

Christ, Our Priest; Hebrews 6:19-20

I. Melchizedek

A. Hebrews 7:1–3; 1 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, 2 and to him Abraham apportioned a tenth part of everything. He is first, by translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then he is also king of Salem, that is, king of peace. 3 He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever.

B. His Name and title

1. King of Righteousness
2. Jeremiah 23:6; In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'
3. King of Peace
4. Priest of the Most High God
5. "Righteous, priestly king of peace"
6. Zechariah 6:13; It is he who shall build the temple of the Lord and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both." '
7. Type and anti-type (think printing press or typewriter)
 - a) Merriam-Webster's - a person or thing (as in the Old Testament) believed to foreshadow another (as in the New Testament)
 - b) "A blow, hitting, stamp", and thus the figure or impression made on a coin etc. by such action; also an original pattern, model or mould. To this is prefixed the Greek preposition anti meaning opposite, corresponding.

C. We have the biblical record of Melchizedek in Genesis 14

1. Genesis 14:17–20; 17 After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). 18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) 19 And he blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; 20 and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.
 - a) His Name
 - b) Isaiah 9:6–7; 6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.
 - c) Melchizedek was both king and priest, a double dignity not enjoyed by any illustrious Hebrew, not even Moses, and typical of Jesus Christ who is both king and high priest.
 - d) Zechariah 6:13; It is he who shall build the temple of the Lord and shall bear royal honor, and shall sit and rule on his throne. And there shall be a priest on his throne, and the counsel of peace shall be between them both." '
 - e) Melchizedek brought forth bread and wine
 - f) Melchizedek's priesthood encompassed Gentiles and Jews and Christ likewise is the High Priest of all mankind, having no racial or other limitation

2. Without genealogy
 - a) This does not mean he had no mother or father, even the Christ was born as a man is born
 - b) His genealogy is not listed referring to the timelessness of his priesthood
 - c) Psalm 110:4; The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

II. Priesthood

- A. Hebrews 7:26–28; 26 For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. 27 He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. 28 For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.
- B. Israel
 1. Had to be in the tribe of the Levites
 2. Had to be in the lineage of Aaron to be High Priest
 3. Had to offer sacrifices for his own sin before he could offer for other's sin
 4. Leviticus 16:6–10; 6 "Aaron shall offer the bull as a sin offering for himself and shall make atonement for himself and for his house. 7 Then he shall take the two goats and set them before the Lord at the entrance of the tent of meeting. 8 And Aaron shall cast lots over the two goats, one lot for the Lord and the other lot for Azazel. 9 And Aaron shall present the goat on which the lot fell for the Lord and use it as a sin offering, 10 but the goat on which the lot fell for Azazel shall be presented alive before the Lord to make atonement over it, that it may be sent away into the wilderness to Azazel.
 5. Had to offer sacrifices for sin over and over again
- C. This comparison between Melchizedek and Jesus is meant to show us how much better this new covenant is

III. High Priest

- A. Hebrews 8:1–2; 1 Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, 2 a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man.
- B. There is nothing out there that is better than the Covenant of Christ
 1. Hebrews 7:22–24; 22 This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant. 23 The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, 24 but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever.
 2. Who but Christians can point to a God who has sacrificed himself (in the form of Jesus) for His creation?
 3. When something no longer serves our purpose we get rid of it
 4. Instead of getting rid of us, God repurposed us
 5. We have an opportunity to return to our original purpose through the blood of the Christ
 - a) Our purpose is not to put food on the table
 - b) Our purpose is not to build up enough money for retirement
 - c) Our purpose is not to have a lot of stuff (he who dies with the most toys, wins)
 - d) Luke 12:15–21; 15 And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." 16 And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man

produced plentifully, 17 and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' 18 And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." ' 20 But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' 21 So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

C. Our High Priest provided the example for us

1. To sacrifice ourselves (our wants and desires) for the needs of others
2. To think of others needs before we think of our own
3. Ephesians 2:8–10; 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.
4. We are saved to serve!

IV. Christ, Our Hight Priest

- A. A Priest forever
- B. A Priest who is God, became man, and lived among us
- C. A Priest who provided our sacrifice (Himself), once for all