

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Living out the gospel with
one another in our homes

Date: 09/24/23

Sermon: Ted Rastatter / To the Uttermost

Text: Hebrews 7

Notes/Questions: Ted Rastatter

The central message of the book of Hebrews is the supremacy of Jesus. Specifically, the superiority of his priesthood. The writer is countering an important objection; namely, that Jesus isn't qualified to serve as a priest because he didn't have the right genealogy (13-14). To counter that objection he introduces a shadowy figure named Melchizedek from Genesis 14 and Psalm 110 to show biblical precedent and prophecy for the Messiah's priesthood and the better hope that comes from trusting him.

Discussion:

1. What do verses 1-3 tell us about how Melchizedek resembles the Son of God?
2. Have a couple people give a refresher on the Patriarchs of Judaism. Who is Abraham? Who is Levi? Who is Aaron?
3. The thrust of the argument in verses 4-10 is to show the superiority of Melchizedek's priesthood. Why is this important to the overall argument? Why would this be important to know if we have the opportunity to witness to Jews today?
4. Vs. 11 says *perfection* (wholeness, completeness) was not attainable through the Law and the Levitical priesthood. Why was it lacking? Vs. 23 gives us a major reason.
5. On what basis is Jesus' priesthood superior?
6. Jesus' office as Priest is eternal and he is able to save to the *uttermost* (25). Discuss what that means. How is that good news for you today?
7. Read Vs. 26-28. What qualifies Jesus to be our High Priest?
8. Today (Monday Sept. 25) is Yom Kippur; the Day of Atonement in Judaism. How does Jesus' priesthood offer us a better hope?