

Jesus Our Great High Priest
An Exposition of the Book of Hebrews

A Perfect High Priest
Lesson 9
Hebrews 7:11-28

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
February 26, 2017

Message of Hebrews

- ▶ Jesus Christ, High Priest of the Order of Melchizedek
 - Hebrews 5:9-11; 8:1
- ▶ Exhortation to draw near and hold fast
 - Hebrews 13:22; 10:19-23

Outline of Hebrews

1. Introduction (1:1-4)
2. Jesus Christ, God/Man (1:5-2:18)*
3. Jesus Christ, Apostle of our confession (3:1-4:13)*
4. Jesus Christ, High Priest of our confession (4:14-8:6)*
5. Jesus Christ, Mediator of a new covenant (8:7-10:18)
6. Jesus Christ, Author of a new and better way (10:19-13:19)**
7. The Benediction (13:20-25)

*5 pauses to warn and exhort

(2:1-4; 3:7-4:13; 5:11- 6:20; 10:26-39; 12:25-29)

Review

- ▶ The Son of God is God and man (1-2)
 - Do not drift away (2:1)
- ▶ The Son of God is the Apostle of our faith (3-4)
 - Do not fall away through unbelief (3:12)
- ▶ The Son of God is High Priest of the order of Melchizedek (5-7)
- ▶ Third pause
 - Warning (5:11-6:8)
 - You have become sluggish (slow to hear) (5:11)
 - Some have fallen away (6:4-6)
 - Exhortation and encouragement (6:9-12)
 - Exhortation to be diligent imitators of those who inherit the promises
 - Confidence in God's word/promise + His oath

Certainty of the Promises (6:13-20)

- ▶ Promises:
 - Purification of sins (1:2)
 - Bringing many sons to glory (2:10)
 - Deliver from death and the power of the devil (2:14-15)
 - Enter the rest (4:1)
 - Eternal salvation (5:9)
- ▶ The word and oath of God to Abraham
- ▶ The anchor of the soul – Jesus the Great High Priest

The Order of Melchizedek (7:1-28)

- ▶ The history (Genesis 14:17-20)
 - King of Salem – Jerusalem (Ps 76:2)
 - Priest of the Most High God
 - Blessed Abraham – “the lesser is blessed by the greater”
 - Abraham gave him a tenth of all
 - No human parents – no genealogy
 - No birth and no death
- ▶ Superior to Abraham and the Levitical priesthood
 - Tithing
 - Blessing
 - Perpetual priesthood
 - Abraham represented Levi and the priesthood

A Perfect High Priest (7:11-28)

- ▶ A superior priesthood (7:11-19)
- ▶ A superior guarantee of a better covenant (7:20-22)
- ▶ A permanent priesthood (7:23-25)
- ▶ A perfect priesthood (7:26-28)

A Superior Priesthood (7:11-19)

- ▶ What is perfection?
 - To be complete or whole – without blemish; fulness
- ▶ God is perfect (Deut 32:3-4)
- ▶ We must be perfect
 - Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect (Matt 5:48)
 - Leave everything and follow Christ (Matt 19:16, 21)
 - Partial in this lifetime (1 Cor 13:10)
 - The will of God (Rom 12:2)
- ▶ The failure of the Levitical priesthood (7:11, 19)
- ▶ The Melchizedek priesthood needed and provided (7:11)
 - Made perfect by one sacrifice (10:14)
- ▶ “Weak and useless” v. “a better hope” (6:19-20; 7:18-19)

A Superior Guarantor (7:20-22)

- ▶ The oath of God
 - The promise to Abraham (Gen 22:15-18; Num 14:16-19)
 - The promise of the Melchizedek priesthood (Psalm 110:4)
- ▶ The immutability of God
- ▶ Christ guarantees a “better covenant”

A Permanent Priesthood (7:23-25)

- ▶ Levitical priesthood – limited by death
- ▶ Melchizedek High Priest lives forever – permanent
- ▶ Melchizedek saves “to the uttermost” (forever) (7:25)
 - One sacrifice for for all time (7:28; 9:12, 28; 10:10)
 - “Always lives to make intercession for them”
- ▶ The “double guarantee” of God’s promise and oath
 - The plan of salvation – draw near to God through Christ
 - The performance of salvation – Melchizedek priesthood

A Perfect Priesthood (7:26-28)

- ▶ It was fitting – “wonderful”
- ▶ Holy
- ▶ Harmless
- ▶ undefiled
- ▶ Separate from sinners
- ▶ Exalted above the heavens
- ▶ Made perfect forever (7:28)

A PERFECT HIGH PRIEST

- ▶ "We have such a high priest" (8:1)
- ▶ A more excellent ministry (8:6)
- ▶ A guaranteed salvation – perfection
- ▶ A perfect High Priest – “. . . always lives to make intercession for us.”