

6:13 For when God made the promise to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, (**V.16**)

V.16 For men swear by one greater *than themselves*, and with them an oath *given* as confirmation is an end of every dispute.

V.17 In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath.

V.18 in order that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we may have strong encouragement, we who have fled for refuge in laying hold of the hope set before us.

V.19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil,

V.20 where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

#1. What we are studying has very real value for us – not about Israel's past

*This study is valuable for **us** today

V.18 in order that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, **we** may have strong encouragement, **we** who have fled for refuge in laying hold of the hope set before us.

#2. This should be an anchor for your soul – something to revisit when doubts flood over you

V.19 This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a *hope* both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil,

***Part of the anchor that brings assurance in time of doubt is understanding the priesthood of Melchizedek**

V.20 where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, *having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek*.

1) "become a high priest forever **according to the order** of Melchizedek"

a) This is explained in **chapter 7**

7:1 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, *who met Abraham as he was returning from the slaughter of the kings* and blessed him,

1) "who met Abraham as he was returning from the slaughter of the kings"

a) This is recorded **Genesis 14**

Gen.14:1 And it came about in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar^(El IA sar), Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim,

V.2 (NP)

V.2 *that* they made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber^(She mE ber) king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (that is, Zoar). (**G.11**)

G.11 Then they took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their food supply, and departed.

G.12 And they also took Lot, Abram's nephew, and his possessions and departed, for he was living in Sodom.

G.13 Then a fugitive came and told Abram the Hebrew. Now he was living by the oaks of Mamre the Amorite, brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner, and these were allies with Abram.

G.14 And when Abram heard that his relative had been taken captive, he led out his trained men, born in his house, three hundred and eighteen, and went in pursuit as far as Dan.

G.15 And he divided his forces against them by night, he and his servants, and defeated them, and pursued them as far as Hobah^(hoh' buh), which is north of Damascus.

G.16 And he brought back all the goods, and also brought back his relative Lot with his possessions, and also the women, and the people.

G.17 Then after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the valley of Shaveh^(sshay' veh) (that is, the King's Valley).^(Possibly – Kidron Valley)

G.18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; now he was a priest of God Most High.

1) "brought out bread and wine"

a) They **celebrated** the **Lord's Supper**

b) **Abram saw** the Lord: **crucified, buried, raised**

c) Proof!

i) Jesus is at the temple arguing w/ religious leaders

Jn.8:51 "Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death."

52 The Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon. Abraham died, and the prophets also; and You say, 'If anyone keeps My word, he shall never taste of death.'

53 "Surely You are not greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets died too; whom do You make Yourself out to be?"

54 Jesus answered, " If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing; it is My Father who glorifies Me, of whom you say, 'He is our God'; (**V.56**)

V.56 " Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and **he saw it** and was glad."

d) **Abraham** celebrated the Lord's Supper w/ Melchizedek & **learned** of the **coming Savior from** Melchizedek

V.18 x (NP)

gV.18 x And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; now he was a priest of God Most High.

G.19 And he^(Melchizedek) blessed him^(Abraham) and said, "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;

G.20 And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he^(Abraham) gave him^(Melchizedek) a tenth of all.

G.21 And the king of Sodom said to Abram, "Give the people to me and take the goods for yourself." (**code of Hammurabi**)

G.22 And Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have sworn to the LORD God Most High, possessor of heaven and earth,

G.23 that I will not take a thread or a sandal thong or anything that is yours, **lest you should say**, 'I have made Abram rich.'

*That is **all that is said** in O.T. of Melchizedek except one passage in Psalms

*Go back to Hebrews 7

HEb.7:1 x For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met

Abraham as he was returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

V.2 to whom also Abraham apportioned a tenth part of all *the spoils*, was first of all, by the translation *of his name*, king of righteousness, and then also king of Salem, which is king of peace.

V.3 Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, he abides a priest perpetually.

V.4 Now observe how great this man was to whom Abraham, the patriarch, gave a tenth of the choicest spoils.

V.5 And those indeed of the sons of Levi who receive the priest's office have commandment in the Law to collect a tenth from the people, that is, from their brethren, although these are descended from Abraham.

V.6 But the one whose genealogy is not traced from them collected a tenth from Abraham, and blessed the one who had the promises.

V.7 But without any dispute the lesser is blessed by the greater.

Here is what we know about Melchizedek:

V.2 to whom also Abraham apportioned a tenth part of all *the spoils*, was first of all, by the translation *of his name*, **king of righteousness**, and then also **king of Salem**, which is **king of peace**.

1) **First** His name means – "king of righteousness"

a) Melek = King

b) Zedek = righteousness

2) **Second** He was the king of Salem

a) Salem – could be Jerusalem

b) Salem = peace (i.e. king of peace)

3) **Thirdly** there is no record of his ancestry – **V.3 (NP)**

V.3 Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, he abides a priest perpetually.

- a) The **book of Genesis** is about **beginnings**
- b) The **very name "Genesis"** in Hebrew means – **origin**
- c) We **find** in Genesis the **origin** of **mankind** – **families** – **human sin** – **death** – **redemption** & so on

- d) But **there is nothing** about **Melchizedek's: his family tree** – **his birth** – **his death**
 - i) WE **do know** that **Melchizedek** was **a Gentile**

 - ii) He **steps on** to the **pages of Scripture** & **steps off** again **w/out a word**
 - iii) **In a sense** that **makes him eternal** in nature – not that he really lived forever – but **as far as we are concerned he never dies**

- 4) **Fourthly – Because** we have **no record** of his **death** – **he abides** as a **high priest forever V.3 x**

V.3 x Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, **he abides a priest perpetually.**

- 5) The **fifth thing** we **know** about **Melchizedek** was **worthy to receive a tithe**
 - a) **Abraham gave a tenth** of what he had acquired to him **V.4<<<**

V.4 Now observe how great this man was to whom Abraham, the patriarch, **gave a tenth** of the choicest spoils.

- b) **Abraham** gave a **tithe** to Melchizedek **knowing** he was a **high priest**
- c) **Abram** was **not giving to Melchizedek** but **to God**
- d) I.e. **Melchizedek was the man** who **represented men** before **God**
 - i) **Our giving** should be to **God** – **even** when given to the **poor**, a **man** or the **Church**

- 6) The **sixth thing** about **Melchizedek** was – **even Abraham understood** that **Melchizedek** was **greater** than **he was**
 - a) Therefore Melchizedek was able to bless Abraham

V.6 But the one whose genealogy is not traced from them collected a tenth from Abraham, and **blessed the one who had the promises.** ^(Abraham)

V.7 But without any dispute **the lesser is blessed** by the **greater.**

- b) **How** was he **greater** than Abraham?
- c) There is **no** record of his death –
 - i) Therefore **no record** of him **losing his position** as High Priest
- d) **All** of Abraham's offspring were **going to die**

V.8 And in this case mortal men receive tithes, but in that case one receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives on.

- e) Also Melchizedek was greater spiritually b/c he **accepted** a tithe from tribe of **Levi** **V.9**

V.9 And, so to speak, through Abraham even Levi, who received tithes – paid tithes,

V.10 for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him.

- f) Both the **tribe of Levi & line of Aaron** **gave** to Melchizedek thru Abram b/c they were in him when he gave the tithe

V.11 Now if perfection was through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the people received the Law), what further need was there for another priest to arise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be designated according to the order of Aaron?

*He ask the question **why the need** for Melchizedek's ministry & answers it in next verses **V.12**

V.12 For when the priesthood is changed, of necessity there takes place a change of law also.

V.13 For the one concerning whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar.

- 1) "belongs to another tribe"
 - a) This is obviously a metaphor b/c Melchizedek wasn't Jewish & didn't belong to a tribe
- 2) "when the priesthood is changed, of necessity... change of law also"
 - a) The law didn't help anyone
 - b) The Law was perfect but it couldn't impart perfection
 - c) So it was no help
- d) Under the law **only Aaron's line** could **minister** at altar
 - i) That **excluded even Christ** from being a priest
 - ii) **But** Christ is going to become the Great High Priest
- e) Melchizedek's line **could minister** at altar – but wasn't from line of Aaron – **V.14 (NP)**

V.14 For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests.

V.15 And this is clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek,

V.16 who has become *such not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life.*

V.17 For it is witnessed *of Him*, " THOU ART A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK."

1) "not on...basis...of physical requirement but...the power of...indestructible life"

a) What he said is – another priesthood not based on rules of old O.T. rules

b) **New** priesthood **based on** living **the priest living forever**

c) **So** – we **don't** have a record of Melchizedek **dying** and **God** will **make** an **order of priesthood based off him**

d) Then he quotes **Ps.110**

Ps.110:4 The LORD has sworn and will not change his mind: "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

V.18 For, on the one hand, there is a **setting aside** of a former commandment **because** of its **weakness** and **uselessness**

V.19 (**for the Law made nothing perfect**), and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, thru which we draw near to God.

V.20 And inasmuch as *it was* not without an oath

V.21 (for they indeed became priests without an oath, but He with an oath thru the One who said to Him, " THE LORD HAS SWORN AND WILL NOT CHANGE HIS MIND, 'THOU ART A PRIEST FOREVER'");

V.22 so much the more also **Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.** (the covenant made in His blood)

V.23 And the *former* priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers, because they were prevented by death from continuing,

V.24 but He, on the other hand, because He abides forever, holds His priesthood permanently.

V.25 Hence, also, He is able to save forever those who draw near to God thru Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

V.26 For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens;

V.27 who does not need **daily**, like those high priests, **to offer up sacrifices**, first **for His own sins**, and **then for the sins of the people**, because this He did **once** for all **when He offered up Himself.**

Your eternal security (NP)

Your Eternal security is **not** based on what **you** will or won't do.

- 1) It is based on "**Him**" – **Who is able to save "forever"!!!**
- 2) It is based on what Christ's offering His own blood
- 3) Is it good enough to keep you forever?
- 4) Can I sin "**bigger**" than His offering of Himself??? NO!

V.27 (*Christ*) who does not need **daily**, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first **for His own sins**, and **then for the sins of the people**, because this He did "**ONCE**" for all **when He offered up Himself**.

This is why as believers we should **NEVER** be motivated by guilt – but by **joy!**

This is why we should **rejoice always** – B/c He is forever making intercession for us!