

The book of

Hebrews

Part 3

Who is Melchizedek? Heb. 7:1-10

- **King of Salem (Peace)**
- **Priest of the Most High God**
- **King of Righteousness**

King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. He blessed Abram, saying to him, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, maker of Heaven and Earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything. (*Genesis 14:18-20*)

The LORD has sworn, and will not change His mind, "You are a Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." (*Psalms 110:4*)

Another Priest like Melchizedek

Heb. 7:11-28

OT Priests

From Levi

Physical descent

**Law – weak and
ineffectual**

No oath

**Many priests -
they died**

Jesus

From Judah

No human ancestry

A better hope!

God's oath

**One Priest - He lives
forever!**

A better covenant - Jesus!

- He is *always* able to save!
- He *always* lives to make intercession for us
- He is a High Priest who is *holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, exalted above the heavens*
- He offered *one* sacrifice – *once and for all!*

A better covenant - Jesus! 8:1-13

- Jesus is a High Priest in *Heaven*
- He has a *more excellent* ministry
- He is Mediator of a *better covenant*
- He fulfilled *better promises*

If the Old Covenant was perfect, there would be no purpose for a New Covenant, *but the Lord said:*

- “The days are surely coming when I will establish a new covenant with the houses of Israel and Judah; not like the covenant that I made with their ancestors on the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt; for they did not continue in My covenant, even though I was like a husband to them.
- This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days”, says the Lord, “I will put my laws in their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.
- They won’t teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest. For I will be merciful towards their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more.” (Jeremiah 31:31-34)
- In speaking of “a new covenant,” God has made the first one obsolete [the Old Covenant]; and what is obsolete and growing old, *will soon disappear.* (Hebrews 8:13)

Earthly & Heavenly Sanctuaries

Heb. 9:1-22

Old Covenant:

- Regulations about worship
- Earthly Sanctuary (Tabernacle/Temple)
- Priests continually offering sacrifices
- Blood offered in Holy of Holies once a year for the *High Priest's* sins as well as the people's
- These gifts and sacrifices cannot perfect the conscience of the worshippers –they were temporary, lasting only until the perfect comes

Earthly & Heavenly Sanctuaries

Heb.9:1-22

New Covenant:

- Christ, the great High Priest, came with a “tent” not made with human hands (His body).
- He came with His own blood, not the blood of animals.
- He offered His own blood, *once and for all* – for our *eternal salvation*.
- He entered the *Heavenly Sanctuary*.

Earthly & Heavenly Sanctuaries

Heb.9:1-22

New Covenant:

Just as it is appointed for everyone to die once, and after that comes the Judgement, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him. (Heb. 9:27-28)

“Once and for all” Heb. 10:1-18

The OT law was a *shadow* of good things to come.

The law’s sacrifices could *not* make people perfect.

It is *impossible* for animals’ blood to take away sins.

But ...

When Christ came ...

He said to His Father:

“You have not desired sacrifices and offerings, but you have prepared a body for Me. You have taken no pleasure in burnt offerings and sin offerings. Then I said, ‘I have come to do your will, O God’, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.”
(Psalm 40:6-8)

- ***By a single offering He has made perfect for all time those who are sanctified!***

The Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying, “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days,” says the Lord, “I will put My laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.” He also adds, “*I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.*” (Jeremiah 31:33-34).

- ***Where there is forgiveness, there is no longer any offering for sin! And God forgets them!***

Application

Warning 4: A Call to Persevere (Heb. 10:32-39)

- Remember those earlier days when, after you had been enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, sometimes being publicly exposed to abuse and persecution, and sometimes being partners with those who had been treated in these ways.
- For you had compassion for those who were in prison, and you cheerfully accepted the plundering of your possessions, knowing that you yourselves possessed *something better* and *more lasting*.
- Therefore, don't abandon that confidence of yours, for it brings a great reward.
- For you need endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.
- God said, "In a very little while, the One Who is coming [Jesus] will come, and will not delay; but My righteous ones will live by *faith*. My soul takes no pleasure in anyone who shrinks back." (Habakkuk 2:3-4)
- But we are not among those who shrink back and so are lost, but among those who *have faith* and so are saved. **Praise God!**