

The Present Work of Jesus

What work is Jesus doing now?

Introduction

- Will refer to Jesus' past work but not our focus – dying on cross and being raised so we may be saved
- Will refer to His future work but not our focus – His second coming and judgment of all
- Our focus – what work is Jesus doing now and how does it benefit us today?

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Introduction

- Creative and redemptive work complete
- Still much work being done presently as He is ruling in heaven
- We will focus on great Bible teachings about Jesus' person and position
- We will also focus on the attitudes and actions we must display in light of these teachings

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The Present Work of Jesus

Jesus – Sustainer of The Universe
Jesus – Lord of all and king of the nations
Jesus – Head of His one church
Jesus – Our great high priest

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The Present Work of Jesus

Lesson 4
Jesus – Our Great High Priest

Introduction

- The Scriptures clearly teach that Jesus is now our great high priest
- But what does His work involve and why do we even need a high priest?
- This part of His present work probably most unfamiliar and hard to understand
- Reason – Jesus' priesthood connected to Melchizedek not Aaron

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Introduction

- Although this part of His work is unfamiliar and infrequently studied, it is important because our relationship with God depends on it
- We will learn about the absolute need for a perfect sacrifice and sinless mediator between a holy and just God and sinful humanity

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Jesus – Our Great High Priest

The promise and the “problems”

Function of Levitical priesthood

Solution – Jesus’ priesthood connected to Melchizedek

Why is Jesus’ priesthood greater?

Practical applications

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The Promise And The “Problems”

- God swears to make Jesus a priest according to order of Melchizedek
- Problem – Levitical priesthood under Law of Moses already existed
- God also prophesies Jesus would rule as King at the same time He is high priest

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The Promise And The “Problems”

- Problem – Under Law of Moses king and priest were from two different tribes – Judah and Levi
- Problem – Davidic kings’ rule in Jerusalem would be permanently ended

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The Promise And The “Problems”

Psa 110:1 **A Psalm of David.** The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at My right hand Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet."

Psa 110:2 The LORD will stretch forth Your strong scepter from Zion, *saying*, "Rule in the midst of Your enemies."

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The Promise And The “Problems”

Psa 110:3 Your people will volunteer freely in the day of Your power; In holy array, from the womb of the dawn, Your youth are to You as the dew.

Psa 110:4 The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek."

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The Promise And The “Problems”

Zec 6:11 "Take silver and gold, make an *ornate* crown and set *it* on the head of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest.

Zec 6:12 "Then say to him, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, "Behold, a man whose name is Branch, for He will branch out from where He is; and He will build the temple of the LORD.

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The Promise And The “Problems”

Zec 6:13 "Yes, it is He who will build the temple of the LORD, and He who will bear the honor and sit and rule on His throne. Thus, He will be a priest on His throne, and the counsel of peace will be between the two offices."

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The Promise And The “Problems”

Jer 23:5 "Behold, *the* days are coming," declares the LORD, "When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; And He will reign as king and act wisely And do justice and righteousness in the land.

Jer 22:30 "Thus says the LORD, 'Write this man down childless, A man who will not prosper in his days; For no man of his descendants will prosper Sitting on the throne of David Or ruling again in Judah.'" 15

Function of Levitical Priesthood

- Primary function of Levitical priesthood under Law of Moses was to be mediators between God and Israel
- From this, we learn that sinful man cannot approach God in whatever way he pleases
- We also learn that the high priest was specially designated to offer the most important sacrifices on the Day of Atonement so Israel might remain in relationship with God

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Exo 28:1 "Then bring near to yourself Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the sons of Israel, to minister as priest to Me--Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar, Aaron's sons.

Exo 28:2 "You shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty.

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Exo 28:3 "You shall speak to all the skillful persons whom I have endowed with the spirit of wisdom, that they make Aaron's garments to consecrate him, that he may minister as priest to Me.

18

Function of Levitical Priesthood

Exo 29:1 "Now this is what you shall do to them to consecrate them to minister as priests to Me: take one young bull and two rams without blemish,

Exo 29:2 and unleavened bread and unleavened cakes mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers spread with oil; you shall make them of fine wheat flour.

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Exo 29:3 "You shall put them in one basket, and present them in the basket along with the bull and the two rams.

Exo 29:4 "Then you shall bring Aaron and his sons to the doorway of the tent of meeting and wash them with water.

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Exo 29:5 "You shall take the garments, and put on Aaron the tunic and the robe of the ephod and the ephod and the breastpiece, and gird him with the skillfully woven band of the ephod;

Exo 29:6 and you shall set the turban on his head and put the holy crown on the turban.

Exo 29:7 "Then you shall take the anointing oil and pour it on his head and anoint him.

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Exo 29:11 "You shall slaughter the bull before the LORD at the doorway of the tent of meeting.

Exo 29:12 "You shall take some of the blood of the bull and put *it* on the horns of the altar with your finger; and you shall pour out all the blood at the base of the altar.

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Exo 29:21 "Then you shall take some of the blood that is on the altar and some of the anointing oil, and sprinkle *it* on Aaron and on his garments and on his sons and on his sons' garments with him; so he and his garments shall be consecrated, as well as his sons and his sons' garments with him.

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Exo 29:37 "For seven days you shall make atonement for the altar and consecrate it; then the altar shall be most holy, *and* whatever touches the altar shall be holy.

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Num 8:17 "For every firstborn among the sons of Israel is Mine, among the men and among the animals; on the day that I struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt I sanctified them for Myself.

Num 8:18 "But I have taken the Levites instead of every firstborn among the sons of Israel.

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Num 8:19 "I have given the Levites as a gift to Aaron and to his sons from among the sons of Israel, to perform the service of the sons of Israel at the tent of meeting and to make atonement on behalf of the sons of Israel, so that there will be no plague among the sons of Israel by their coming near to the sanctuary."

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Lev 16:1 Now the LORD spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they had approached the presence of the LORD and died.

Lev 16:2 The LORD said to Moses: "Tell your brother Aaron that he shall not enter at any time into the holy place inside the veil, before the mercy seat which is on the ark, or he will die; for I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat.

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Lev 16:3 "Aaron shall enter the holy place with this: with a bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering.

Lev 16:4 "He shall put on the holy linen tunic, and the linen undergarments shall be next to his body, and he shall be girded with the linen sash and attired with the linen turban (these are holy garments). Then he shall bathe his body in water and put them on.

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Lev 16:5 "He shall take from the congregation of the sons of Israel two male goats for a sin offering and one ram for a burnt offering.

Lev 16:6 "Then Aaron shall offer the bull for the sin offering which is for himself, that he may make atonement for himself and for his household.

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Lev 16:15 "Then he shall slaughter the goat of the sin offering which is for the people, and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat.

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Function of Levitical Priesthood

Lev 16:16 "He shall make atonement for the holy place, because of the impurities of the sons of Israel and because of their transgressions in regard to all their sins; and thus he shall do for the tent of meeting which abides with them in the midst of their impurities.

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Jesus – Our Great High Priest

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Solution – Jesus’ Priesthood Connected To Melchizedek

Who was Melchizedek?
Melchizedek superior to Levi
Change of law needed for change of priesthood

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Solution – Jesus’ Priesthood Connected To Melchizedek

- God promised to make Jesus a priest according to order of Melchizedek
- Problem – Jesus was from tribe of Judah, house of David
- Under Moses’ Law, priests were from tribe of Levi, family of Aaron
- No king could serve as high priest and no priest could serve as king

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Solution – Jesus’ Priesthood Connected To Melchizedek

- Davidic kings’ rule in Jerusalem permanently ended
- How would Jesus be priest?
- Answer – His priesthood based on Melchizedek’s not Aaron’s
- Since Jesus would not be King or High Priest on earth or under the Law of Moses, there must be a change of Law, a New Covenant to replace the old

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Solution – Jesus’ Priesthood Connected To Melchizedek

Psa 110:4 The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind, "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek."

Zec 6:13 "Yes, it is He who will build the temple of the LORD, and He who will bear the honor and sit and rule on His throne. Thus, He will be a priest on His throne, and the counsel of peace will be between the two offices."

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Solution – Jesus’ Priesthood Connected To Melchizedek

Jer 22:30 "Thus says the LORD, 'Write this man down childless, A man who will not prosper in his days; For no man of his descendants will prosper Sitting on the throne of David Or ruling again in Judah.'"

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Solution – Jesus’ Priesthood Connected To Melchizedek

Heb 8:1 Now the main point in what has been said *is this*: we have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,

Heb 8:2 a minister in the sanctuary and in the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.

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Solution – Jesus’ Priesthood Connected To Melchizedek

Heb 8:3 For every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices; so it is necessary that this *high priest* also have something to offer.

Heb 8:4 Now if He were on earth, He would not be a priest at all, since there are those who offer the gifts according to the Law;

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Solution – Jesus’ Priesthood Connected To Melchizedek

Heb 8:5 who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as Moses was warned *by God* when he was about to erect the tabernacle; for, "SEE," He says, "THAT YOU MAKE all things ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN WHICH WAS SHOWN YOU ON THE MOUNTAIN."

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Solution – Jesus' Priesthood Connected To Melchizedek

Heb 8:6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises.

Heb 8:7 For if that first *covenant* had been faultless, there would have been no occasion sought for a second.

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Who Was Melchizedek?

Gen 14:10 Now the valley of Siddim was full of tar pits; and the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and they fell into them. But those who survived fled to the hill country.

Gen 14:11 Then they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food supply, and departed.

Gen 14:12 They also took Lot, Abram's nephew, and his possessions and departed, for he was living in Sodom.

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Who Was Melchizedek?

Gen 14:15 He divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them, and pursued them as far as Hobah, which is north of Damascus.

Gen 14:16 He brought back all the goods, and also brought back his relative Lot with his possessions, and also the women, and the people.

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Who Was Melchizedek?

- King of Sodom and allies defeated
- Lot and family captured
- Abram with 318 men from his household defeats Sodom's enemies and rescues the people and Lot

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Who Was Melchizedek?

Gen 14:17 Then 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).

Gen 14:18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; now he was a priest of God Most High.

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Who Was Melchizedek?

Gen 14:19 He blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;

Gen 14:20 And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." He gave him a tenth of all.

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Who Was Melchizedek?

- Both king and priest at same time
- Meets Abram and brings him food
- Blesses Abram and praises God for victory he provided
- Abram pays 1/10 of spoils to Melchizedek

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Melchizedek Superior To Levi

Heb 7:1 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham as he was returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,
Heb 7:2 to whom also Abraham apportioned a tenth part of all *the spoils*, was first of all, by the translation of *his name*, king of righteousness, and then also king of Salem, which is king of peace.

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Melchizedek Superior To Levi

Heb 7:3 Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, he remains a priest perpetually.

Heb 7:4 Now observe how great this man was to whom Abraham, the patriarch, gave a tenth of the choicest spoils.

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Melchizedek Superior To Levi

Heb 7:5 And those indeed of the sons of Levi who receive the priest's office have commandment in the Law to collect a tenth from the people, that is, from their brethren, although these are descended from Abraham.

Heb 7:6 But the one whose genealogy is not traced from them collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed the one who had the promises.

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Melchizedek Superior To Levi

Heb 7:7 But without any dispute the lesser is blessed by the greater.

Heb 7:8 In this case mortal men receive tithes, but in that case one *receives them*, of whom it is witnessed that he lives on.

Heb 7:9 And, so to speak, through Abraham even Levi, who received tithes, paid tithes,

Heb 7:10 for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him.

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Melchizedek Superior To Levi

- Levitical priests under Law of Moses commanded to collect tithes from Israel, Abraham's descendents
- Melchizedek, priest without being attached to Law of Moses or Levi's genealogy, collected tithes (1/10) from and blessed Abraham, father of Israel including Levi and priestly descendents

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Melchizedek Superior To Levi

- Levi and descendents (priestly family) paid tithes to Melchizedek because they were Abraham's future descendents
- Melchizedek's priesthood greater than Levi

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Change of Law Needed For Change of Priesthood

- Since Law of Moses made no provision for any other priesthood except Levi, it must be removed
- When removed, Jesus' priesthood based on Melchizedek's could begin
- Law of Moses foretold Jesus' priesthood and the coming of a new covenant

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Change of Law Needed For Change of Priesthood

Heb 7:11 Now if perfection was through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the people received the Law), what further need *was there* for another priest to arise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be designated according to the order of Aaron?

Heb 7:12 For when the priesthood is changed, of necessity there takes place a change of law also.

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Change of Law Needed For Change of Priesthood

Heb 7:13 For the one concerning whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar.

Heb 7:14 For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests.

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Change of Law Needed For Change of Priesthood

Heb 7:15 And this is clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek,

Heb 7:16 who has become *such* not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life.

Heb 7:17 For it is attested *of Him*, "YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK."

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Change of Law Needed For Change of Priesthood

Heb 7:18 For, on the one hand, there is a setting aside of a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness

Heb 7:19 (for the Law made nothing perfect), and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God.

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Change of Law Needed For Change of Priesthood

Heb 8:6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises.

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Change of Law Needed For Change of Priesthood

Heb 8:10 "FOR THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR MINDS, AND I WILL WRITE THEM ON THEIR HEARTS. AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE.

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Change of Law Needed For Change of Priesthood

Heb 8:11 "AND THEY SHALL NOT TEACH EVERYONE HIS FELLOW CITIZEN, AND EVERYONE HIS BROTHER, SAYING, 'KNOW THE LORD,' FOR ALL WILL KNOW ME, FROM THE LEAST TO THE GREATEST OF THEM.

Heb 8:12 "FOR I WILL BE MERCIFUL TO THEIR INIQUITIES, AND I WILL REMEMBER THEIR SINS NO MORE."

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Jesus – Our Great High Priest

The promise and the “problems”

Function of Levitical priesthood

Solution – Jesus’ priesthood connected to Melchizedek

Why is Jesus’ priesthood greater?

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Why Is Jesus’ Priesthood Greater?

Divinely appointed by oath
Perfect mediator
Perfect sacrifice offered once
Offered in perfect place, heaven

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Divinely Appointed By Oath

Heb 5:4 And no one takes the honor to himself, but *receives it* when he is called by God, even as Aaron was.
Heb 5:5 So also Christ did not glorify Himself so as to become a high priest, but He who said to Him, "YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU";

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Divinely Appointed By Oath

Heb 5:6 just as He says also in another *passage*, "YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK."
Heb 7:20 And inasmuch as *it was* not without an oath

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Divinely Appointed By Oath

Heb 7:21 (for they indeed became priests without an oath, but He with an oath through the One who said to Him, "THE LORD HAS SWORN AND WILL NOT CHANGE HIS MIND, 'YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER'");
Heb 7:22 so much the more also Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.

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Perfect Mediator

- Levitical priesthood showed the need for mediator or intercessor between a holy God and sinful humanity
- Due to their sinfulness, mortality and being tied to the Law of Moses, they were not able to be the perfect mediators
- Jesus who is sinless, immortal and inaugurator of the New Covenant based on His perfect sacrifice is our perfect mediator

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Perfect Mediator

Heb 4:14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

Heb 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin.

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Perfect Mediator

Heb 4:16 Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Heb 5:1 For every high priest taken from among men is appointed on behalf of men in things pertaining to God, in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins;

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Perfect Mediator

Heb 5:2 he can deal gently with the ignorant and misguided, since he himself also is beset with weakness;

Heb 5:3 and because of it he is obligated to offer *sacrifices* for sins, as for the people, so also for himself.

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Perfect Mediator

Heb 5:7 In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and supplications with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety.

Heb 5:8 Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered.

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Perfect Mediator

Heb 5:9 And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,

Heb 5:10 being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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Perfect Mediator

Heb 7:23 The *former* priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers because they were prevented by death from continuing,

Heb 7:24 but Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently.

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Perfect Mediator

Heb 7:25 Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Heb 7:26 For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens;

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Perfect Mediator

Heb 7:27 who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the *sins* of the people, because this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.

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Perfect Mediator

Php 2:5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,

Php 2:6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,

Php 2:7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men.

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Perfect Mediator

Php 2:8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

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Perfect Mediator

Heb 9:15 For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were *committed* under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

Heb 9:16 For where a covenant is, there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it.

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Perfect Mediator

Heb 9:17 For a covenant is valid *only* when men are dead, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives.

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Perfect Sacrifice Offered Once

- Because of our sins, God's justice must be satisfied through a substitutional sacrifice who pays penalty for sin and opens the way for God to be merciful without being unjust
- Animal sacrifices under the Law of Moses showed the need for a perfect sacrifice that truly provided for forgiveness of our sins

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Perfect Sacrifice Offered Once

- Jesus, the sinless Son of God, is that perfect sacrifice offering His blood, bearing sin's penalty and providing mercy to all who obey the gospel
- Unlike animal sacrifices, He offered His sacrifice once for all time

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Perfect Sacrifice Offered Once

Heb 7:27 who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the *sins* of the people, because this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.

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Perfect Sacrifice Offered Once

Heb 10:1 For the Law, since it has *only* a shadow of the good things to come *and* not the very form of things, can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, make perfect those who draw near.

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Perfect Sacrifice Offered Once

Heb 10:2 Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, because the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have had consciousness of sins?

Heb 10:3 But in those *sacrifices* there is a reminder of sins year by year.

Heb 10:4 For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

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Perfect Sacrifice Offered Once

Heb 10:14 For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

Heb 10:18 Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer *any* offering for sin.

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Offered In Perfect Place Heaven

- Instead of entering the most holy place in the earthly tabernacle or temple, Jesus entered into Heaven itself
- There, He offered his blood for the remission of our sins once and for all
- His sacrifice has prepared the way to Heaven for all who obey Him

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Offered In Perfect Place Heaven

Heb 9:11 But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, *He entered* through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation;

Heb 9:12 and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

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Offered In Perfect Place Heaven

Heb 9:22 And according to the Law, *one may almost say*, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

Heb 9:23 Therefore it was necessary for the copies of the things in the heavens to be cleansed with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

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Offered In Perfect Place Heaven

Heb 9:24 For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a *mere* copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;

Heb 9:25 nor was it that He would offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the holy place year by year with blood that is not his own.

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Offered In Perfect Place Heaven

Heb 9:26 Otherwise, He would have needed to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now once at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

Heb 9:27 And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this *comes* judgment,

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Offered In Perfect Place Heaven

Heb 9:28 so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without *reference to sin*, to those who eagerly await Him.

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Unable To Serve God Without Perfect Mediator

- Without Jesus offering His perfect sacrifice in Heaven and establishing a New Covenant by which all men would be saved, we had no hope of approaching or serving God
- Jesus because He is both God and man is our perfect mediator

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Unable To Serve God Without Perfect Mediator

Mat 26:28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.

Heb 9:15 For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were *committed* under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

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Unable To Serve God Without Perfect Mediator

Heb 9:16 For where a covenant is, there must of necessity be the death of the one who made it.

Heb 9:17 For a covenant is valid *only* when men are dead, for it is never in force while the one who made it lives.

Heb 9:18 Therefore even the first *covenant* was not inaugurated without blood.

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Unable To Serve God Without Perfect Mediator

Heb 9:19 For when every commandment had been spoken by Moses to all the people according to the Law, he took the blood of the calves and the goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people,

Heb 9:20 saying, "THIS IS THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANT WHICH GOD COMMANDED YOU."

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Unable To Serve God Without Perfect Mediator

Heb 9:21 And in the same way he sprinkled both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry with the blood.

Heb 9:22 And according to the Law, *one may* almost say, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

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Unable To Serve God Without Perfect Mediator

Act 2:36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this Jesus whom you crucified."

Act 2:37 Now when they heard *this*, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

108

Unable To Serve God Without Perfect Mediator

Act 2:38 Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

109

Confidently Draw Near To God In Prayer and Worship

Heb 4:14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

Heb 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin.

110

Confidently Draw Near To God In Prayer and Worship

Heb 4:16 Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

111

Confidently Draw Near To God In Prayer and Worship

Php 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Php 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

112

We All Are Priests Offering Sacrifices To God

- Through His sacrifice and our submission to His gospel, Jesus has made us a kingdom of priests offering spiritual sacrifices to God
- Generally our entire lives are to be living sacrifices offered to Him in how we live according to his will
- Our spiritual sacrifices are whatever God has determined that pleases Him

113

We All Are Priests Offering Sacrifices To God

1Pe 2:9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR *God's* OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

114

We All Are Priests Offering Sacrifices To God

1Pe 2:10 for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.

115

We All Are Priests Offering Sacrifices To God

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

Rom 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

116

We All Are Priests Offering Sacrifices To God

Heb 13:15 Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

117

Rejoice In Access To God Even If Suffering

Rom 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

Rom 5:2 through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.

118

Rejoice In Access To God Even If Suffering

Rom 5:3 And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance;

Rom 5:4 and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope;

Rom 5:5 and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

119

Anchoring Hope of Being With Jesus One Day

- Since He has opened the way to heaven, we have hope that one day we will be there also
- This hope anchors the soul through trying times to continue in faithful obedience

120

Anchoring Hope of Being With Jesus One Day

Heb 6:13 For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself,

Heb 6:14 saying, "I WILL SURELY BLESS YOU AND I WILL SURELY MULTIPLY YOU."

Heb 6:15 And so, having patiently waited, he obtained the promise.

121

Anchoring Hope of Being With Jesus One Day

Heb 6:16 For men swear by one greater *than themselves*, and with them an oath *given* as confirmation is an end of every dispute.

Heb 6:17 In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath,

122

Anchoring Hope of Being With Jesus One Day

Heb 6:18 so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us.

Heb 6:19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil,

123

Anchoring Hope of Being With Jesus One Day

Heb 6:20 where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

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Jesus – Our Great High Priest

The promise and the "problems"

Function of Levitical priesthood

Solution – Jesus' priesthood connected to Melchizedek

Why is Jesus' priesthood greater?

Practical applications

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Practical Applications

Unable to serve God without perfect mediator

Confidently draw near to God in prayer and worship

We all are priests offering sacrifices to God

Rejoice in access to God even if suffering

Anchoring hope of being with Jesus one day

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The Present Work of Jesus

Jesus – Sustainer of The Universe

Jesus – Lord of all and king of the nations

Jesus – Head of His one church

Jesus – Our great high priest