

A crown of thorns is centered on a purple background. The word "JESUS" is written in large, white, serif capital letters across the middle. A watermark "© Share Faith" is visible in the center. The entire image is framed by a dark blue border with a pink rectangle in the top right corner.

# JESUS

*the great high priest*

HEBREWS 4:14-16



## WHO IS A PRIEST?

A priest is a religious leader authorized to perform sacred rituals within a religion, acting as a mediator between humans and one or more deities. They have the authority to administer religious rites, particularly those involving sacrifice and the propitiation of deities. The position is known as the "priesthood," a term that can also refer collectively to all individuals holding this role.



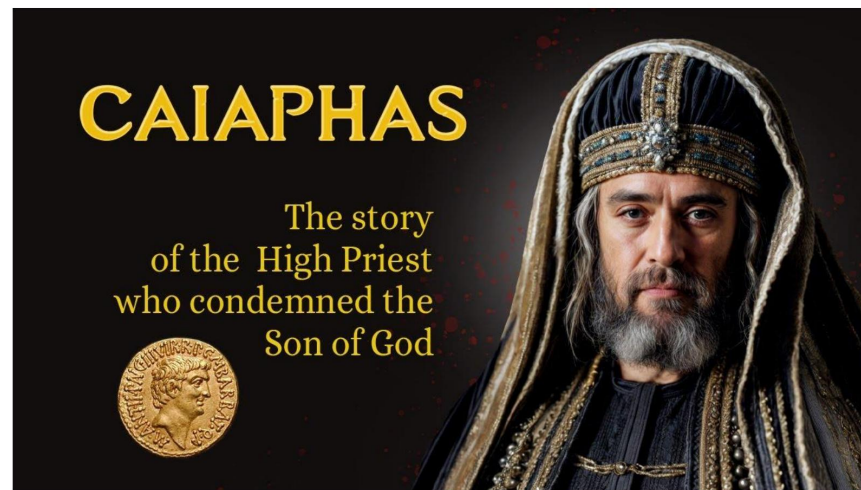
## RESPONSIBILITIES OF A PRIEST

- ▶ A priest may have various responsibilities, including periodically hearing confessions, providing marriage and prenuptial counseling, offering spiritual direction, teaching catechism, and visiting individuals who are confined indoors, such as those who are sick in hospitals or nursing homes.
- ▶ Priest exists in many religions from the beginning of times, such as Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism, Shinto, Hinduism and many others such as the Yoruba culture, the Ifa priest and other traditional priests in Africa as well as other parts of the world.

# WHO IS A HIGH PRIEST?

- ▶ A high priest in Israel is someone appointed by God through the religious order to serve at the temple to be a mediator between God and God's people, for example Aaron the brother of Moses. Exodus 28:1-3. The office of a high priest was hereditary, usually passed down through Aaron's descendants, especially the Levi tribe. Most times high priests were called by God, by the people (community) or by inheritance, for example Melchizedek, Aaron, Eli, Zachariah, and the Sadducees etc.

# WHO IS A HIGH PRIEST



# WHO IS A HIGH PRIEST



## Aaron the Priest's Role in Tabernacle

- ▶ Was from tribe of Levi - caretakers of the Children of Israel
- ▶ All other tribes received inheritance except for Levi tribe- theirs was God!
- ▶ Aaron was high priest and children helped as well
- ▶ Aaron had to wear God's clothes in this position



# The DUTIES OF A HIGH PRIEST

- ▶ The High priest was responsible for offering sacrifices on behalf of the people to atone for their sins. Leviticus 16: 1-6 ; The day of atonement is a special ceremonial day in Israel called (Yom Kippur). It is the most significant day in Jewish calendar- when the high priest would enter the Holy of Holies. Lev. 16:15-18
- ▶ Intercessory Role: He intercedes for the people before God; he bears the names of the tribes of Israel in his breast plate of judgement over his heart when he enters the holy of holies. Exodus 28: 29-30.

# The Duties of a High Priest

## God Gave Moses the Blueprint

- ▶ God was showing out to the Children of Israel
- ▶ Saying He is the GREAT I AM
- ▶ Wants it just like Heaven
- ▶ Wrapped in gold



## Holy of Holies

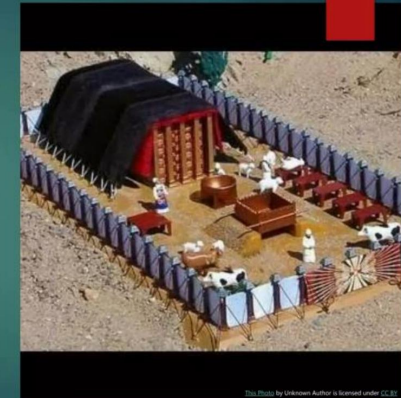
*In the back of the yard*

Only High Priest can enter

Contained the Ark of the Covenant

Where Priest talked to God

God was there

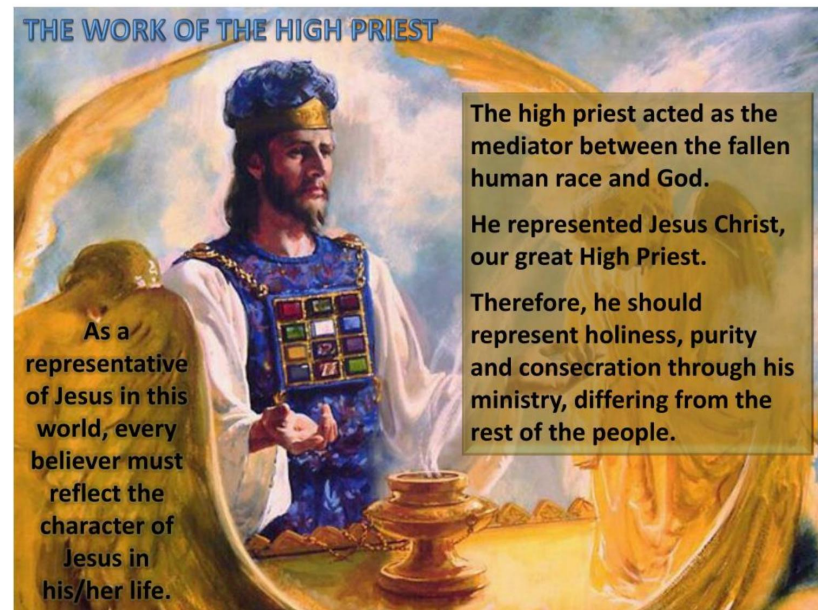
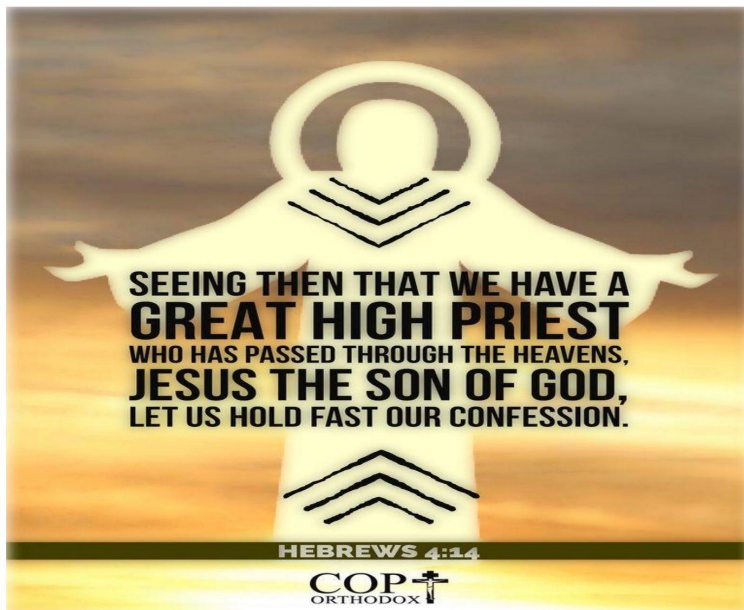


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# THE DUTIES OF A HIGH PRIEST

- ▶ Custodial Role: The high priest is responsible for teaching and interpreting the law of God to the people. He maintains spiritual standards and dishes out appropriate punishment to those who violate the laws of God. Malachi 2:6-7; Number 27:18-21
- ▶ Symbol of Holiness and Purity: As described in Exodus 28, a high priest symbolizes holiness in dressing, Ephod, breast plate, robe, turban etc. The Golden plate is a symbol of a Holiness to the Lord, while maintaining the sanctity of worship.
- ▶ God was totally unapproachable in the Old Testament, hence the need for someone to mediate between God and the people of God. Exodus 19: 10-18

# JESUS OUR HIGH PRIEST



# JESUS OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST



Jesus is our Great  
High Priest

"Therefore, since we  
have a great high priest  
who has ascended into  
heaven, Jesus the Son of  
God, let us hold firmly to  
the faith we profess."

– Hebrews 4:14; NIV

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# JESUS OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

- ▶ The role of a high priest finds its ultimate fulfillment in Jesus Christ, our great high priest. Heb. 9:11-12
- ▶ Christ once and for all made the ultimate sacrifice of Himself as a final atonement for our sins, as well as eternal intercession which nullified the earthly high priesthood. He mediates a new and better covenant. Philippians 2:5-8
- ▶ Jesus's priesthood was unique as He was both priest and the sacrifice. Hebrews 9: 11-12

# JESUS OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

- ▶ Jesus's priesthood is after the order of Melchizedek Hebrew 6: 19-20
- ▶ His priesthood is everlasting Hebrews 7: 1-3
- ▶ Intercessor: As our High priest, Jesus continually intercedes for us. Hebrews 7:22-25
- ▶ Jesus High Priesthood inaugurates the New Covenant. Hebrews 8: 6-12
- ▶ Prophesied in Jeremiah 31: 31-34

# JESUS OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST



## Jesus is our Aaron

The Great High Priest	The door to give access to Holy of Holies	The perfect LAMB sacrifice with perfect blood
Sinless & Young – acceptable to God	He is the showbread	He is the light
He is the ark of the covenant	He is the veil between us and God (mediator)	He is the word – testimony of God
Our Garment of Praise	The Oil of Gladness – Our anointing	Our manna
He is salvation – the rod that budded	He is the altar we pray on to get to God	His blood is our atonement

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# OUR PRIESTHOOD

- ▶ Our priesthood originates from our believe that Jesus is Lord and that He is the only begotten son of God Hebrews 7:25
- ▶ We are the tabernacle . Hebrew 10:19-22
- ▶ We now have free access to the holy of Holies by the blood of Jesus. Heb. 4: 14-16

We are Priest and Kings. 1 Peter 2: 5-9. We can offer spiritual sacrifices

Be bold to defend your office as a priest 1 Peter 3:15-16

You are a Royal a Priesthood 1 Peter 2:9a