

Hebrews 5:1-10

The Mysterious Priest I

An acceptable offering ...

I. The High Priest

- A. Chosen Mediator
- B. Weak Sinner
- C. Needs Forgiveness

II. Jesus Our Lord

- A. Appointed Mediator
- B. Begotten Son of God
- C. Sinless Savior

III. The Source of Salvation

- A. Suffered
- B. Learned
- C. Made Perfect

... so that you might not die.

Children, Listen ...

1. What were some things priests in the Old Testament were supposed to do?
2. One of the main things they were supposed to do was to seek forgiveness for the sins for God's people, but did the priest need forgiveness too? If so, why?
3. The writer says that Jesus is a priest too, but how was He different than all other priests in the Bible?
4. What did Jesus do to take away the sins of people who believe in Him?

One Perfect Priest

To make his point about Jesus our High Priest, the author of Hebrews refers to the general ordained office of the High Priest, the first and well-known priest Aaron, and then a very mysterious priest with an unusual name. But the office, the prototype and the intriguing Melchizedek were all temporary and flawed types of our true High Priest and Mediator Jesus. Unlike all others Jesus was uniquely qualified to make the perfect sacrifice being sinless Himself and willingly offering Himself in our place. And He is still in the unique place as our High Priest who is even now praying on our behalf. In the words of our Shorter Catechism (Q & A 25): *Christ executes the office of a priest, in his once offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God, and in making continual intercession for us.* This truth should inspire us to draw near to God with boldness and confidence regularly seeking mercy and grace.

For more on Christ's Mediatorial work see Westminster Confession of Faith VIII.