MELCHIZEDEK AND THE MESSIAH

Hebrews 7:1-10

Who is Melchizedek and why is he so important?

Additional Scripture References:

- Genesis 14:17-20
- 2 Chronicles 26:16-21

JESUS IS GREATER THAN ABRAHAM

- "For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of God Most High, met Abraham and blessed him as he returned from defeating the kings, 2 and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything." (Hebrews 7:1-2a)
- We can learn from Abraham that even when we are walking in success, we serve a God who is able to bless us in greater ways!

JESUS IS THE <u>ULTIMATE</u> KING AND THE <u>GREATER</u> HIGH PRIEST AT THE SAME TIME

- "First, His name means king of righteousness, then also, king of Salem, meaning king of peace. 3 Without father, mother, or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest forever. Now consider how great this man was: even Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth of the plunder to Him." (Hebrews 72b-4)
- In the Semitic language:
 - o (mlk) = word for king
 - o (zdk) = word for righteousness
 - "king of Salem" = king of peace
- Jesus is the God appointed, eternally existent righteous King and the Prince of Peace, which means we can find rest and assurance in our sufficient Savior.
- We can learn from Abraham the importance of giving to the Lord generously because He is worthy of our worship through giving.

JESUS, IN <u>REPLACING</u> THE LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD AS OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST, WAS ALWAYS THE <u>PLAN</u> OF GOD

"The sons of Levi who receive the priestly office have a command according to the law to collect a tenth from the people—that is, from their brothers and sisters—though they

have also descended from Abraham. 6 But one without this lineage collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed the one who had the promises. 7 Without a doubt, the inferior is blessed by the superior. 8 In the one case, men who will die receive a tenth, but in the other case, Scripture testifies that he lives. 9 And in a sense Levi himself, who receives a tenth, has paid a tenth through Abraham, 10 for he was still within his ancestor when Melchizedek met him." (Hebrews 7:5-10)

 The Old Testament Levitical priesthood always pointed forward to the One who would become the "once and for all" sufficient Great High Priest.

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION

Observation

- What is the **primary** theme of Hebrews 7:1-10?
- What was unique about Melchizedek in relation to all other Old Testament priests in Israel? Why is that important?
- Why did the writer of Hebrews compare Melchizedek to Abraham and Levi?
- What is the relation/role of Melchizedek to Jesus?

Understanding

- What did you know about Melchizedek before this message/study?
- How do people in the Old Testament like Abraham, David, and Moses ultimately point to Jesus?
- What can we learn from Abraham about giving generously to the Lord? Why is that important? What should motivate us to give generously?
- In what ways does this message/study reassure you that Jesus is our sufficient Savior? That we can trust in His promises?

Loving Outward:

- Who do you need to share the gospel with this week?
- · Who do you need to follow-up with regarding the gospel?
- Who are you bringing to church next Sunday?