

WHAT the BIBLE TEACHES about GOD and JESUS CHRIST

Lesson 9 - Part 4

THE WORK OF JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ, a priest after the order of Melchizedek

1. Why is Jesus our great high priest?

- He was _____ by God.
- He _____ God in everything.
- He was _____ from among men.
- He was _____
- He knew _____

2. Jesus is our great high priest because:

- He was appointed by God.
- He obeyed God in everything.
- He was chosen from among men.
- He was tempted.
- He knew suffering.

In this lesson we want to learn that Jesus Christ was a priest after the order of Melchizedek.

To understand that Jesus Christ was a priest after the order of Melchizedek, we must first understand who was a priest in the order of Aaron.

PRIESTS	
in the order of Aaron	in the order of Melchizedek

Which is right:

- ____ Jesus Christ is a priest in the order of Melchizedek.
- ____ Jesus Christ is a priest in the order of Aaron.

3. Jesus Christ was a priest in the order of Melchizedek.

Let us review what we learned about the priests in the order of Aaron.

From which family did God choose priests?

What are the priests from the family of Aaron called?

4. God chose priests from the family of Aaron. They are called priests in the order of Aaron.

Now that we know about the priests in the order of Aaron, we want to know about a priest in the order of Melchizedek. We know very little about Melchizedek. Abraham had gone to set free Lot and the people of Sodom and Gomorrah from their enemies. On their way home, Melchizedek met him.



Genesis 14:18-20

Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram (Abraham) by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand. Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything."

Who was Melchizedek?

-
-

5. Melchizedek was king of Salem and a priest of God Most High. He was a king and a priest.

Hebrews 7:1

This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High (El Elyon). He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him.

Who was Melchizedek?

-
-

6. Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of the God Most High.

Hebrews 7:2

And Abraham gave him a tenth of everything. First, his name means "king of righteousness;" then also, "king of Salem" means "king of peace."



What does the name Melchizedek mean?

What does Salem mean?

7. Melchizedek means king of righteousness and Salem means peace. Jesus Christ was king of righteousness and peace.

Hebrews 7:3

Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever.

What do we know about Melchizedek's parents?

8. We do not know anything about his parents. His name is not in the list of names of priests. He was a priest, but not because his father was a

priest. Nor does the Bible say anything about him having a son to be priest after him.

Melchizedek blessed Abraham. A greater person blesses a person who is less important.

**Melchizedek
greater than Abraham
greater than Levi
greater than Aaron**

Hebrews 7:7
And without doubt the lesser person is blessed by the greater.

Who was greater? Melchizedek or Abraham?

9. Melchizedek was greater. Melchizedek blessed Abraham. Abraham gave Melchizedek one tenth of everything. Abraham thought Melchizedek was greater than himself.

Hebrews 7:4
Just think how great he was: Even the patriarch Abraham gave him a tenth of the plunder!

Who was greater - Melchizedek or Abraham?

10. Melchizedek was greater than Abraham. Melchizedek was also greater than the family of Aaron. Verse 4 says that Melchizedek remains a priest forever. The priests from the family of Aaron were people and people die. When one priest died, another priest had to take his place.

Hebrews 7:23
Now there were many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office.

Aaron	Melchizedek
died	lives
Sons	forever
died	
Sons	
died	

Hebrews 7:23 (N.L.B.)
There had to be many religious leaders during the time of the Old Way of Worship. They died and others had to keep on in their work.

Why did the priests from the family of Aaron have to be replaced?

11. The priests from the family of Aaron had to be replaced because the priests died. Melchizedek remained a priest forever.

Who is greater - Melchizedek or the priests from the family of Aaron?

12. Melchizedek is greater than the priests from the family of Aaron.

Read these verses and write down what Jesus is called.

Hebrews 5:6

Hebrews 5:10

Hebrews 6:20

Hebrews 7:17

13. In all these verses it says that Jesus is a priest in the order of Melchizedek. Let us see in what way Jesus is like Melchizedek and different than the priests in the order of Aaron.



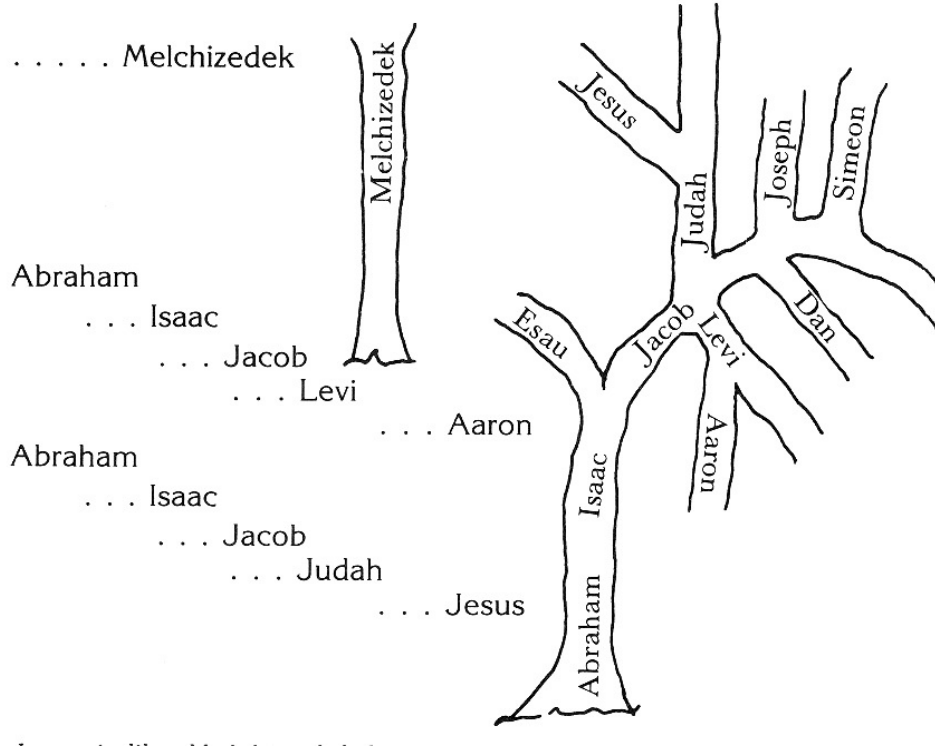
The priests in the order of Aaron came from the tribe of Levi. Jesus came from the tribe of Judah.

Jesus is like Melchizedek because He is not from the tribe of Levi.

Hebrews 7:13,14

He of whom these things are said belonged to a different tribe, and no one from that tribe has ever served at the altar. For it is clear that our

Lord descended from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.



In what way is Jesus like Melchizedek?

Melchizedek	Jesus
not from	from
tribe of	tribe
Levi	of Judah

14. Jesus and Melchizedek did not come from the tribe of Levi. Jesus did not become a priest because his father was a priest. He became a priest because of the power of a life that never ends. Jesus and Melchizedek are both called “priests forever.”

Melchizedek	Jesus
priest forever	priest forever

Hebrews 7:16,17

One who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his

ancestry but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life. For it is declared: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

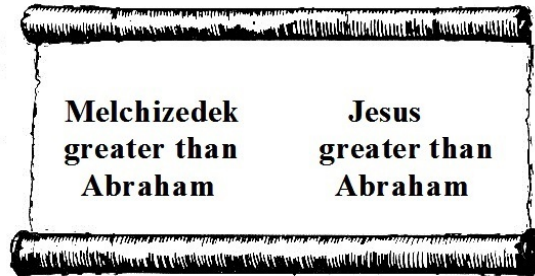
Hebrews 7:16,17 (N.L.B.)

Christ did not become a Religious Leader by coming from the family group of Levi as the Law said had to be. He became the Religious Leader by the power of a life that never ends. The Holy Writings say this about Christ, "You are a Religious Leader forever like Melchizedek."

In what way are Jesus and Melchizedek alike?

15. They are both called "priest forever".

Melchizedek is greater than Abraham. Melchizedek is greater than the priests of the family of Aaron. Jesus is greater than Abraham.



John 8:58

"I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!"

In what way are Jesus and Melchizedek alike?

16. They are both greater than Abraham. Melchizedek and Jesus are alike in that:

- They did not come from the tribe of Levi.
- They are called "priest forever."
- They are greater than Abraham.
- They are priests and also kings of righteousness and peace.

Melchizedek was a king of righteousness and peace, (Hebrews 7:2).
Isaiah 11:4-9 talks about Jesus Christ as a king of righteousness.
Zechariah 6:9-15 says, "He will be a priest on his throne" (verse 13).

Acts 2:34,35

For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, "The Lord said to my Lord: 'Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.'"

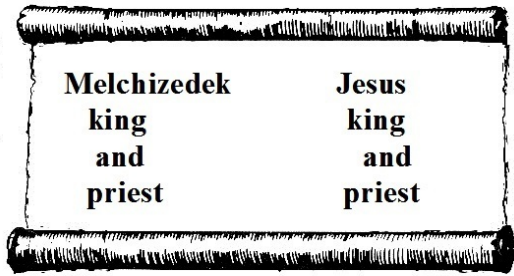
1 Timothy 1:16,17

But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Who is called king?

17. Jesus Christ is called king.

Because Jesus is a priest forever,
He is able to help us.



Hebrews 7:25

Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

What can Jesus do for us?

18. Jesus can intercede for us. This means He prays for us. He is the great High Priest who stands between a holy God and sinful people and prays for them.

19. Jesus is a priest in the order of

In what ways are Jesus and Melchizedek alike?

- They are not from the
- They are called

- They are greater than
- They are

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