

HEBREWS 7:1-19 – We Draw Near.

I. (1-10) Melchizedek - [Genesis 14:18-20](#).

After Abraham defeated the confederation of kings who took his nephew Lot captive, he met with a mysterious **priest** named **Melchizedek**, who was also **king** over the city of **Salem** (an ancient name for the city of Jeru-*salem*).

God did not allow the kings of Israel to be priests and the priests to be kings. **Melchizedek**, who was **king of Salem** and **priest of the Most High God** is an unique exception.

Melchizedek blessed Abraham, and Abraham gave Melchizedek a tithe, which is a **tenth part of all**. He has no **father** or **mother**, no **beginning of days nor end of life**. He has *Jesus'* kind of priesthood.

The priesthood of Levi received tithes from Israel as a **commandment**. Abraham *voluntarily* gave tithes to Melchizedek. This makes Abraham's *giving* to Melchizedek greater than Israel's *payment* of tithes to the priesthood instituted by Moses.

This also means Melchizedek is in a position of authority over Abraham and his descendant Levi. (The lesser tithes to the greater and the lesser is blessed by the greater).

II. ([11](#)-20) A Greater Priesthood – We draw near

If **perfection** could come **through the Levitical priesthood**, there would be no need for another priesthood, there would be no reason for the Cross and the resurrection.

Since the OT priesthood wasn't perfect, as failure to keep it meant separation from the community and God, there was need for a Perfect Priesthood, one that would make the people perfect and drawn to God.

God would never introduce a new priesthood if it were not necessary, and He would never introduce an inferior priesthood.

The mere mention of *the order of Melchizedek* shows that God wanted the priesthood to be **changed**. Under the Law of Moses, priests couldn't be kings and vice versa. God strictly commanded that only those from the family of Aaron could serve **at the altar** in sacrifice.

Jesus is obviously not from the family of Aaron, He was from **Judah** (the tribe of the Kings). Jesus could never be a priest. If He is our High Priest, it must be under another, better principle – according the power of an endless life.

The Levitical priesthood was imperfect, weak and unprofitable...

Galatians 3:24 - *Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.*

The law presents God's perfect standard, but it does not give the power to keep that standard.

Since now, in Jesus, we have a **better hope, through which we draw near to God**, we are wrong to go back to building our Christian walk on the law. Therefore the law is “annulled” or set aside in the sense that it no longer is the dominating principle of our life, especially of our relationship with God.

Jeremiah 30:21 - *Their nobles shall be from among them, and their governor shall come from their midst; then I will cause him to draw near, and he shall approach Me; for who is this who pledged his heart to approach Me?' says the LORD.*

Psalms 73:27-28 - *For indeed, those who are far from You shall perish; you have destroyed all those who desert You for harlotry. But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all Your works.*

Luke 15:1 - *Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him.*

John 6:44 - *“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.*

Hebrews 10:19-22 - *Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.*