

## What is a Priest to Do?

Hebrews declares that God is relational—loves people!  
Hebrews explains the degree to which God goes to reach us!

***"What are people that you should think about them, mere mortals that you should care for them?"—Psalm 8:4***

1-Humanity created by God with amazing dignity

2-Endowed with knowledge, but chooses destruction!

3- ***"What we do see is deity," who 'for a little while was made lower than angels' and now is 'crowned with glory and honor' because he suffered death for us."***—Hebrews 2:9a

Jesus became like us!

***"Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God."***—Hebrews 2:17a

"Like us" means . . . diaper changes, learning to walk, talk, playing in the street, having pimples, perhaps being tone deaf, having a crush on a girl, feeling weak, getting tired, dealing with parents, colds, homework, body odor, getting his feelings hurt, being misunderstood.

"Like us" means Jesus experienced growing up,  
parents,  
arguments,  
disagreements.

Jesus understands our weaknesses!

***"This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all the same testings we do yet he did not sin. So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy and we will find grace to help us when we need it most."***—Hebrews 4:15-16

Wow—we receive mercy and grace when we most need it!

"Jesus became a priest, **not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life.**"—Hebrews 7:16

The animal sacrifices had to be **repeated**, and they offered only temporary **forgiveness**; but Christ's sacrifice was offered once, and it offers total and permanent forgiveness!

This means that no minister, pastor, leader, or Christian friend can substitute for Christ's work and for his role in our salvation.

It also means that whenever in the long history of the church new reforms have broken the encrusted custom of lifeless leaders, it has been because someone has had a fresh encounter with Jesus. Whenever new life renovates the church, Jesus is **alive** and at work.

"Such a high priest meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself."—

Hebrews 7:26-27

This means that there is only one permanent, perfect, powerful, and persuasive High Priest for humanity—**Jesus** the **Christ!**

**ONE** last thing—Jesus calls **US** to be a part of His priesthood . . . "a holy priesthood" . . . "a royal priesthood. . . offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."—I Peter 2:5,9

**This  
Priesthood  
is Christ's—he is the leader.**

**It is NOT an Old Testament repeat.**

**We do the work to which Christ has called us.**

"For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again."—II Corinthians

5:14-15

Build your relationship with Christ!  
Join His team of priests!

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