



# HEBREWS

JESUS IS GREATER

<sup>11</sup> Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron?<sup>12</sup> For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well.<sup>13</sup> For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar.<sup>14</sup> For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.

Hebrews 7:11-19



<sup>15</sup>This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, <sup>16</sup>who has become a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent, but by the power of an indestructible life. <sup>17</sup>For it is witnessed of him, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>18</sup>For on the one hand, a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness <sup>19</sup>(for the law made nothing perfect); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.

Hebrews 7:11-19



# The Greater Priest

Hebrews 7:11-19

JESUS IS GREATER



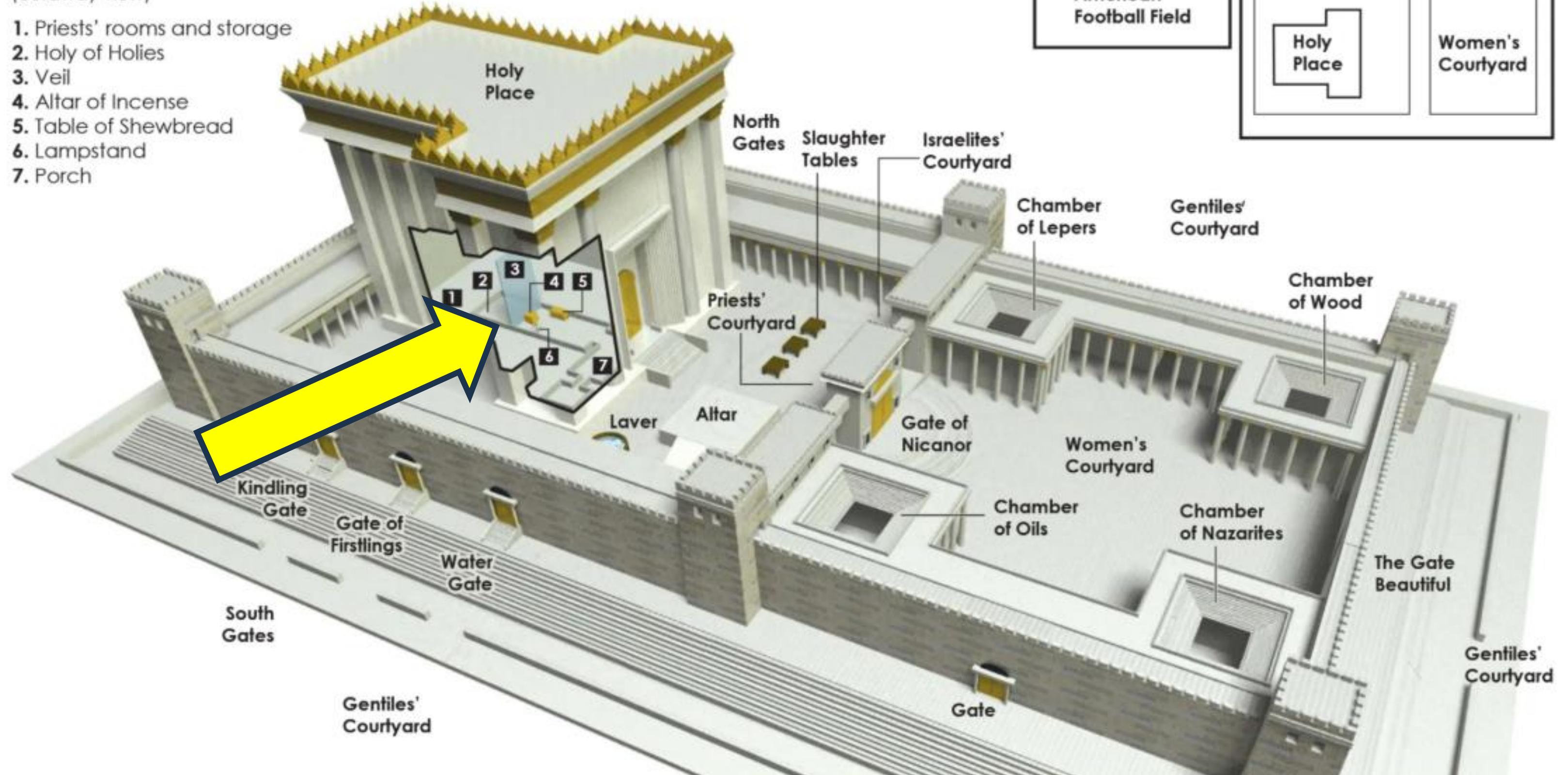
# THE JERUSALEM TEMPLE OF JESUS AND THE APOSTLES' TIME



## INSIDE THE HOLY PLACE

(cutaway view)

1. Priests' rooms and storage
2. Holy of Holies
3. Veil
4. Altar of Incense
5. Table of Shewbread
6. Lampstand
7. Porch



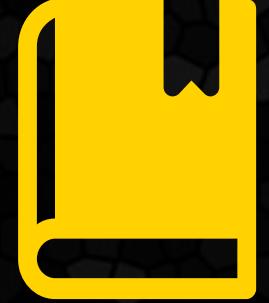
# LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD



<sup>18</sup> and I have taken the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the people of Israel.<sup>19</sup> And I have given the Levites as a gift to Aaron and his sons from among the people of Israel, to do the service for the people of Israel at the tent of meeting and to make atonement for the people of Israel, that there may be no plague among the people of Israel when the people of Israel come near the sanctuary.”

Numbers 8:18-19

# THE ROLE OF THE LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD

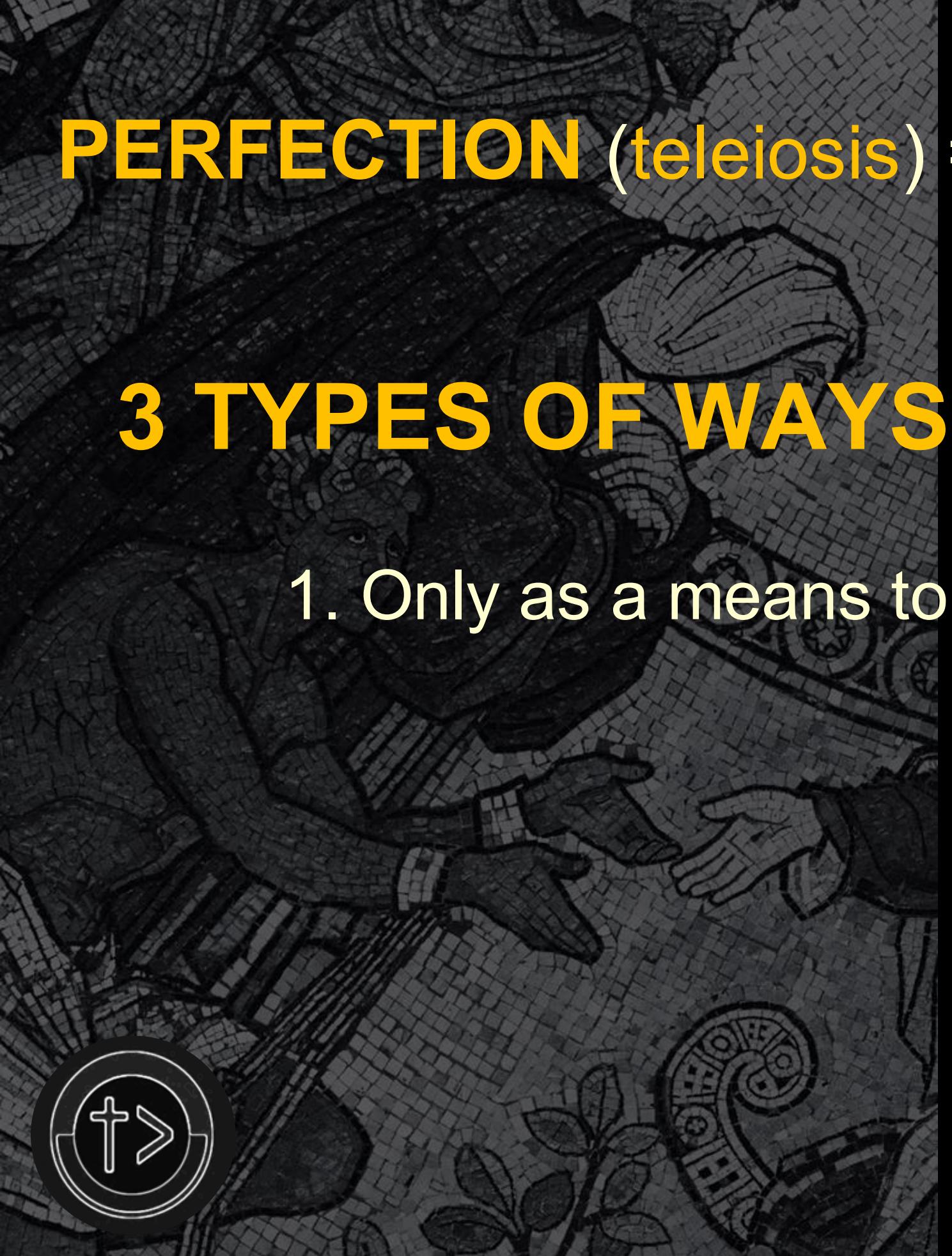


- Lineage of Aaron
- Tribe of Levi (only tribe set aside for priestly duties)
- Instituted by God
- Consecrations rituals included strict 7-day process, in holy garments, anointed with oil
- Physically whole and without defects (could not have any blemishes)
- Set apart to represent the people before God, offer sacrifices, and enter the holy of holies on the Day of Atonement
- Only the High Priest was allowed to enter the holy of holies, behind the veil to stand before God
- High Priest made sacrifice once a year for himself and the people. Sprinkled blood from the sacrifice on the mercy seat

<sup>11</sup> Now if **PERFECTION** had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron?

Hebrews 7:11





**PERFECTION** (teleiosis) =

completion, access to God, drawing near to God

## **3 TYPES OF WAYS PEOPLE VIEW CHRISTIANITY**

1. Only as a means to salvation and personal happiness

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2. A continuing, growing relationship to God through study and obedience of His Word



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## **3 TYPES OF WAYS PEOPLE VIEW CHRISTIANITY**

1. Only as a means to salvation and personal happiness
2. A continuing, growing relationship to God through study and obedience of His Word
3. But the key to the Christian life (Christ-follower) is drawing near to God

“vs. 11 - for on the basis of it the people received the Law...”

In the Old Testament there were 613 total commandments including the 10 commandments

- 365 – Do not commandments
- 248 – Do commandments

“vs. 11 - what further need was there for another priest to arise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be designated according to the order of Aaron?”

In Aaron's Levitical priesthood, only one man could be in the presence of God. The veil was always there separating man from God.

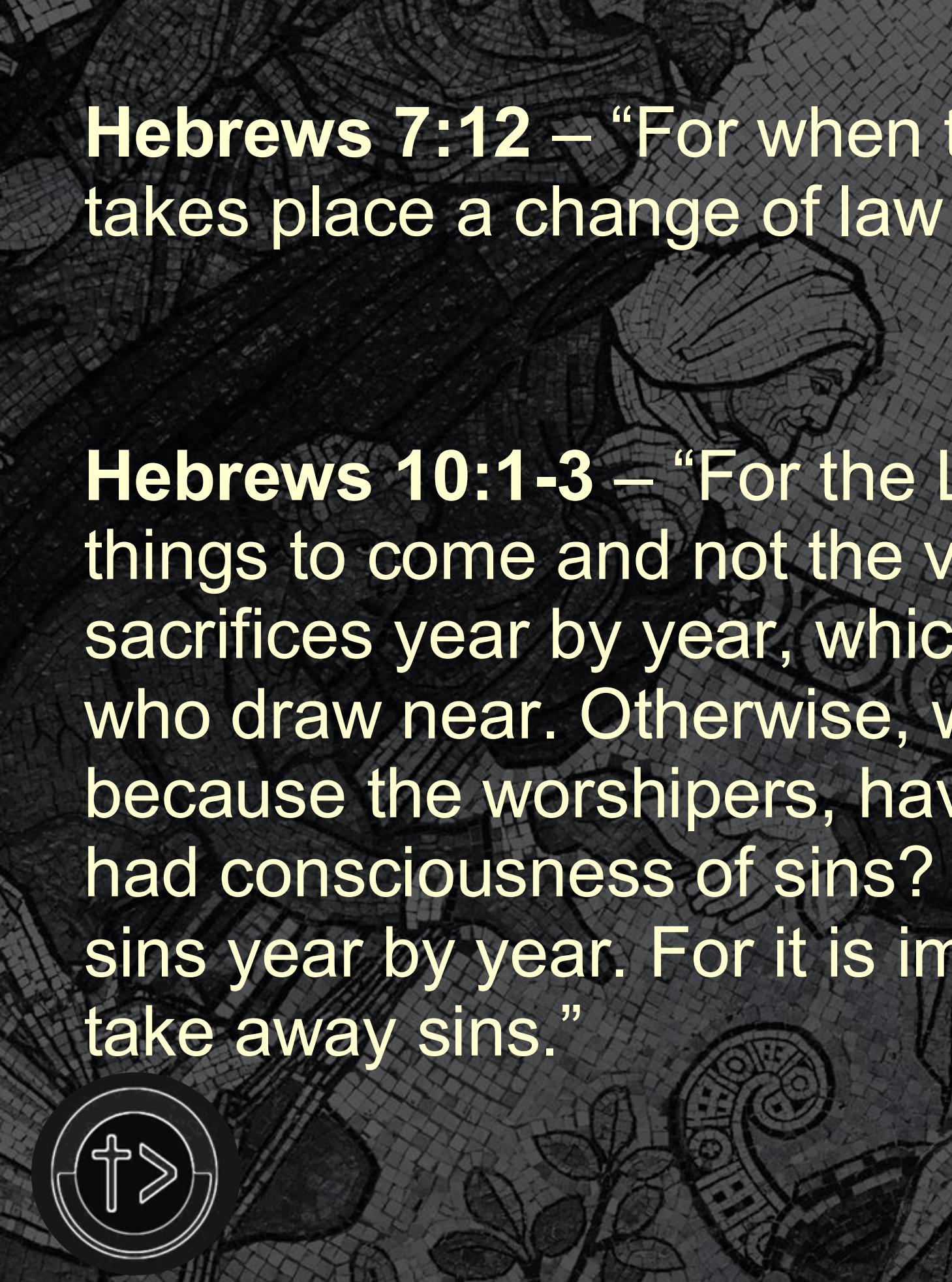
God's intent was to point to another priesthood coming. A Greater Priesthood!



“The Lord has sworn  
and will not change his mind,  
“You are a priest forever  
after the order of Melchizedek.”

PSALM 110:4





**Hebrews 7:12** – “For when the priesthood is **changed**, of necessity there takes place a change of law also.”

**Metatithemi** – one thing in place of another

**Hebrews 10:1-3** – “For the Law, since it has only a shadow of the good things to come and not the very form of things, can never by the same sacrifices year by year, which they offer continually, make perfect those who draw near. Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, because the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have had consciousness of sins? But in those sacrifices, there is a reminder of sins year by year. For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.”





**Hebrews 7:13-14 –**  
“For the one concerning whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests.”





**Hebrews 7:15-17** – 15“And this is clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek, 16 Who has become such not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life. 17 For it is witnessed of Him, “Thou art a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” ”

**anistemi** – arises by himself



**Hebrews 7:15-17** – 15“And this is clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek, 16 Who has become such not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life. 17 For it is witnessed of Him, “Thou art a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” ”

**anistemi** – arises by himself

This word signifies three things:

Virgin birth

No ancestry

Jesus’ resurrection



**Hebrews 7:18-19** – <sup>18</sup>“For, on the one hand, there is a setting aside of a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness <sup>19</sup> (for the Law made nothing perfect), and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, **through which we draw near to God.**

**This is the key point of Hebrews 7:11-19**

God has provided a way through the **Greater Priest**, Jesus, to draw near to Him!



“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.”

JOHN 14:6



# The Greater Priest

Hebrews 7:11-19

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