

The Gift of the Shadow

Hebrews 7

Tracing the Argument

- The Son revealed
- A strong exhortation and the warning repeated
- The High Priesthood introduced

Understanding the High Priest

- The priesthood was hereditary
- The priesthood was temporary
- The priesthood was imperfect
- A greater High Priest was already promised

Meeting Melchizedek

- A hint and shadow of the eternal priest to come
- A different and superior priesthood

The Shadow Fulfilled

- Hereditary surpassed by a new order
- The temporary overturned by the eternal
- The flawed fulfilled in perfection

For Life Group Discussion

Hebrews 7

1. Do you enjoy studying the Old Testament? What parts are difficult for you? How can the concept of “shadows” help inspire your reading?
2. How would you summarize the letter to the Hebrews so far? Who is the original audience? What temptations were they facing? How does the author counteract those temptations? How does this apply to you?
3. Read Heb 1:3; 2:17-18; 3:1; 4:14-5:10; and 6:19-20. Why does this author give so much attention to the High Priest? How does that prepare us for the discussion in chapter 7?
4. Read Gen 14:17-24 & Ps 110:4. Without the letter to the Hebrews could you have imagined that these obscure passages could be so meaningful? How does this affect your view of other OT passages?
5. Read Heb 7:26-27. In what ways are you tempted to treat Jesus as a partial Savior? Is He able to save you completely and bring you to God? What makes you struggle or doubt?
6. Read Hebrews chapters 7 - 10. This is the core of the letter and is central to the author’s purpose. How does it help you understand some of the concept introduced in this message?