

Christ's Order of Priesthood is Greater Than That of Aaron (Heb. 7:1-28)

I. The Assertion: Christ's Order of Priesthood is Greater than Aaron's (6:20-7:4).

II. The Demonstration (7:4-28).

A. The first argument: Christ's order is that of Melchizedek. What makes "the order of Melchizedek" greater?

1. Melchizedek symbolizes a greater, a perpetual priesthood because he is like the Son in that he is presented as if he had no birth, no genealogy, and no death, that is, there is no record given here of these (v.3).
2. Melchizedek blesses Abraham – the lesser is blessed by the greater (v.7).
3. Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek – the greater receives tithes from the lesser (v.4).
4. Levi also paid tithes to Melchizedek "for he was still in the loins of his father" Abraham (v.10).

B. The second argument: the law has been changed and a new and perpetual priesthood has been established.

1. The Levitical priesthood could not bring perfection to those it represented (v.11).
2. To change the priesthood, the law must change (v.12). Obviously it has changed since Christ is of the tribe of Judah and not of Levi (v.14).
3. Christ's priesthood is perpetual since Scripture says "You are a priest forever" (v.17).
4. Hence, Jesus is a guarantor of a better covenant (v.22).

III. Application: We Possess Eternal Salvation Because Our Priest Always Lives to Make Intercession For Us.

A. Our salvation is perpetual because only one sacrifice was needed; the one sacrifice was sufficient for all time (v.27).

B. The Son's work is perfect and therefore perpetual (vv.24, 27f).