

PS110, GEN. 14, HEB. 7 - DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE THEOLOGY OF MELCHIZEDEK - [\(SERMON MP3\)](#)

In Biblical study, a “type” refers to an Old Testament person, practice, or ceremony that has a counterpart (an antitype), in the New Testament. Types are predictive because they picture or prefigure the antitype. Look up some of the following types or antitypes and give the corresponding association.

TYPE	ANTITYPE
(Num. 21:8) <i>Bronze serpent in the wilderness</i>	(John 3:14)
(Exodus 12:5-7) <i>The Passover lamb</i>	(I Corinthians 5:7)
(Gen. 14:18-20; Ps 110:4)	(Hebrews 7:1-3) <i>Jesus as the awaited king-priest</i>

How did the priesthood of Jesus accomplish the following things?

- It expressed the love of God.
- It rescued us from the wrath of God.
- It vindicated the justice of God.
- It exalted the glory of God.

Jesus’ priesthood is described in 5 ways in (Heb. 7:26). Fill them in on the chart below and then from (Heb. 7:26-28) contrast Christ’s priesthood with the Levitical one.

CHRIST/MELCHIZEDEKIAN	LEVITICAL/AARONIC

According to (Heb. 7:25) Jesus is able to save us completely because of what _____? Is it possible for us to survive spiritually without Christ interceding for us constantly YES | NO (circle one). To “intercede” literally means “to stand between.” Jesus bridges the gap between God and man and he is the only one who can span the chasm because he is uniquely both _____ and _____.

- Complete the sentence: “Jesus would not be able to save us forever if he did not go on _____ for us forever. In other words, our salvation is only as secure as Christ’s priesthood is indestructible. That’s why no human priest could provide what we ultimately needed. Our future salvation depends on the active of work of Christ forever, not just the past cross-work of Christ or our past decision of faith. If you are a Christian, meditate on this: “I am being saved today because of the eternal intercession of Jesus in heaven for me.”
- What do you learn about Christ’s intercession from the following verses (Luke 22:31-32; John 17:6-26; Romans 8:33-34; 1John 2:1)?

- What difference does it make to you that Christ is interceding in heaven on your behalf?
- How does Christ’s intercessory work affect your perspective on yourself and your situation in life right now?
- If you knew that someone was interceding for you constantly, what would you like that person to be praying?
- What did Jesus pray for Peter in (Luke 22:31-32) _____? Jesus was so confident in his prayer that he said, “And when you have turned again.” Peter would stumble in denial, but his faith would not utterly fail. What assurance does Jesus’ exemplary prayer for Peter offer to you?

It doesn't seem that Melchizedek is the pre-incarnate Christ because in (Heb. 7:3) it refers to Melchizedek as “resembling” the Son of God. It doesn't say that he was the Son of God. Also, in (Psalm 110:4) David prophesies of a high priest “after the order of Melchizedek.” He doesn't speak of the Lord as Melchizedek. Compare Jesus and Melchizedek using reference clues in the chart below.

JESUS	MELCHIZEDEK
(Isaiah 9:6-7; Jer. 23:5-6; 33:15-16)	(Heb .7:2) King of righteousness & King of peace
(John 1:1; 17:5; Rev. 22:13)	(Heb. 7:3) Without father or mother [so far as Gen.14:18-20 goes]
(John 8:56-59)	(Heb. 7:4) Greater than Abraham
(Psalm 110:4)	(Heb. 7:16) Priest by an oath not lineage
(Psalm 110:2, 4)	(Gen. 14:18-20) a king-priest
(Matt. 1:1-3; Heb. 7:14; Rev. 5:5)	(Gen. 14:18-20) Not from the tribe of Levi (anachronistic – Levi was not born yet)

Heb. 7:19 says, “A better hope is introduced through which we draw near to God.” What is the “better hope” provided by Christ and his priesthood? Look at (Heb. 4:16; 10:22) for help.

- How does Hebrews 7 help you have confidence to “draw near to God?”
- What are the reasons why you are able to draw near to God?

PRAYER REQUESTS

(Romans 7:12) says that the Law is “holy, righteous, and good.” Why then, does (Heb. 7:18) say that the regulation regarding the Levitical priesthood is “weak and useless?”

- (Heb. 7:11-12) shows how intrinsically linked the Levitical priesthood and the Mosaic Law are. By implication then, if the Levitical priesthood is eclipsed and surpassed by a prophesied Melchizedekian priest, what then happens to the Mosaic Law (a.k.a. the Old Covenant)?
- What did Jesus (a priest after the order of Melchizedek) institute in (Matt. 26:26-28)?

What insight from (Heb. 7:1-28) would you like to concentrate on for application this week?

- How would you like it to affect your character?
- What impact should it have on your approach to life?