



PRESSING ON

TO MATURITY

A Study of the Book of Hebrews

WHO NEEDS A PRIEST?
HEBREWS 5:1-10

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Introduction: People from Protestant denominations often say, “I’m so glad I don’t have to go through a priest to get to God. I can come to Him anytime I want without a go-between.” But the truth is that we DO need a qualified priest to bridge the wide gulf between God and us, as we will discover today.

I. The Requirements Of The Priest Detailed (Hebrews 5:1-4)

A. Sacrifice for Sin (Hebrews 5:1)

Hebrews 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;”

B. Sympathizes with the People (Hebrews 5:2-3)

Hebrews 5:2-3 ² “He can deal gently with the ignorant and misguided, since he himself also is beset with weakness; ³ and because of it he is obligated to offer sacrifices for sins, as for the people, so also for himself.”

Numbers 15:28-30 ²⁸ “And the priest shall make atonement before the LORD for the person who goes astray when he sins unintentionally, making atonement for him that he may be forgiven. ²⁹ You shall have one law for him who does anything unintentionally, for him who is native among the sons of Israel and for the alien who sojourns among them. ³⁰ But the person who does anything defiantly, whether he is native or an alien, that one is blaspheming the LORD; and that person shall be cut off from among his people.”

C. **Selected by God** (Hebrews 5:4)

Hebrews 5:4 “And no one takes the honor to himself, but receives it when he is called by God, even as Aaron was.”

II. **The Requirements For The Priest Fulfilled In Christ** (Hebrews 5:5-10)

A. **Christ Was Selected by God** (Hebrews 5:5-6)

Hebrews 5:5 “So also Christ did not glorify Himself so as to become a high priest, but He who said to Him, ‘THOU ART MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN THEE.’”

Hebrews 5:6 “Just as He says also in another passage, ‘THOU ART A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK.’”

B. **Christ Sympathized with His People** (Hebrews 5:7-8)

1. **The scope of His suffering.**

2. **The intensity of His suffering.**

Hebrews 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.”

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

C. Christ Offered a **Sacrifice** for Sin (Hebrews 5:9-10)

Hebrews 5:9-10 ⁹ “And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation, ¹⁰ being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.”

Results of Christ's Superior Sacrifice

1. Christ's sacrifice resulted in Christ's “**perfection.**”
2. Christ's sacrifice resulted in our eternal **salvation.**

Conclusion