

“Jesus Our GREAT High Priest Pt. 2”
Hebrews 5:1-11
1/11/26
Message 8

Introduction

- Title Of The Message: “Jesus Our GREAT High Priest Pt. 2”

- **Review**

- **Importance Of Hebrews**

- **1. Connecting the Testaments**

- Paul Quotes the OT –
- If you don’t understand the OT you will not be able to understand Hebrews

- **2. Jesus is Superior**

- Jesus is BETTER Than
 - The Prophets - Ch 1
 - The Angels - Ch 1-2
 - Moses - Ch 3
 - Joshua – Ch 4
 - The High Priest – Ch 5-9
 - The Tabernacle Ch 9
 - The Law & Sacrifices Ch 10

- **3. Encouragement - Don’t quit**

- The ultimate goal of the book

- To encourage those who are struggling with difficult times, and help them to endure.
- **Last Time – Jesus Our GREAT High Priest Pt. 1 – Hebrews 4:14-16**
 - **1. The Reminder Of Who Jesus Is For Us – v. 14**
 - 1. The High Priest
 - **Context**
 - Remember written to Jewish People –
 - They would understand HIGH Priest
 - **Briefly Explain**
 - Explain How High Priest represented Israel
 - Stood between God and His People
 - Only Tribe of Levi – Little more on that in a minute
 - **Show Pic x 2**
 - Ephod was a special priestly garment
 - It resembled an apron or vest
 - Made of fine linen and gold thread, worn by the high priest
 - It was crucial for priestly service
 - Featuring shoulder pieces with onyx stones (representing the tribes) and a girdle, and held the breastpiece with the

Urim and Thummim, used for divination to seek God's counsel

- A square pouch attached to the ephod, holding twelve precious stones, each engraved with the name of one of the twelve tribes.
- Symbolism:
 - This placement over the heart symbolized the priest bearing the people's representation and needs constantly before God.
- Explain Tabernacle / Temple how it worked

- **Show Pic**

- Explain Duties

- **2. The Reason Jesus Is Our GREAT High Priest v. 15**

- Sympathize –
 - The Greek word translated sympathize literally means
 - **“To Suffer Along With!”**
 - He added Humanity to His Deity

Hebrews 2:17 (NKJV)

17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

- Was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.
 - NEVER SINNED

▪ 3. The Response We Are To Have v. 16

Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)

16 *Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

- Remember the purpose behind ALL this is to show them that Jesus is BETTER
 - Why Jesus is Our Great High Priest – Better the priesthood
 - He is in Heaven (4:14)
 - He is the Son of God (4:14)
 - He is without Sin (4:15)
 - He Provides us with Continual access to the throne of God (4:16)

• ***This Morning, we will Continue to see why of Jesus is better***

○ **4 Main Points This Morning**

- Jesus Has A More Prominent Priesthood vv. 1-6
- Jesus Has A Permanent Priesthood v. 6
- Jesus Has A Perfected Priesthood vv. 7-9
- Jesus Has A Powerful Priesthood vv. 10-11

Jesus Has A More Prominent Priesthood vv. 1-6

• ***1. For every high priest taken from among men v. 1***

○ **1. Context v. 1a**

Hebrews 5:1 (NKJV)

1 *For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God,* *that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.*

- Every High Priest was TAKEN from MAN

- Paul continues to show us HOW Jesus is Better
 - By contrasting Jesus who is both God and Man vs. the High priest being just a man
 - Verse 1-5 - Paul lays out the Qualities of a Human High Priest
- **The High Priest was taken from MEN**
 - 1. God established both the priesthood and the office of high priest in the days of Moses
 - Exodus 28
 - 2. The High Priest had to be appointed by God
 - No man could appoint himself as Priest or even try to function in the Priestly duties
 - It was a Very special office and great responsibility!
 - 3. From the Tribe of Levi
 - In verse 4 we read that God chose Aaron to be the first High Priest!
 - (He was called by God)
 - All the priests came from the tribe of Levi
 - Levi had 3 Sons –
 - Gershon / Kohath / Merari
 - The entire tribe of Levi was dedicated by God for religious service

- The sons had unique roles
 - Kohath
 - Those who were called to be the priest
 - Gershon
 - Those from the family of Gershon cared for the tabernacle's (veil), fence, and curtains (Numbers 3:25-26)
 - Merari
 - This family took care of the boards and pillars of the tabernacle and the fence (Numbers 3:36-37)
- **So the High Priest – was chosen from among men to minister for men!**
 - Jesus was appointed by the Father to the role of High Priest
 - Application – JUST MEN
 - We think of leaders in the church
 - Pastors are Just MEN – always remember that
 - MEN WILL FAIL
 - Note a few thoughts
 - 1. YES - Leaders must be held to a higher standard

- 2. Pray for leader – lots of stress – spiritual warfare
- 3. Stop Looking at Leaders as Celebrates
- 4. If a Leader Fails...
 - Don't lose faith – KEEP Your eyes on Jesus – not man
 - If they have a repentive heart –
 - Have compassion – remember how frail we are

○ **2. The phrase “gifts and sacrifices for sins” v. 2b**

Hebrews 5:1 (NKJV)

1 For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.

▪ **This reminds us**

- That not every sacrifice offered was a blood atonement for sin.
 - Many of the ritual sacrifices were intended as simple gifts to God
 - Expressing thanks and desiring fellowship.

• **2. He can have compassion v. 2**

Hebrews 5:2 (NKJV)

2 He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness.

○ **1. The High Priest – Also had to have COMPASSION**

- **Compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray**

- He had to minister the atoning sacrifices with a loving heart for the people.
 - In other words the high priest had this compassion because he understood that he himself is also subject to weakness.

- **Pastors MUST**

- Have compassion on ALL there are many people that have crossed my path – some a bit hard to love – BUT God

- **2. Application**

- **May we NEVER lose COMPASSION**

- ALL humanity is frail
- We must deal compassionately with the ignorant and wayward.
- Just looking in the mirror should help us grown in compassion

- **No Room for Spiritual PRIDE – (SIN)**

- You would think that one sinner would have compassion for another sinner, but this is not always the case.
 - Sin makes a person selfish
 - Sin can blind us to the hurts of others
 - Sin can harden our hearts and make us judgmental instead of sympathetic

- **3. Because of this he is required as for the people... v. 3**

Hebrews 5:3 (NKJV)

3 Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins.

- **Sacrifices for his own SINS**

- On the Day of Atonement, the high priest had to sacrifice for himself first
- To remind himself and the nation that he had sin to atone for, just like the rest of the people of Israel (Leviticus 16:1-6)
- As a matter of fact – bells, rope, used to drag him out if his own sins were not delt with...

- **4. And no man takes this honor to himself... v. 4**

Hebrews 5:4 (NKJV)

4 And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was.

- **1. Called By God**

- **Not chosen by Himself or God's people!**
 - BUT chosen by God
 - The principle is that no man takes this honor to himself.
 - The office of high priest was nothing to aspire to or campaign for.
 - It was given by right of birth, and therefore chosen by God.
 - It was an honor no man could take to himself.
- **Examples of Men who Attempted to act as High Priest**
 - Korah

- Who was swallowed up in a divine earthquake (Numbers 16).
- Saul
 - Who was rejected from his place as king (1 Samuel 13).
- Uzziah
 - Who was struck with leprosy in the temple itself (2 Chronicles 26:16).
- **Application - Pastors are Called by God**
 - A pastor needs a "Call From God"
 - One does not set out to choose being a pastor, like he choose other profession, plumber, electricians, accountant
 - It MUST be a CALL
 - Why
 - Because it is NOT just Another JOB
 - It is a Divine appointment
 - It MUST be
 - Rooted in a deep inner conviction to serve, lead, and teach, God's People
 - Goes way beyond a job
 - You MUST be motivated by God's
 - NOT a paycheck

- If your motivated by a PAYCHECK... you are a HIRELING

• **5. Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest v. 5-6**

Hebrews 5:5–6 (NKJV)

5 So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: “You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.”

6 As He also says in another place: “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek”;

- **1. Jesus did not make Himself High Priest**

- Instead - It came from God the Father

- Just as much as Jesus was declared to be the Son (in Psalm 2:7)

- He was also declared to be a priest forever (in Psalm 110:4).

- **2. Today I have begotten You**

- This refers to Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

- Today begotten you = “Brought Forth”

- Paul explained in Acts 13:33-34 this verse is a reference to the Resurrection

Acts 13:33–34 (NKJV)

33 God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.’

34 And that He raised Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, He has spoken thus: ‘I will give you the sure mercies of David.’

- When Christ died it looked as if His priestly ministry was over

- But He was brought forth from dead
- He rose and now lives as Priest forever to serve the redeemed / saved
- He ever lives – forever lives to make intercession, to Help and Give aid
- The resurrection vindicated Jesus as the Father's Holy One (Acts 2:24 and Acts 2:27), who bore the wrath sinners deserved without becoming a sinner Himself.
- **3. Order Of MELCHIZEDEK**
 - **The Jewish Peoples response**
 - It is easy to see why the priesthood of Jesus was difficult for early Jewish Christians to grasp.
 - Jesus was not from the lineage of Aaron.
 - He was from wrong tribe... the tribe of Judah
 - Priests had to come from the tribe of Levi
 - **Paul Tells us**
 - Jesus was of a WHOLE different order –
 - MELCHIZEDEK
 - Paul tells us that He has Superior Ordination – then Arron
 - **Who is - MELCHIZEDEK – More in Chapter 7**
 - 1. One of the most significant and mysterious characters in all of the OT scriptures

- Who he was is a very debated subject
- Many believe a Christophany
 - Briefly explain
- 2. Talk about it more in Chapter 7
 - But for the sake of our study this morning
 - Very unique about Melchizedek's priesthood - that order which Christ followed
 - He was a Priest and a King
 - He was on the scene before the priestly ministry was official instituted by the Lord
 - And he's called the Priest of the Most High God (Gen 14)
 - But he was also called (Gen.14) the King of Salem – which would later be Jerusalem in and the King of Righteousness in Heb. 7
 - So he was both King and Priest... very unique
 - No one in Jewish history held both offices
 - And when Abraham met him - impressed; paid tithes and Melchizedek blessed him!
- 3. Now Jesus being after the order of Melchizedek...
 - IS / Was both a King and a Priest
 - This made Him superior to Aaron

- Aaron's line (Levites) were important in Jewish culture, but they were still subject to the king!
- The priestly functions were not under the control of the king but in all other matters they were subject
- But Melchizedek was both King and High Priest
 - And Jesus was as well which made Him more superior than Aaron
- Twofold significance of Jesus being a Priest and a King
 - As a Priest
 - He represented the Father to us
 - He offered a Sacrifice
 - He mediates between us and God / Continues to Aid
 - As a King
 - He supplies us with all the resources of the kingdom... all been made available to us in Christ (Ephesians 1:3)
 - He supplies us with what we need to live the Christian life
 - And as King He wants to reign in our hearts
 - As a King He deserves our Worship!

- Jesus has a More Prominent Priest Hood – He is both a King and a Priest

Jesus Has A Permanent Priesthood v. 6

• 1. A priest forever According to Melchizedek v. 6

Hebrews 5:5–6 (NKJV)

5 So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: “You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.”

6 As He also says in another place: “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek”;

○ 1. Forever –

- Then Christ's priesthood is of a better order because in Psalm 110:4

Psalm 110:4 (NKJV)

4 The LORD has sworn And will not relent, “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.”

- God declared Him to be a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.
- This superiority will be explained more fully in chapter 7.
- The prominent thought here is that, unlike the Aaronic priesthood, this one is forever.
- This is an important contrast.
- Jesus' priesthood (like Melchizedek's) is unending, but no High Priest descended from Aaron ever had a forever priesthood.

Jesus Has A Perfected Priesthood vv. 7-9

• 1. When He had offered up prayers and supplications v. 7

Hebrews 5:7 (NKJV)

7 who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear,

○ **1. A Reference To The Garden**

▪ **1. The Garden of Gethsemane**

- Known for The agony of Jesus Suffered there (Matthew 26:36-39, Luke 22:44)
- This proved He struggled with the difficulty of obedience
 - Yet He obeyed perfectly.

▪ **2. Offered up Prayers and supplications:**

- The Greek word: Hiketeria.
- Means
 - An olive branch wrapped in wool” (Clarke) because that is what the ancient Greek worshipper held and waved to express their desperate prayer and desire.
- Significantly
 - This supplication of Jesus took place in a garden of olives – and He supplied the “wool,” being the Lamb of God.

▪ **3. And was heard because of His godly fear:**

- Jesus asked that the cup be taken away from Him (Luke 22:42)
 - Yet the cup was not taken away.

- His prayer was heard because
- His prayer was not to escape His Father's will
- But to accept it – and that prayer was definitely heard.

• **2. He learned obedience by the things which He suffered v. 8**

Hebrews 5:8 (NKJV)

8 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.

- **1. Though Jesus was God and is God, yet He learned obedience.**
 - Jesus did not learn how to obey
 - He learned what is involved in obedience.
 - Jesus learned the experience of obedience
 - And part of that learning was enduring suffering.

• **3. Having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation v. 9**

Hebrews 5:9 (NKJV)

9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,

- **Jesus' experience of suffering – and subsequent resurrection –**
 - Made Him perfectly suited to be the author (the source, the cause) of our salvation.
 - This cannot refer to His personal character because the Lord Jesus was absolutely perfect. His words, His works, and His ways were absolutely flawless.
 - In what sense then was He perfected?

- The answer is in His office as our Savior.
- He could never have become our perfect Savior if He had remained in heaven.
- But through His incarnation, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension, He completed the work that was necessary to save us from our sins, and now He has the acquired glory of being the perfect Savior of the world.

• **4. Application**

- What can we learn from Jesus' example of Obedience?
- **1. The Motivation For Obedience**
 - John 12 we see The Motivation For Obedience
 - Jesus gives an illustration of a seed falling to the ground and dying – in order to bear fruit
 - This was a direct reference to what He was about to do – die and be buried –
 - The result would be much fruit – the Church born
 - Now the very thought of this – DEATH
 - Troubled our Lord's heart – v. 27 My soul is troubled Father, save Me from this hour? But for this purpose I came to this hour
 - Jesus at that moment was wrestling in His Humanity with what He knows is the Father's will for His life
 - What does Jesus do – what does He say – How does He handle this struggle?

- v. 28 FATHER GLORIFY YOUR NAME –

John 12:28 (NKJV)

28 *Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, saying, “I have both glorified it and will glorify it again.”*

- For US

- Also illustration for our lives –

- Fruit bearing happens when we die to self and allow God to bury us in Him

- FATHER GLORIFY YOUR NAME

- This is our Motivation for Obedience

- Not my happiness
- Not my comfort
- Not my being glorified honored or esteemed that matters
- God’s Glory –

- **2. The Way Of Obedience**

Luke 22:42 (NKJV)

42 saying, *“Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”*

- He prays 3 times – vehement cries –

- Let this cup pass from Me but Not My will but Your will be done

- The Way Of Obedience is to surrender my will to His will –

- So that God can be glorified in and thru my life

- For Us

- YOUR WILL FOR MY LIFE – NO Matter what that is

- **3. The Reward Of Obedience**

Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV)

2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- He had His eyes on what His obedience would accomplish
- His Joy is you and me in the presence of God – cleansed

Jesus Has A Powerful Priesthood vv. 10-11

- **1. Called by God as High Priest “according to the order of Melchizedek” v. 10-11**

Hebrews 5:10–11 (NKJV)

*10 called by God as High Priest “according to the order of Melchizedek,”
11 of whom we have much to say, and hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.*

- **1. Called By God According to...**

- The Emphasis is Repeated.
- Jesus is a High Priest, who was called by God (not by personal ambition), according to the order of Melchizedek.
- He offered a Superior Sacrifice

- **2. Their dullness of hearing is exposed.**

- And hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.
- This explains why the writer didn't go deeper into the topic of Melchizedek right away.

Closing

- May we Give Thanks to Jesus – Our GREAT HIGH PRIEST