given to Levites
- The Levites descended from Abraham
- Abraham tithed to Melchizedek so by default
Levites tithed to Melchizedek



A NEW PRIESTHOOD

An X ray reveals a broken limb but cannot deal with it

V19 **The law made nothing perfect**

The law reveals sin but cannot deal with it

A NEW PRIESTHOOD

- The old priesthood of Levi was based on the Law
- That was temporary until the perfect sacrifice could be made
- Jesus was the perfect sacrifice and deals with the diagnosis of sin revealed by the law



A NEW PRIESTHOOD

- **Every High Priest eventually died and was replaced**
- **Now we have a High Priest who lives forever**

PSALM 110:4b

**David speaking
of the coming
King (Jesus)**

**“You are a
priest forever in
the order of
Melchizedek”**

A NEW COVENANT - AGREEMENT

- The Levitical High Priest had to offer up sacrifices for himself. Then for the sins of others.
- NB It was a Levitical High Priest who put Jesus to death
- Jesus was perfect so offered up Himself once for all time for our sins

A NEW COVENANT - AGREEMENT

- Once a year the Levitical high priest would enter the presence of God in the Holy of Holies before the Mercy Seat
- Jesus is always in the presence of the Father interceding for us

A NEW COVENANT - AGREEMENT

- If we sin Jesus is pleading our case (1John 2:1)
- All we have to do is confess it in total sincerity
- **“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”** (1 John 1:9)

A NEW COVENANT - AGREEMENT

- We need to keep short accounts
- No need to wait until we can make the right costly sacrifice
- What a wonderful salvation (deliverance from the power and effects of sin) we have in Jesus.

A NEW COVENANT - AGREEMENT

- Jesus is not placating an angry Father who wants to destroy us.
- It is not a matter of continually chanting prayers on behalf of His people.

A NEW COVENANT - AGREEMENT

- He defends us against Satan's accusations and attacks.
- He represents us before the Father.
- Then we can draw near to the Father through Him



**IT WILL BE HARD FOR
A BELIEVER NOT TO
GET INTO HEAVEN
WHEN JESUS IS
WATCHING OVER US
AS HIS SHEEP!**



**IF WE ARE
FOCUSED ON
JESUS**



PRIESTLY QUALITIES OF JESUS

Which qualities does the Bible confers to Jesus as the High Priest?



**Jesus is merciful and faithful.
Hebrews 2:17.**

**Jesus was in all points
tempted as we are.
Hebrews 4:15.**

**Jesus has compassion on us.
Hebrews 5:2.**

**Jesus is sovereign over us.
Hebrews 3:6.**

**Jesus intercedes on our
behalf. Hebrews 9:24.**