

## Lesson 6 – Hebrews 4: 14 – 5: 14

After his warning on the danger of disobedience and not entering the “faith rest” God has for us, the writer turns to the third major pillar of Judaism, the Levitical Priesthood. In **Hebrews 4:14-10:18**, the writer deals with the Superiority of the Son to Aaron.

### Day 1

1. Pray!
2. Twice earlier, the writer mentions in passing that Jesus is a High Priest. Find the **two verses**, and write them out below. If you have not already done so, starting with these verses, mark “high priest” on your worksheets.

1.

2.

The writer will prove the priesthood of Jesus is superior to the Levitical Priesthood by the use of **five contrasts** between the two: Jesus has a better position; Jesus is a better priest; the New Priesthood is based on a better covenant; the New Priesthood functions in a better sanctuary; and, the New Priesthood is based on a better sacrifice.

3. Read **Hebrews 4: 14-16**. Here we have the first contrast. Jesus has a better position than had the Levitical priest.
4. The author’s point, in **verse 14**, is that believers need to take advantage of what?
  - a. In the Greek text, the word for “Seeing” is emphatic and emphasizes a continuous **availability**. So, our High Priest is what?
  - b. Jesus is His human name and represents His \_\_\_\_\_.  
He is also “the Son of God” and this emphasizes what? \_\_\_\_\_

c. Jesus human nature allows Him to be sympathetic; and His deity gives Him power that the earthly priest does not possess. In light of this, according to **verse 14**, our application is what?

d. The writer has already mentioned the content of our confession in **Hebrews 3: 1**. Jesus is what? \_\_\_\_\_ (Hint: Jesus Christ) Readers made this confession when they first became believers.

e. So, he states, "Let us hold fast." What does it mean to "hold fast"?

5. One reason to hold fast is found in **verse 15**. What is it?

6. Jesus was sympathetic because He was tempted how?

a. "In all points" is sometimes misunderstood. It means "in all areas".

b. Was the Levitical priest, like Aaron, always available?

7. This One spoken of is where? (**v. 16**)

d. Who is this great high priest?

e. Put on your thinking caps! The place of this High Priest's ministry is a superior position. How so? He is able to bring the ones He represents into the presence of whom? **V. 14, 16** (Consider what we already learned in **1: 3d.**)

8. In closing out your study today, consider the importance of His two natures in the context of **Heb. 4: 14-16**. We will pick up this train of thought in **Day 2**.

## Day 2

1. Pray!

2. Read **Heb. 4: 14-16**.

3. These verses show that Jesus has a better position than the Levitical priest. Review what you learned yesterday.
4. In **verse 14**, it tells us He has “passed through” the heavens. In the Greek, it is the perfect tense. That means the action happened at a point in time and the result remains. What does that teach us about Jesus?
5. This High Priest is “ Jesus the Son of God”. One more thing we want to look at in these verses. Yesterday, we considered the truth that He was tempted in all points (meaning in all areas) and yet did not sin. What are those areas? Go to **1 John 2:16** and list the 3 areas.
  - a.
  - b.
  - c.

Every specific type of temptation will fit into one of these categories!

d, How does this relate to Jesus? For extra credit, can you think of a time Jesus was tempted in all three areas? (Hint: a time when Satan tempted Him!)

6. Understanding **verses 14 and 15** leads to application in **verse 16**. What is the writer saying to these readers? What is the application for you and me?

### Day 3

1. Pray!
2. Read **Hebrews 5**. Mark key words.
3. In **Hebrews 4: 14-16**, we saw that Jesus has a **better position** than had the Levitical priest. Starting with **Heb. 5: 1** and continuing through **Heb. 7: 28**, we have a second contrast. Jesus is a **better priest**.

The priesthood of Jesus is after the order of \_\_\_\_\_, which is

superior to the order of \_\_\_\_\_.

As the writer develops this argument, the author will interrupt it to give his third warning (extreme exhortation!).

4. Read **Hebrews 5: 1-4**. The writer points out four prerequisites for priesthood. List them below:

Verse 1a –

Could an angel function in this role?  
Could God, as God, function in this role?

Verse 1b –

Verses 2-3 –

Verse 4

5. Consider God's appointment of Aaron. What do you learn in the following verses.

Ex. 16: 33

Ex. 28: 1

Numbers 17: 8

So, the high priest had to be called of God, and the example the writer gives is, "just as Aaron was". The 4 prerequisites for priest, Jesus also had to fulfill!  
Tomorrow we will look at the qualifications of the Son!

#### **Day 4**

1. Pray!

2. Read **Hebrews 5: 5-11**.

3. In **these verses**, the writer shows that Jesus fulfilled the same four prerequisites, but he does not deal with them in the same order.

- a. First, in **verses 5-6**, the author points out that Jesus is what?
- b. We find the second prerequisite in **verse 7**.

All the things He experienced: strong crying, tears, offering up prayers and supplications, and agony... show His \_\_\_\_\_!

Why was Jesus heard?

- c. We find the third prerequisite in **verse 8**. What is it?

The expression, “He learned obedience”, does not mean that Jesus disobeyed. What does it mean?

See **Philippians 2:8**. It makes the same point.

Jesus learned what obedience costs by means of the things He suffered. There was no self-seeking for this office. For Him, this office of priest meant suffering and death. These things made Him compassionate.

4. The fulfillment of the fourth prerequisite, found in **verses 9-10**, is what?

Remember, the Greek word for “perfect” means “the completion of a process or goal.” His sufferings were completed on the cross... and these sufferings for sin, allowed Him to be able to cry, “It is finished.”

- a. What did He become?  
To whom?

b. The obedience addressed here, is not the obedience of works. It is the obedience of what?

- c. Look up a few cross-references to help our understanding.

John 6: 29

Acts 6: 7

Romans 1: 5

5. According to **verse 10**, the specific priestly order in which Jesus functions is what?

This was His formal call to the office: “called by God as High Priest.”

6. In **verse 11**, we see the writer has much to say about this unique order of priesthood. He has much to say about Melchizedek, but he is afraid that his readers, because of their spiritual immaturity, will not understand what he is talking about!

What does he say about them in this verse?

So, he drops the subject and he will pick it up again in **7:1**

## Day 5

1. Pray!

2. Read **Hebrews 5: 11-14**.

3. The writer has much to teach them about the order of Melchizedek and even who Melchizedek is. The problem is that the doctrine of the Melchizedekian Order belongs to the category of meat, not milk. What he is afraid of is that his readers, because of their stagnation and failure to progress, will not be able to understand. So, in **verse 11**, he says it is difficult for him to explain because of what?

Look up the word “dull”.

What is he saying when he says they have become “dull in hearing”.

4. The obligation contained in **verse 11** is that every believer must develop a sensitive hearing of things that are hard to explain... things that are “hard of interpretation.” Every believer must mature in order to what?

5. In verse 12, he gives the reason they should not be dull of hearing at this point? In your own words, what is he saying about the readers. Who are they and who should they be?

6. There is only one excuse to be a believer who needs milk. (verse 12-13). What is it? Is this a good reason for those he is writing to?

7. According to verse 14, solid food is for those who are what?

8. In closing, **verses 11-14** give a summary of the spiritual state of these believers. They have been believers for a good period of time; they have been taught sound doctrine in the past because now they should be what?

However, they have not retained or used the truth they have been taught and need to relearn what? (**v.12**)

In your own words, what does the writer mean in **12b**?

9. Here's a final thought to think on as we close out today. Although the spiritual adult and the spiritual babe both have the Word of God, only one knows how to use the Word... and *discern both good and evil*. Usage of the Word causes believers to progress from immaturity to maturity; a lack of usage means regressing from maturity to immaturity. What state are you in? Talk to the Lord about it!