MERCY AND TRUTH BIBLE CHURCH

By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the Lord men depart from evil.

Proverbs 6:6

WHO WAS MELCHIZEDEK/MELCHISEDEC?

When Do We First Him?

- Genesis the First book of the Bible Mentions him.
- He is Mentioned 2 Times in the Old Testament (MELCHIZEDEK).
- He is Mentioned 9 Times in the New Testament (MELCHISEDEC).

Who Was He?

Is he a Human? Is he an Angel? Is he the Pre-Incarnate Jesus Christ?

Why Does It Matter?

- A Personage mentioned 11 Times, and specifically 9 times in Hebrews.
- Hebrews is Addressed to the Jews, Soooo...Why is he brought up 9 times?
- Is there a Lesson in it?

WHEN DO WE FIRST SEE MELCHIZEDEK?

Genesis 14:18

• 18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. 19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth: 20 and blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

Notice Carefully:

- **He is a King:** Melchizedek king of Salem; Salem is the city known as Jerusalem.
- **He Brings Bread and Wine**: brought forth bread and wine; These are signs of the New Covenant....(remember this is ~ 1996 -1821 BC, a full two millennium before Christ).
- **He is a Priest:** and he was the priest of the most high God; Who made him a Priest... The Most High God! The Record in the Bible of the Priestly class begins with Aaron or does it?
- **He Blesses Abram**; Blessed be Abram of the most high God; This is **Before** God Changes his Name, before, God calls him father of all Nations..., So God's Priest Blesses him....
- He Blesses God for delivering Abrams enemies into his hand: blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand; So it show's Abram is most Favored by God, that his priest points out that Abrams Success was directly because of God.
- Abram Then Gives him Tithes of Everything; And he gave him tithes of all; What do you mean everything, the money, the clothing, the food, the silverware etc.... Everything
- We know see some Attributes of Melchizedek; He is a King, He is a Priest, he partakes in Bread and Wine a
 picture of the New Covenant, He Blesses People, Gives thanks to God, and is worthy of Receiving Tithes.

A Quick Aside

- Why don't I extract Tithes from you all?
- Paul was faced with the same challenge we have today, keeping small impoverished groups together as a church To here the Gospel...what did he say?

1 Corinthians 9:9-12

⁹ For it is written in the law of Moses, Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn. **Doth God take care for oxen**? ¹⁰ Or saith he *it* altogether for our sakes? **For our sakes, no doubt**, *this* is written: that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and that he that thresheth **in hope should be partaker of his hope**. ¹¹ If we have sown unto you spiritual things, *is it* a great thing if we shall reap your carnal things? ¹² If others be partakers of *this* power over you, *are* not we rather? Nevertheless we have not used this power; but suffer all things, lest we should hinder the gospel of Christ

- So it's clear as a Pastor I would be entitled to a tithe, but in order not to hinder the gospel I don't collect it. Most of you had different beliefs and different churches it was COVID that brought us together, so in order to ensure unity and the Gospel reaches your heart I do not extract a Tithe upon you.
- A Tithe is not just money, its your time, talent and treasure. We have a Meal after church it takes money to buy the food, it takes effort to prepare the meal which you all labor over. We all take care of one another and that is a tithe, it is pleasing to God. And because of our current size it makes no sense......yet....Seeding The Gospel is more important that money...

WHEN IS THE NEXT MENTION OF MELCHIZEDEK?

Psalm 110

- ¹The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool. ²The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies. ³Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth. ⁴The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.
- Clearly, Clearly these Passages are about Christ and Christ is after the Order of Melchizedek
- So what does that mean, the Order of Melchizedek, Order: Rank; Class; division of men...So there is some sort of Priestly Class associated with Melchizedek.

WHO WAS MELCHIZEDEC?

So let us see if The New Testament illuminates Who Melchisedec is....

• Notice the change in spelling in the New Testament

Hebrews 5:1-10

- ¹For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things *pertaining* to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: ² who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity. ³ And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins. ⁴ And no man taketh this honour unto himself, **but he that is called of God**, as *was* Aaron. ⁵ So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. ⁶ As he saith also in another *place*, **Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec**. ⁵ Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; ³ though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; ³ and being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; ¹⁰ **called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec**.
- So we see that Paul is Referencing Jesus Christ versus Men who are Priests.
- We see That Christ is a priest of the **Order of Melchisedec**......
- So Melchisedec is an Order, a Rank of a Priestly line... of the Order of Melchisedec
- We Saw Melchisedec was King and a Priest, so is Christ, We also know, Christ is called of God a high priest of the Order of Melchisedec

WHO WAS MELCHIZEDEC?

Hebrews 6:13-20

- ¹³ For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he sware by himself, ¹⁴ saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee. ¹⁵ And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. ¹⁶ For men verily swear by the greater: and an oath for confirmation *is* to them an end of all strife. ¹⁷ Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed *it* by an oath: ¹⁸ that by two immutable things, in which *it was* impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: ¹⁹ which *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; ²⁰ whither the forerunner is for us entered, *even* Jesus, made an high priest for ever after **the order of Melchisedec.**
- So it appears that the Order of Melchisedec, is a line of Priests that minister to men. So Is it Possible that Melchisedec is a Title? We have seen this now 3 times the Order of Melchisedec.
- What if Melchisedec isn't a who but a what, a Title given to those that minister to Mankind??
- Remember this is in the Book of Hebrews a transition book written to the Jews to reintroduce them to the Messiah.
- They Understand a Priesthood, they still believe in a Priesthood.
- Can we find more information In scripture?

WHO or WHAT WAS MELCHIZEDEC?

By the Way the Word Melchizesedek in Hebrew is made up of two words,

1) The noun מלך (melek), king, and
2) The verb צדק (sadeq), to be just. So it is Literally Translated **JUST KING.**

Hebrews 7:1-2

- ¹ For this Melchisedec, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; ² to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, **King** of peace;.....
- So a Just King, the King of Salem; Salem or Shalem in Hebrew means Peace, a Just King of Peace comes to meet Abram after a slaughter of wicked kings.
- Don't let that be lost on you these kings were kidnappers and menslayers, they killed people and took hostage entire families, Utterly despicable in the Eyes of God.
- Abram went to Rescue Lot and his family, his family by blood relation. Remember Lot was a Just and Righteous Man, God Said so his Uncle was empowered by GOD to launch a Rescue Mission.
- Do you see dichotomy? A King of Peace Coming to greet a Conquering General...
- Is That Strange? Remember God is a God of Judgement as well as Love and Peace, Abram did not hesitate to rescue his Nephew Lot from the Clutches of Evil Kings....think about that, the magnitude of the task and Abram dis not shirk from what he knew is right.

WHO or WHAT WAS MELCHIZEDEC?

Hebrews 7:3

- ³ without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.
- So no father, no mother or offspring, no beginning of days, no end of life.
 - Does this argue for a Person or a God?
 - Can it Be Christ? Well Christ had a Father and a Mother, True he had no descendants and he existed as the Word from the beginning and his life will never end.
- But Notice the Words, words are important; having neither beginning of days, nor end of life...
 - When did the Days Begin? At The Start of the Recreation of the Earth would be my answer.
 - So this Melchizedek doesn't look to be a who, but a what, a title... Just King.
 - You see that the title could have existed from Eternity, before there were Days.
 - He was made Like Unto the Son of God, So he is NOT God, Not Christ
- Like Unto....he is like him in attributes but not him.

WHO or WHAT WAS MELCHIZEDEC?

Hebrews 7:4-10

- ⁴ Now consider how great **this man** *was*, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils. ⁵ And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, **who receive the office of the priesthood**, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham: ⁶ but he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises. ⁷ And without all contradiction **the less is blessed of the better**. ⁸ And here men that die receive tithes; but there he *receiveth them*, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth. ⁹ And as I may so say, Levi also, who receiveth tithes, payed tithes in Abraham. ¹⁰ For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchisedec met him.
- So this Melchisedec is a Person, a man specifically, Or should we says a Person with the Title **Just-King**. Now relook at this sentence in this light. Does the sentence still make sense....Absolutely.
- The Discussion here is about the lineage of Priesthood Blessing, Melchisedec was the Better and he Blessed Abram (Abraham). So Part of What is being Portrayed to the Hebrews who will read the book of the Hebrews is that Prior to the Law there was a Man who held the Title of Just-King of Peace, he being the Priest of the Most High for a Period, this Priest is appointed by God and it is passed on. This Succession of the Order of the Just-King IS NOT, based upon Descent but upon Merit or should we say more correctly the FAVOR of God.
- The Title Existed in Eternity was passed on down through Adams Lineage (Prior to the Law) and then to the Levitical Priesthood, and as we now know it **Through to CHRIST.**

NOW THE REASON

Remember Doctrinally Hebrews is a Transition Book, an explanation to a Jew of Who Jesus Christ really was and how he inherited the Title of **Just-King of Peace**, **The Order of Melchisedec....** This is akin to saying John Doe is of the Order of the Knights of Columbus.

That wouldn't cause you confusion, you would understand that John had a title of the knights of Columbus. The same here with this Person, this Man who was granted this title and he was the King of Salem and he met Abram and Blessed him.

Notice we read that the Just-King of Salem (Melchisedec) brought the Lords Supper to Abram, Wine and Bread. He has the knowledge of God, has the Symbols of the New Covenant Sacrifice of the Lords Supper for a that event, BEFORE the Levitical Priesthood.

This is to tell the Jew that yes prior to the LAW there was a means of people atoning for there sins, it was different before the Law as it is now Different AFTER the Law. The Sacrifice Once for ALL, it is what Jesus Had to do to be Ordained of the Order of Melchisedec!

Hebrews 7:11-14

• ¹¹ If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron? ¹² For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law. ¹³ For he of whom these things are spoken pertaineth to another tribe, of which no man gave attendance at the altar. ¹⁴ For *it is* evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.

Hebrews 7:15

• And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest,

Hebrews 7:17

• For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

Hebrews 7:21

• (for those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec:)

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- So the Priesthood Changed from Pre-Law; **Order of Melchisedec**, to the Law Priests of the Descent of Aaron, To Christ Who Picks up the Mantle of the Title, **The Order of Melchisedec**; **Just-King** of Peace

NOW THE REASON

Hebrews 7:15-22

- ¹⁵ And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest, ¹⁶ who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life. ¹⁷ For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. ¹⁸ For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof. ¹⁹ For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.
- ²⁰ And inasmuch as not without an oath *he was made priest:* ²¹ (for those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, The Lord sware and will not repent, **Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec**:) ²² by so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.
- So the Title Melchisedec was created in Eternity and bestowed upon a worthy man, then
 he Blessed Abram who was the Progenitor of Aaron and the Levites, Then Christ Came
 and Took up the Title Melchisedec....
- So Since Christ is Perfect he is worthy and the Only one who can be the power of an endless life. There was a transition from weakness and unprofitablness to Christ.
- A Surety is a Safety, Security against Loss or Damage.

SO WHO HELD THE TITLE MELCHIZEDEC?

- Who Held the Title of Melchisedec Preflood?
 - Most likely the Genesis 5 Lineage of Adam
- So Who Held the Title Melchisedec when Arbam Met him?
 - Most likely Shem, the First born of Noah
 - Noah's Life overlapped with his father by 95 years and his Grandfather 100 years.
 - Shem overlapped Abram by ~99 Years.....(Not on this Chart).
 - Most Likely it was Shem.

Lineage of ADAM Patriarch	Age At Death	Age At Birth of Son	Begotten Son	Age Father lived after Son	Overlap of Adam At Birth of Patriarch	Overlap of Seth At Birth of Patriarch	Overlap of Seth At Birth of Patriarch	Overlap of Enos At Birth of Patriarch	Overlap of Cainan At Birth of Patriarch	Overlap of Jared At Birth of Patriarch	Overlap of Enoch At Birth of Patriarch	Overlap of Methuselah At Birth of Patriarch(s)	Overlap of Lamech At Birth of Patriarch(s)
Adam	930	130	Seth	800									
Seth	912	105	Enos	807	695								
Enos	905	90	Cainan	815	587	717							
Cainan	910	70	Mahalaleal	840	510	647	745						
Mahalaleal	895	65	Jared	830	450	582	680	775					
Jared	962	162	Enoch	800	308	420	518	613	668				
Enoch	365	65	Methusaleh	300	243	355	453	548	603	735			
Methusaleh	969	187	Lamech	782	56	168	266	361	416	548	113		
Lamech	777	182	Noah	595			84	179	234	366		600	
Noah	950	500	Shem, Ham, Japeth	450								100	95

So Let Us Not Be Confused

- Remember Words are Important
- Rule Number One of Bible Study "Read What it Says"
- But You Must also Understand the words actually meaning (in English when using the Authorized Version).
- Right Divide the Word, Allow the Spirit to Guide your Thoughts.
- Pray for Wisdom.