



Hebrews – Light from the Old Testament

Part 4 – Jesus our high priest – Psalm 110



Read Psalm 110

110 A PSALM OF DAVID.

1 The LORD says to my Lord:
“Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool.”

2 The LORD sends forth from Zion
your mighty scepter.
Rule in the midst of your enemies!

3 Your people will offer themselves freely
on the day of your power,
in holy garments;
from the womb of the morning,
the dew of your youth will be yours.

4 The LORD has sworn

and will not change his mind,

“You are a priest forever
after the order of Melchizedek.”

5 The Lord is at your right hand;
he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.

6 He will execute judgment among the
nations,
filling them with corpses;
he will shatter chiefs
over the wide earth.

7 He will drink from the brook by the way;
therefore he will lift up his head.

Read Genesis 14:17-24— The story of Melchizedek

17 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).
18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.)
19 And he blessed him and said,

“Blessed be Abram by God Most High,
Possessor of heaven and earth;

20 and blessed be God Most High,
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!”

And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.





Structure of Hebrews 4:14-7:28

Hebrews 4:14-5:10

Jesus the High Priest—Introduction

Hebrews 5:11-6:12

The importance of understanding


Hebrews 6:13-7:28

Jesus the High Priest—Advanced class



Read Hebrews 4:14-7:28






What qualified Jesus to be High Priest? (Hebrews 4:14-5:10)

- Passed through the heavens (4:14)
- Was tempted (4:15)
- Without sin (4:15)
- Appointed by the Father (5:5)
- Revered the Father (5:7)
- Learned obedience through suffering (5:8)
- Died for our sins (became the source of salvation) (5:9)



What makes Jesus a better High Priest?

- ▶ Certainty: God didn't just appoint, but swore an oath to appoint (Heb 6:13-20)
- ▶ Superior to Aaronic Priesthood: Abraham tithed to Melchizedek, and thus Levi (and Aaron) tithed to Jesus (Heb 7:1-10)
- ▶ A new law (covenant) needs a new priesthood (Heb 7:11-22)
 - ▶ Jesus never dies, so more effectual (Heb 7:23-25)
 - ▶ Jesus never sinned, so doesn't need own atoning sacrifices (Heb 7:26-28)
 - ▶ Jesus offered himself as a single, universally efficacious sacrifice (Heb 7:27-28)



Why does this matter to us? (Hebrews 5:11-6:12)

- ▶ What is the context of this warning?
 - ▶ The early church struggled with Judaizers; Hebrews constantly proclaims the superiority of Christ to the Jewish religion
 - ▶ Persecution encourages abandonment of faith
- ▶ What is the warning?
 - ▶ Not to fall away from faithful obedience and belief in Christ (Heb 6:6)
- ▶ How does understanding Christ as great High Priest help?
 - ▶ Christ is our mediator (the one who restores us into relationship with God) (Heb 7:19)
 - ▶ Christ is infinitely more effective at that than anyone else (Heb 7:25-27)
 - ▶ We cannot abandon Christ without losing ourselves!



What can we do about this?

