

Please turn to HEBREWS 7

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¹For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, ² and to him Abraham apportioned a tenth part of everything.



He is first, by translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then he is also king of Salem, that is, king of peace.

³ He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever.

⁴See how great this man was to whom Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth of the spoils! ⁵ And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to take tithes from the people,

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that is, from their brothers, though these also are descended from Abraham. ⁶ But this man who does not have his descent from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises.

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⁷ It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior.

⁸ In the one case tithes are received by mortal men, but in the other case, by one of whom it is testified that he lives.



⁹One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron?

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For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well.

For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe,



from which no one has ever served at the altar. ¹⁴ For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.



This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, who has become a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent,



but by the power of an indestructible life. ¹⁷ For it is witnessed of him, "You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

¹⁸ For on the one hand, a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness ¹⁹ (for the law made nothing perfect); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.

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And it was not without an oath. For those who formerly became priests were made such without an oath, ²¹ but this one was made a priest with an oath by the one who said to him:

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"The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, 'You are a priest forever."

²²This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant.

²³ The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, ²⁴ but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever.

²⁵Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

²⁶ For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests,



to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself.

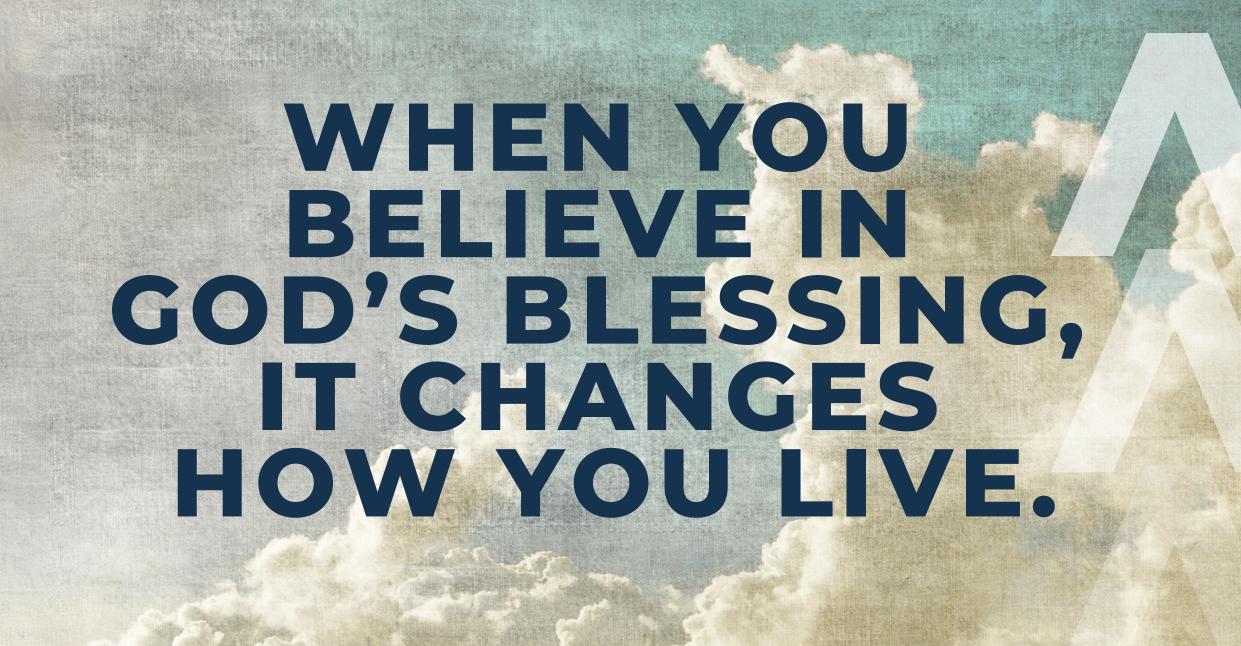
²⁸ For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.



Now the point of what I have been saying is this: We have a High Priest who sat down in the place of honor beside the throne of the majestic God in heaven. ² There he ministers in the heavenly Tabernacle, the true place of worship that was built by the Lord...



HEBREWS 8:1-2



For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him...

²these kings made war with... and defeated the Rephaim...

and the Horites ... Then they turned back... and defeated the Amalekites, and also the Amorites... Then the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah... went out, and they joined battle.

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GENESIS 14

¹⁰ and... the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled... ¹¹ So the enemy took all the possessions of Sodom and Gomorrah, and all their provisions, and went their way. ¹² They also took Lot, the son of Abram's brother, who was dwelling in Sodom, and his possessions, and went their way.

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HEBREWS 14:10-12



¹So Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had, and Lot with him...

²Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold.

⁵And Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents, ⁶so that the land could not support both of them dwelling together; for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together,

⁷ and there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. ⁸Then Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herdsmen and my herdsmen, for we are kinsmen.

⁹ Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right, or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left."

¹⁰ And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw that the Jordan Valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the Lord...



ZINGER#1: ECONOMICS VS TRUSTING GOD

Have you, like Lot, been making decisions without trusting God's promises based on economics?



ZINGER #2

How different would our lives and decisions be if we TRULY lived out that we believed God's blessing was the key?



When Abram heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men...
318 of them, and went in pursuit...
And he divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants,

and defeated them and pursued them.

Then he brought
back all the possessions,
and also brought back his
kinsman Lot with his possessions,
and the women and the people. And the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give me the persons, but take the goods for yourself."

But Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have lifted my hand to the Lord, God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth,

that I would not take a thread or a sandal strap or anything that is yours, lest you should say, 'I have made Abram rich.'

24 I will take nothing..."

ZINGER #2a

Because Abraham believed God's blessing was the key, he lived generously and trusted God to sustain.





ZINGER #3

Some of us have been getting spanked and disciplined... and we're not learning the lessons.



¹⁸ And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) ¹⁹ And he blessed him and said,

"Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!"
And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.



The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

¹For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, ^{2a} and to him Abraham apportioned a tenth part of everything.

³ He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever.

⁴See how great this man was to whom Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth of the spoils!

It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior.



ZINGER#4

Pride check.



Are you going to learn to trust me, to live at peace, to treat people the way I want you to?



Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood... what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron?

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HEBREWS 7

For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well.

¹⁶ [Jesus] has become a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent, but by the power of an indestructible life.

¹⁷ For it is witnessed of him, "You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

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HEBREWS 7

This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant. ...he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever.

²⁵Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

²⁸ For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

18 ...a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness (for the law made nothing perfect); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God. Now the point of what I have been saying is this: We have a High Priest who sat down in the place of honor beside the throne of the majestic God in heaven. ² There he ministers in the heavenly Tabernacle, the true place of worship that was built by the Lord...



HEBREWS 8:1-2

ZINGERS:

1. Have you been making decisions based on economics vs. trusting God?

2. Where is God calling you to trust Him in this season?



ZINGERS:

3. Do you keep repeating same mistakes? What lesson is it time for you to learn?

4. Does your pride smell bad to others?



ZINGER #5

Are you still trying to please God the old way?





- 1. Where am I making decisions based on economics vs. trust in God's provision?
- 2. Where is God calling me to trust Him today?
- 3. Where am I *NOT* learning the lessons?
- 4. Does pride make you smell bad?
- 5. Do you get the wonder of the sacrifice gaining us access, and our "Greater Than" High Priest interceding for us?



