

A Study of the General Epistles

NT Survey Lesson 149—Hebrews 7

Introduction: In this chapter the Hebrew writer explains the significance of the appointment of Jesus as priest according to the order of Melchizedek. First Melchizedek was greater than Abraham the ancestor of Levi from whom came the Aaronic priesthood. Second, the change of priesthood by God's promise to Jesus reveals that the Levitical priesthood was inadequate and that a better hope was needed. Third, because Jesus lives forever his priesthood is better than the Aaronic priesthood.

Lesson aim: To show that Jesus is our high priest forever and its significance.

Melchizedek, priest of Salem was greater than Levi from whom came the Levitical priests—Heb. 7:1-10

1. What is the main thing the Hebrew writer is saying about Melchizedek in v. 1-3? (v. 3) What do we know about Melchizedek from the OT Scripture? (v. 1-2) How in the Scripture is Melchizedek made like the Son of God? (v. 3)
2. What is the main point the Hebrew writer is making about Melchizedek in v. 4-10? How were the Levitical priests honored by the Israelites? (v. 5) What relationship did Abraham have to the Levitical priests? (v. 10)

God would not have changed the priesthood if perfection had been possible by the Levitical priesthood—Heb. 7:11-22

1. Since it was God's will for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, what did this imply about the Levitical priesthood? (v. 11)
2. If the priesthood was changed, what else would also have to be changed? (v. 12) This is because the Law had said that the men of what tribe were to serve as priests? Could Jesus have been a priest under the Law? (v. 14)

3. What lesson about authority does the Hebrew writer teach when he says “Moses spoke nothing concerning priests”? (v. 14)
4. Another evidence of a changed priesthood is God’s decree that Jesus is to be a priest according to what order? (v. 15). What enable Christ to qualify as a priest according to this order? (v. 16)
5. In the change of priesthood then there is the setting aside of what? (v. 18) Why? On the other hand, there is a bringing in of what through the new priesthood? (v. 19)
6. The fact that God used an oath in his appointment of Jesus indicates what? (v. 22)
7. How does Jesus different from the Levitical priests (v. 23-24)? What does this make Him able to do? (v. 25)
8. Describe the kind of priest the Hebrew says it is fitting that we should have (v. 26-27).
9. What kind of priest does the oath of God appoint to be the Christian’s high priest? (v. 28)