



WALKING ON WATER
BIBLE CHURCH

Who is Melchizedek?

THE PRIEST AFTER THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK
HEBREWS 7:1-10



TUESDAY NIGHT
BIBLE CLASS



7:00 PM

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Hebrews 7:1-10

- For this Melchizedek, 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 translated “king of righteousness,” and then also king of Salem, meaning “king of peace,”

Hebrews 7:1-10

- ³ without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, remains a priest continually.
- ⁴ Now consider how great this man *was*, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils.
- ⁵ And indeed those who are of the sons of Levi, who receive the priesthood, have a commandment to receive tithes from the people according to the law, that is, from their brethren, though they have come from the loins of Abraham;

Hebrews 7:1-10

- ⁶ but he whose genealogy is not derived from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises.
- ⁷ Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is blessed by the better.
- ⁸ Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he *receives them*, of whom it is witnessed that he lives.

Hebrews 7:1-10

- ⁹ Even Levi, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak,
- ¹⁰ for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him.

I. Introduction: The Heart of the Epistle

- As we come to Hebrews chapter 7, we are entering what is arguably the central theological section of the entire book of Hebrews.
- From chapter 7 through chapter 10, the writer unfolds the supremacy of Christ's priesthood—not just as a doctrinal truth, but as the foundation of our confidence, salvation, and access to God.

The Key Question

- What does it mean that Jesus is “a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek”?

Christ's Priesthood Is

- This phrase, drawn from Psalm 110:4, is not incidental—it is **foundational**. It tells us that Christ's priesthood is:
 - Not based on the Levitical system
 - Not temporary
 - Not dependent on genealogy

But Instead It Is

- Eternal
- Superior
- Divinely appointed

II. The Identity of Melchizedek (Hebrews 7:1–3)

- The writer begins by drawing our attention back to Genesis 14, where we are introduced to a mysterious figure—Melchizedek.

Melchizedek Is Described As

- King of Salem
- Priest of the Most High God
- One who met Abraham, blessed him, and received tithes from him

- Melchizedek appears suddenly in Scripture—without introduction and without conclusion.

A. The Meaning of His Name and Title

- The writer tells us that his name means:
 - **King of righteousness**
- And his title, King of Salem, means:
 - **King of peace**

These Are Not Random

- They point forward to the Messiah:
- Righteousness and peace are the defining marks of Christ's kingdom
- Scripture consistently links these two realities (Isaiah 32:17; Romans 5:1)
- **Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of what Melchizedek only foreshadowed.**

B. Without Father, Without Mother

- This is often misunderstood.
- Without father
- Without mother
- Without genealogy

Clarification on Melchizedek

- This does not mean:
- He was divine
- He was an angel
- He was Christ appearing before the incarnation

What It Means

- Scripture intentionally omits his genealogy.
- In Genesis, this omission is striking.
- Because Melchizedek is being presented as a **type**—a picture—of an eternal priesthood.
- He appears: Without recorded beginning
- He appears: Without recorded end
- And therefore:
- He **functions as a picture of a priesthood that does not depend on lineage or time**

C. Made Like the Son of God

- He is not said to be like Christ naturally.
- He is made like the Son of God.
- The biblical record itself is shaped to present him as a type.

- Christ is the archetype
- Melchizedek is the shadow

III. The Greatness of Melchizedek

- “Consider how great this man was...”
- Why?
- Because:
- Abraham—the patriarch—gave him a **tenth of the spoils**

A. Why This Matters

- Abraham is not just any man:
- He is the **father of the covenant people**
- The one who received the promises
- So if Abraham gives tithes to Melchizedek, it means:
- **Melchizedek is greater than Abraham**
- This is a shocking statement for a Jewish audience.

IV. Melchizedek vs Levitical Priesthood

- **A. The Levitical Priesthood**

- Receives tithes by commandment of the Law
- From their fellow Israelites
- Based on genealogy

- **B. Melchizedek's Priesthood**

- Not based on law - Not based on lineage
- Yet receives tithes from Abraham
- **This shows that his priesthood is:**
- Greater in origin - Greater in authority

Christ's Priesthood Is:

- Greater in origin
- Greater in authority

Principle of Blessing

- The writer establishes a universal truth:
- “The lesser is blessed by the greater.”
- Melchizedek blessed Abraham.
- Therefore:
- Melchizedek is greater than Abraham
- And by extension:
- His priesthood is greater than the Levitical priesthood

V. The Nature of His Priesthood

- **A. Levitical Priests**
- They are **mortal men**
- Their ministry ends with death
- **B. Melchizedek**
- Scripture presents him as one who “lives”
- This does not mean he never died physically.
- It means:
- The biblical record presents him **without mention of death**
- So he stands as a **symbol of a continuing priesthood**

Meaning

- **B. Melchizedek**
- Scripture presents him as one who “lives”
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- It means:
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Teaching Insight

- Levitical system:
- Temporary
- Repetitive
- Interrupted
- But Melchizedek represents:
- A priesthood that is **continuous and enduring**

VI. Levi Paying Tithes Through Abraham (Hebrews 7:9–10)

- A. The Logic
- Levi (the tribe of priests) descended from Abraham.
- At the time Abraham met Melchizedek:
- Levi was still “in his loins”
- So when Abraham paid tithes:
- Levi, in a representative sense, also paid tithes

Principle of Representation

- This is the concept of:
- Federal headship - Corporate identity
- Abraham represents:
- His descendants
- The entire Levitical system
- If Levi paid tithes to Melchizedek:
- Then the Levitical priesthood is **inferior** to Melchizedek's priesthood

VII. Major Doctrinal Truths

- Christ's priesthood is superior
- Greater than Abraham
- Greater than Levi
- Greater than the Law

Christ's Priesthood Is Eternal

- Not based on genealogy
- Not ended by death
- Continues forever
- **Christ's Priesthood is Eternal**
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Old Covenant

- It pointed forward
- It foreshadowed Christ
- **Christ is the Fulfillment**
- He is the true Priest-King
- The reality behind the shadow

Christ Is the Fulfillment

- True Priest-King
- The reality behind the shadow
- **Confidence in Christ**
- You do not have a temporary priest—you have an **eternal High Priest.**

Assurance of Salvation

- **Assurance of Salvation**
- Your salvation is not rooted in:
- Ritual
- Law
- Human mediation
- But in:
- **The unchanging priesthood of Christ**

Closing Summary

- Jesus Christ is the eternal High Priest after the order of Melchizedek—greater than Abraham, superior to the Levitical priesthood, and perfectly able to bring us to God forever.