

"Jesus our High Priest "

Good morning to you. I hope you have had a nice night's rest.

We continue our discovery of the Jesus-Who-Is in Hebrews 7.

The author of the Book of Hebrews declares: Jesus is our continual and forever High Priest who makes it possible for us to enjoy friendship with our Creator.

Jesus is a unique High Priest. He is not a priest under the Law of Moses like Aaron. He is a priest like Melchizedek (see Genesis 14) who lived more than 400 years before the Law was given on Mt. Sinai. Because of this, Jesus is a High Priest superior to all other priests.

Hebrews 7:1 This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him, ² and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, the name Melchizedek means "king of righteousness"; then also, "king of Salem" means "king of peace." ³ Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest forever.

Melchizedek blessed Abraham showing he was superior to Abraham.

Hebrews 7:4 Just think how great he was...Abraham gave him a tenth of the plunder!

Melchizedek is the model for Jesus who is the High Priest of a new and better covenant – Jesus the perfect High Priest who brings God's People to perfection (Hebrews 7: 11-12).

Hebrews 7:22b ... Jesus has become the guarantor of a better covenant. ²³ Now there have been many of those priests [under the Law of Moses], since death prevented them from continuing in office;
²⁴ but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

So what does this mean for us and the people we minister to?

• It means we can be saved because Jesus – who lives to intercede for us – mediates the Father's forgiveness and salvation to each of us.

- It means we can live peacefully as friends of God.
- It means that we can approach God daily to offer our worship and requests to him.

There is much more in Hebrews 7-8. You may wish to study those chapters closely.

SUMMARY: God has done an amazing thing to provide us Jesus as our perfect, eternal, High Priest – initially working over a span of 2000 years to make this happen – and up to now, 2000 years after his resurrection, by providing High Priest Jesus to us.

QUESTIONS:

- Do you believe Jesus can provide for you continuous access to the Father on a friendly basis?
 - If you believe this, how are you taking advantage of this astonishing privilege?
 - And what does this mean for your future?

Next Week: What does Jesus say about himself?

God bless you- Douglas

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