



PRESSING ON

TO MATURITY

A Study of the Book of Hebrews

**AND NOW, FOR
THE MAIN COURSE!**
HEBREWS 7:1-19

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Introduction: The Bible reminds us that our access to God requires an authorized priest who offers an acceptable sacrifice. Today the writer of Hebrews explains how Jesus Christ is the only Person who meets both of those requirements.

Hebrews 6:19-20 ¹⁹ “This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil, ²⁰ where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”

If A > B
A = C
C > B

If Melchizedek is greater than Aaron (the first of the Levitical priests)
and
Melchizedek is like Jesus
then
Jesus is greater than Aaron

I. **The Explanation of Melchizedek’s Superior Priesthood** (Hebrews 7:1-3)

Hebrews 7:1-3 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, 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. ³ Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, he abides a priest perpetually.”

A. Melchizedek's Superiority to Aaron

1. Characteristics of the Levitical Priesthood

- (a) Their qualification was **superficial**
- (b) Their authority was **restricted**
- (c) Their ministry was **narrow**
- (d) Their sacrifices were **temporary**
- (e) Their service was **limited**

2. Characteristics of Melchizedek's Priesthood

- (a) His qualification was **spiritual**
- (b) His authority was **unlimited**
- (c) His ministry was **broad**
- (d) His service was **unending**

II. The Authentication of Melchizedek's Superior Priesthood (Hebrews 7:4-10)

A. Melchizedek Collected **Tithes** from Abraham (Hebrews 7:4-6)

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

B. Melchizedek Blessed Abraham (Hebrews 7:7-10)

III. The Implication of Melchizedek's Superior Priesthood (Hebrews 7:11-19)

A. "If It Ain't Broke, Don't Fix It." (Hebrews 7:11)

Hebrews 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?"

B. "A New Broom Sweeps Clean." (Hebrews 7:12)

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

Hebrews 7:18-19 ¹⁸ "For, on the one hand, there is a setting aside of a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness, 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."

Conclusion