

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: Genesis 14:18-20; [Hebrews 7:1-8](#).
- B. Melchizedek is one of the most interesting people in the Bible. The reason being that we know so little about him, yet he is so important in understanding the person and priesthood of X.
- C. To study the life and priesthood of Melchizedek is to better appreciate the priesthood of X.
- D. One of the reasons that the priesthood of X is superior to that of Levi, is because it is fashioned (not after Levi) but after Melchizedek.

I. MELCHIZEDEK AS A MAN.

- A. Very little is known about Melchizedek. It would seem that he suddenly comes onto the scene and then vanishes away.
- B. From the information given in Genesis, we see that he had no:
 - 1. No father.
 - 2. No mother.
 - 3. No genealogy.
 - 4. No beginning of life.
 - 5. No end of days.
- C. There is no record of his birth, being an infant, ancestry, or descendants.
- D. Some have even wondered if he was a real person. But this is certainly false.
- E. David prophesied that X would be a priest after the order of Melchizedek (Psa. 110:4).
- F. The Hebrew writer also refers to the priesthood of Christ after the order of Melchizedek (Heb. 7:17).

II. WHY THE PRIESTHOOD HAD TO CHANGE.

- A. See **Heb. 7:11-14**.
- B. The priesthood had to change because of two very important factors:
 - 1. The Law was being fulfilled by Christ, meaning the end of the Mosaic dispensation.
 - 2. Jesus was not of the tribe of Levi, He came from Judah.
- C. Zechariah 6:12-13 has great bearing on this matter. Christ is the Branch spoken of. He must be both king and priest in the new "temple." In order to share both offices, the priesthood will have to change, making it possible for a priest to come from a tribe other than Levi.
- D. It had been prophesied in Genesis (49:10) that the ruler of true Israel will come from Judah. To make this ruler both king and priest, his priesthood will have to after the order of Melchizedek (not Levi).

III. AFTER THE ORDER OF (SIMILARITIES WITH) MELCHIZEDEK.

- A. See **Heb. 7:1-10**.
- B. The Hebrew writer lists the similarities between Melchizedek and Jesus to show how Christ's priesthood is a like that of Melchizedek.
- C. The similarities listed:
 - 1. Melchizedek his name means "king of righteousness" (7:2).
 - Jesus Christ is the "king of righteousness (1:8-9).
 - 2. Melchizedek is the "king of Salem" which means "king of peace" (7:2).
 - Jesus Christ is the king, or prince of peace (Isa. 9:6ff; Psa. 72:7).
 - 3. Melchizedek is referred to as both king and priest (7:1).
 - Jesus Christ is referred to as our King and High Priest (Ac. 2:36; Heb. 8:1).
 - 4. Melchizedek received tithes from Abraham (7:2,4).
 - Jesus Christ receives gifts from men (Rom. 12:1,2).
 - 5. Melchizedek brought forth bread and wine (Gen. 4:18) which could be analogous to
 - Jesus Christ bringing forth bread and the fruit of the vine (Mt. 26:26-29).

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| 6. | Melchizedek | blessed Abraham (7:1). |
| | Jesus Christ | gives blessings today (Eph. 4:7). |
| 7. | Melchizedek | did not recognize the Jew/Gentile difference (7:5,6). |
| | Jesus Christ | does make this distinction either (Eph. 2:13, 16-17). |
| 8. | Melchizedek | was a priest by divine constitution--not of a lineage (7:15-16). |
| | Jesus Christ | is a priest by divine constitution (7:14). |
| 9. | Melchizedek's | priesthood has not predecessor or successor (7:3). |
| | Jesus Christ | is a priest forever (7:21). |
| 10. | Melchizedek | had no beginning or end to his priesthood (7:3) |
| | Jesus Christ | had no beginning or end to his priesthood (7:17). |

IV. **WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT CHRIST BECAUSE OF MELCHIZEDEK.**

- A. Let us summarize the things we know to be true because of Christ's priesthood being after the order of the priesthood of Melchizedek:
- B. Jesus:
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| 1. Is the king of righteousness. | 6. Gives blessings to His children. |
| 2. Is the prince (king) of peace. | 7. Does not recognize Jew/Gentile difference. |
| 3. Is both king and high priest. | 8. Is a priest by divine constitution (not lineage). |
| 4. Receives gifts from men. | 9. Has no predecessor or successor. |
| 5. Given us bread and wine (LS). | 10. Will abide as a high priest forever. |

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Jesus is the great high priest for Christians (1Tim. 2:3-5).
- B. He has finished His work and is seated at the right hand of God (Heb. 10:11-12).
- C. Is He your Savior this day?
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.