



Lesson 24

Theme: Christ is Superior to Aaron (Part 2) **Our Great High Priest**

Scripture: Hebrews 5:5-7

Pressing Forward into 2022

- Our Discipleship Catechism Questions
 - ① What is the chief end of man?
 - ② What rule has God given to direct us how we may glorify Him?
 - ③ What do the Scriptures principally teach?
 - ④ What is God?
 - ⑤ Are there more gods than One?
 - ⑥ How many persons are there in the Godhead?
 - ⑦ What is the decree of God?
 - ⑧ How does God execute His decree?
- Our memory work:
 - 1 Corinthians 6:20
 - 1 Corinthians 10:31
 - 2 Timothy 3:16-17
 - Ecclesiastes 12:13-14
 - Psalm 73:25-26
 - Isaiah 46:9-10
 - John 1:12-13
 - Proverbs 19:21
 - Daniel 4:35

**For whatever things were written before were written for our learning,
that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have
hope.**

(Romans 15:4)

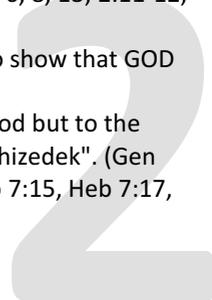


God's Purpose for the PRIESTHOOD

- TO PREFIGURE or FORESHADOW THE PERSON AND WORK OF JESUS the CHRIST.
- Therefore, there must be similarities in the priest of the Old Testament and Christ.
- TO FULFILL a PROMISE: Zechariah 6:13
- **Two of the most troublesome questions** a Jew would have when being presented with Jesus "the Christ" would be, "How are your sins to be pardoned, when you have none to offer sacrifices for you? How are your wants to be supplied, when you have none to make intercession for you to God?"

Requirement for a Priest in the Old Testament

- (vv. 1-4) "taken from among men" (v. 1) - a priest must be a man. An angel cannot be a priest. This made Christ's INCARNATION a NECESSITY. "ordained for men pertaining to the things of God" (v. 1)
 - A priest lived and worked for OTHERS - not himself.
 - A priest lived and worked to meet and satisfy the requirements of God.
 - A priest represented his people to God.
- "that he may offer gifts and sacrifices for sin" (v. 1)
 - To offer was the CHIEF function of a priest.
 - "A priest without a sacrifice was no peace-maker between God and man." "he can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray" (v. 2) æ "no man takes this HONOR to himself but he who is called by God" (v. 4)
- "In Like Manner" - Christ Called (vv. 5-6)
 - Jesus the Christ DID NOT take THIS HONOR (GLORY) on Himself. See John 8:54; 7:18.
 - NOTICE AGAIN: The writer of Hebrews attributes Psalm 2:7 to the voice of the FATHER. (See Hebrews 1:5, 6, 8, 13; 2:11-12; 3:7; 4:3; Micah 5:2; Act 13:33; Rom 8:3)
 - The writer uses Psalm 2:7 and Psalm 110:4 to show that GOD called His Son to the office of priesthood.
 - GOD did not call Him to the Aaronic priesthood but to the priesthood "according to the order of Melchizedek". (Gen 14:18-19; Heb 5:10, Heb 6:20, Heb 7:3, Heb 7:15, Heb 7:17, Heb 7:21; Psalms 110:4)



- His priesthood were both by divine appointment (John 8:54).
- That means the two titles are titles of ordination-the ordination not being in regard to essence or nature (John 10:30; John 14:9, John 14:11), but in regard to the fulfillment of the program of redemption.
- Jews understood that BOTH Psalm 2:7 and Psalm 110:4 were MESSIANIC!
- God anointed and publicly called Jesus at His baptism (Matthew 3:16-17) at He promised to do in Psalm 2:7 ("I will declare . . .")
- Psalm 2 speaks of Christ as KING, but Christ's kingship is based on His priesthood - see Zechariah 6:13. Matthew 17:5 shows God "calling" His Son in the "majesty" of His glorification. See 2 Peter 1:16.
- THESE TWO VERSES ANSWER THE FIFTH AND MOST IMPORTANT REQUIREMENT OF PRIESTS IN VERSE 4 - CHRIST WAS **CALLED** OF GOD TO THE OFFICE OF HIGH PRIEST.

A Compassionate High Priest (v. 7)

- This verse answers qualifications three and four from verses 1 and 2.
 - The priest must be "compassed with infirmity" - compassionate.
 - The priest must "offer" to God acceptable offerings.
- "who in the days of His flesh" - speak of all His days here on earth before His glorification. (Heb 2:14; John 1:14; Gal 4:4; 1 Tim 3:16; 1 Jn 4:3; 2 Jn 1:7)
- These days cover the entire period of Christ's humiliation - from the manger to the grave. (See [Psalm 88:15](#); [116:3, 4](#))
 - During this time Christ was "despised and rejected by men", a "man of sorrow" and "acquainted with grief." (Isaiah 53:3)
- "when He had offered up prayers and supplications"
 - Prayers and supplications are expressive of the frailty of human nature -angels do not pray.
 - "**Prayers**" are of two kinds: Petitions for that which is good. Requests for deliverance from evil.
 - "**Supplication**" (used only here in the NT) in classical use means "an olive bough, lifted up by those who were supplicating others for peace."
- "with strong crying and tears" - this shows the *intensity* that Christ felt as He bore the guilt of our sins "in the days of His flesh". - Look at: Psalm 22:1; Matthew 26:38; Luke 22:42; Matthew 27:46
 - "the travail of His soul" - see Isaiah 53:11

- "unto Him that was able to save Him from death"
 - This is the cause of His "crying and tears" - THE SIGHT OF DEATH!
 - This is not just the separation of soul and body - but the "wages of sin."
 - He (Christ) offered up prayers and supplications to the Judge of all the Earth, the Just Judge, who WILL ALWAYS do what is RIGHT.
 - What deliverance was Christ seeking? - Exemption from suffering this death? - NO NO NO NO! He had received commandment to endure it. (John 10:18; Philippians 2:8) HE WAS SEEKING THE STRENGTH TO ENDURE IT!
 - Christ was CONFIDENT in the ONE who COULD sustain Him. Isa. 50:17
- "and was heard in that He feared"
 - Consider how God answered Christ's prayer in the Garden - He sent an angel to strengthen Christ! Luke 22:43.
- "fear" The fear of God's awful judgment upon our sins, the smiting of the sword of justice, the separation by God. (Listen to Christ: Psalm 88:15; 22:14, 15; 69:1, 2, 15.
 - ★ "godly reverence or piety" - see Hebrews 12:28.
- "heard" -
 - God's approval or acceptance of the one praying.
 - See 1 John 3:23; 1 John 5:14-15
 - NOTE: God answered this prayer NOT BY DELIVERING Christ from the Cross - BUT to sustain Him in enduring it!

REMEMBER CHRIST WAS OUR SURETY!

Lesson for Us

- Christ, as our High Priest, in discharging His duties while representing us to God encountered the WRATH of GOD for the "wages of [our] sins." He voluntarily did this for us.
- Christ encountered this WRATH in the "days of His flesh" with all of its frailty. He suffered on our behalf.
- Christ asked God for strength to endure God's will for Him. This we must do as well.
- God answered Christ's prayer by fulfilling His promise to UPHOLD Him. (Isaiah 42:1, 6) He will do the same for us.

