



TITLE:

Christ Has a Better Priesthood (Part 1)

TEXT:

Hebrews 7:1-11

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; [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. [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. [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?

INTRODUCTION:

- The perfection is not by the Levitical priesthood (v.11). For the law made nothing perfect (v.19).
- But the bringing in (ἐπιεισαγωγή - *epeisagōgē* - super introduction) of a better hope; by the which we draw nigh unto God.
- The better hope:
 - *Hebrews 7:24-25* But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. [25] Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

CHRIST HAS A BETTER PRIESTHOOD

- Christ has a better priesthood because He was made a priest after the order of Melchisedec.
- Melchisedec as a type of Jesus Christ:
 - King of Salem or king of Peace (v.1-2). Melchizedek reigned in Salem (later became Jeru-Salem).
 - King of righteousness (v.2).
 - Priest of the most high God (v.1).
 - He doesn't have father and mother nor descent. He doesn't have beginning of days nor end of life (v.3).
 - He was made like unto the Son of God (v.3).
 - He abideth a priest continually (v.3).
 - Melchisedec was greater than Levi, the father of the Levitical priesthood because Levi's father Abraham was blessed by Melchisedec and paid tithes to him (v.4-10).

TITHING

- The tithe is a tenth of one's income (v.2).
- The tithe was practiced before the Mosaic Law was given. Abraham practiced it (Gen. 14:20) and Jacob practiced it (Gen. 28:22).
- The tithe was required by the Law of Moses:
 - *Leviticus 27:30 And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's : it is holy unto the Lord.*
- Tithe is given to honor God.
- Tithe is given to support His work on earth.
- Tithe is offered unto God through God's representatives.
 - *Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.*
- The church is God's work in today's dispensation.
 - Tithes and Offering is the way the church is supported financially.
 - *Acts 2:44-45 And all that believed were together, and had all things common; [45] And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.*
 - *1 Corinthians 9:7-11 Who goeth a warfare any time at his own charges? who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not of the fruit thereof? or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock? [8] Say I these things as a man? or saith not the law the same also? [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?*
 - *Philippians 4:15-18 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. [16] For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. [17] Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. [18] But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.*
 - *2 Corinthians 9:5-7 Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren, that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness. [6] But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. [7] Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give ; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.*