



“Our Great High Priest”

Hebrews 7

9/20/2009

***Sermon Exploration:**

This week Pastor Steve dealt with the entire 7th chapter of Hebrews. The focus of the message was on our great High Priest – Jesus. In dealing with this theme the writer of Hebrews compares Jesus to Melchizedek. The challenge is to identify who Melchizedek was and how the priesthood of Jesus and Melchizedek are similar.

LifeGroup Discussion

→ **Introduction...** This week the writer of Hebrews refers to a little known character in the Bible; his name is Melchizedek. I wish we had more information about him as it might help in our discussion. We'll get to him in a minute but first...

→ **Open it...**

1. If you could sit down for dinner or a Starbucks' coffee with one or two of the lesser known characters in the Bible and talk to them – who would they be and what would you want to know?
2. How would you react if you found yourself alone in an elevator with Melchizedek? You know it's him because of his name tag. What would you do, and what would you say if anything?

→ **Explore it...**

Let's read chapter 7 of the book of Hebrews slowly and while we do that I want you to be thinking about a couple of key questions – What do we learn about “M” in these verses? What do we learn about Jesus in these verses?

○ **Read Hebrews 7:1-28**

1. What do we learn about “M” in these verses?
2. In what ways is Jesus like Melchizedek?
3. What does it mean to you that Christ, like Melchizedek, is both a great king and priest?
4. According to verse 11 and others, why did a new priest from the “order of Melchizedek” come along to replace the order of Aaron?
5. Let's look again at verses 15-16; on what basis did Christ become a priest?
6. According to verses 18-19 why is the new covenant superior to the old covenant of the Law?
7. Put yourself in the shoes of a new Jewish believer who is hearing this message for the first time. What would be hard to accept and what would sound freeing to you?
8. Verses 23-28 tell us a lot about Jesus' priesthood and what He does for the believer. Let's read vs. 23-28 again.
 - How is Jesus different than other earthly priests the people had known?
 - What does Jesus do for those who come to God through Him and how?

➔ ***Apply it...***

As you think back on this passage...

1. How does it make you feel to know that Christ is your perfect High Priest and intercedes for you before God?
2. In what way can Christ's priesthood give us confidence to draw near to God?
3. How can you honor Christ as your High Priest in this coming week?

➔ ***Suggested assignments for the week...***

- ***Take some time this week to read ahead. Read Chapter 8 several times to get a feel for the major themes and issues that it addresses next.***

Personal Ah Ha's!! What was one thing that really hit you from this week's message? What is one way you can apply the message from this week to your life?

