

DISCUSSION IDEAS
JESUS IS OUR HIGH PRIEST

Hebrews 4:14 to 5:10

Mar. 15th, 2015

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Why should I care about the Jewish Religious system?

What does the idea of a Priest have to do with me?

1. In order to understand what God in His love has done for us, let us look at the description of a priest given in Hebrews.
2. Who were the readers of Hebrews?
What had they been taught about becoming acceptable to God?
Where had this teaching come from?
What did Jesus say in Matt. 5:17 about the Law given through Moses?
3. So, what is the challenge?
Answer this by what you read in Heb. 4:14 to 5:10.

- ♦ **DISCUSSION POINT ONE: DESCRIBE A PRIEST UNDER THE LAW BY WHAT IS WRITTEN IN HEB. 4:1-4.**

Why did he have to be a human?

What was his role?

How did he get to be a priest – did He earn the job? Look at verse 4.

Was he a perfect man? Consider verse 3.

The Day of Atonement was a special day for forgiveness of sin. How were sins dealt with on that day? (Leviticus 16:1-25 gives the details.)

- ♦ **DISCUSSION POINT TWO: REMEMBER THE EXALTATION AND CORONATION OF JESUS?**

Look at Heb. 1:3-4. Jesus sat down in the position of glory and power after what?

Remember what we studied about Heb. 1:5? What did these statements indicate about Jesus' Title?

Compare Heb. 5:5. How did Jesus get to be King?

Now look at 5:6. What additional role and title was given to Jesus? And Who gave Him the right to this title?

Clarification: "the order of Melchizedek"

(Pronounce that "Mel-kiz-eh-dek")

Remember, in Genesis 14, that Abram stopped at Jerusalem on his way south from delivering Lot from the armies that had captured him. There Abram gave 1/10th of his battle spoils to the king on that city. This king, Melchizedek, was **BOTH a King and a Priest** of God! Also important to Jewish thinking, this was long before Aaron was made

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High Priest, so this King/Priest had nothing to do with the official Jewish inherited priesthood.

From all this, what is the significance of saying the Jesus was a priest after the order of Melchizedek?

♦ **DISCUSSION POINT THREE: JESUS HAD TO ENDURE AND OBEY THROUGH GREAT SUFFERING (5:7-10)**

Read Heb. 5:7-10.

In verse 7, try to visualize what is said about Jesus. Compare Matt. 26:36-39.

Remember, in addition to being God, Jesus is a real human!

He has real emotions!

How does that help you trust Him?

What is the point of Heb. 5:2?

How does Jesus' humanity qualify Him to be our High Priest?

Now, in verses 8 and 9, Jesus "learned obedience" and was "made perfect".

Can a person really learn something like obedience without experiencing it?

Is head knowledge enough? Remember, Jesus is a REAL human.

In the New Testament, the word "perfect" is different from our English meaning. It has the meaning of "to complete" or "to finish".

In what ways was Jesus' role completed, or finished?

How did learning obedience and completing His task qualify Jesus to be our High Priest?

[PERSONAL REFLECTION is on next page]

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♦ **PERSONAL REFLECTION:**

Spend some time this week thinking about how amazing Jesus is.

Read Psalm 110, keeping in mind that wherever the word "LORD" (in all capital letters) occurs, it is translating the great Name of God the Father, "Yahweh".

Wherever the word "Lord" (using lower case letters) occurs, it is translating the Hebrew word "Adonai", meaning "Master" or "Lord".

In this Psalm, "Lord" is referring to the Messiah (who we now know is Jesus).

Read Heb. 4:14-16.

How can I have confidence to enter into God's presence, to His Throne of Grace?

If I want God's help and comfort, what has to happen to my "American Individualism"? To "taking care of Number One"?

How do I work on patterns in my life which hinder this confidence?