

The Power of an Indestructible Life

Central theme = the superiority of Christ

"(v.1) This Melchizedek was king of the city of Salem and also a priest of God Most High. When Abraham was returning home after winning a great battle against many kings, Melchizedek met him and blessed him. (v.2) Then Abraham took a tenth of all he had won in the battle and gave it to Melchizedek. His name means "king of justice." He is also "king of peace" because Salem means "peace." (v.3) There is no record of his father or mother or any of his ancestors—no beginning or end to his life. He remains a priest forever, resembling the Son of God.

(v.4) Consider then how great this Melchizedek was. Even Abraham, the great patriarch of Israel, recognized how great Melchizedek was by giving him a tenth of what he had taken in battle. (v.5) Now the priest, who are descendants of Levi, are commanded in the law of Moses to collect a tithe from all the people, even though they are their own relatives. (v.6) But Melchizedek, who was not even related to Levi, collected a tenth from Abraham. And Melchizedek placed a blessing upon Abraham, the one who had already received the promises of God. (v.7) And without question, the person who has the power to bless is always greater than the person who is blessed.

(v.11) And finally, if the priesthood of Levi could have achieved God's purposes—and it was that priesthood on which the law was based—why did God need to send a different priest from the line of Melchizedek, instead of from the line of Levi and Aaron?

(v.15) The change in God's law is even more evident from the fact that a different priest, who is like Melchizedek, has now come. (v.16) He became a priest, not by meeting the old requirement of belonging to the tribe of Levi, but by the power of a life that cannot be destroyed. (v.17) And the psalmist pointed this out when he said of Christ,

"You are a priest forever in the line of Melchizedek."

(v.18) Yes, the old requirement about the priesthood was set aside because it was weak and useless. (v.19) For the law made nothing perfect, and now a better hope has taken its place. And that is how we draw near to God. (v.20) God took an oath that Christ would always be a priest, but he never did this for any other priest. (v.21) Only to Jesus did he say,

The Lord has taken an oath and will not break his vow:

'You are a priest forever.'

(v.22) Because of God's oath, it is Jesus who guarantees the effectiveness of this better covenant."

Hebrews 7:1-7, 11, 15-22 (New Living Translation)

➤ god is the god of relationship

God has created,

spoken,

acted,

maintained our relationship
with Him.

Hebrews is lasting relational theology, as is true at the core of all theology.
At the heart of scripture you find living words—lives!

Notice:

➤ God has brought to us this lasting relationship through Christ.

v.11—"perfection"

v.19—"the better hope "

v.22—"the better covenant"

➤ God has secured our relationship through Christ who is the "guarantor".
(v.22)

➤ God has/is maintaining our relationship through an "intercessor" one who is
constantly interceding for us. (v.20)

➤ God has consistently expressed his desire to meet our deepest needs for

holiness,

forgiveness,

future deliverance.
(v. 25)

How is your relationship with God today?
Ready to share it with another