

## An Exposition of Hebrews

### Lesson 9 – Chapter 7:11-28 <sup>3409</sup>

Passage NASU	Commentary & Analysis	Bible Interprets the Bible References
<p><b>Contextual Transition:</b> “<u>Now</u>” implies a continuation of the argument that Melchizedek is clearly identified as of a very high order of God’s servants (in Genesis) compared to the as yet to come Levitical Priesthood of the Mosaic covenant. Here in the book of Hebrews, we are looking back at these two priesthoods with regard to time.</p>		
<p><b>Need for a New Priesthood</b> The old Levitical priesthood is insufficient for God’s original purpose of redeeming lost men unto God while satisfying the terrible but just wrath of His Holy Wrath.</p>		
<p><b>7:11</b> <u>Now</u> if <u>perfection</u> was through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the people received <u>the Law</u>), what further need was there for another priest to arise according to the order of <u>Melchizedek</u><sup>5th</sup>, and not be designated according to the order of Aaron?</p>	<p>The question here is that <u>if</u> the Law was a central part of Israel’s relationship with God, and <u>if</u> the Law was closely associated with obedience and righteousness before God, and <u>if</u> the Levitical system of worship was to please God through worship, <u>then why is there a need for another order of priest?</u></p>	<p><b>Gal 3:22-28</b> - - -  <sup>24</sup>Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.  <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. - - -</p>
<p><b>7:12</b> For when the priesthood is changed, of necessity there takes place a change of <u>law</u> also.</p>	<p><b>Answer:</b> The purpose of <u>Law</u> is to mend the relationship between man and God. Accomplishing that would be <u>perfection!</u> <u>The Law</u> of Moses could never have accomplished the mending of the relationship between man and God. Man was never capable of such righteousness.</p>	<p><b>Heb 8:5-12</b> - - But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises. <sup>7</sup>For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion sought for a second. - -  <u>Study this passage carefully!</u></p>
<p><b>7:13</b> For the <u>one</u> concerning whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar.</p>	<p>Should be “<u>the One</u>” since it is speaking about Jesus the Christ! Jesus was of the tribe of Judah, the same as David and of Solomon and of Joseph His stepfather. Judah represents the Kingly line of Israel, the Lion of Judah (Jesus the Christ).</p>	<p><b>Gen 49:8-12</b> - - <sup>10</sup>The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples. - -</p>
<p><b>Rev 5:1-14</b> I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a book written inside and on the back, sealed up with seven seals. <sup>2</sup>And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, “Who is worthy to open the book and to break its seals?” <sup>3</sup>And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the book or to look into it. <sup>4</sup>Then I began to weep greatly because no one was found worthy to open the book or to look into it; <sup>5</sup>and one of the elders said to me, “Stop weeping; behold, <u>the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David</u>, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals.” <sup>6</sup>And I saw between the throne (with the four living creatures) and the elders a Lamb standing, as if slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God, sent out into all the earth. <sup>7</sup>And He came and took the book out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. <sup>8</sup>When He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. <sup>9</sup>And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. <sup>10</sup>“<u>You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.</u>” <sup>11</sup>Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup>saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.” <sup>13</sup>And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, “To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever.” <sup>14</sup>And the four living creatures kept saying, “Amen.” And the elders fell down and worshiped.</p>		
<p><b>7:14</b> For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests.</p>	<p>No Levitical priests came from the tribe of Judah. This is the line which God has chosen to fully rule Israel in their blessed Theocratic Kingdom yet to come!</p>	<p><b>Mic 5:2-5</b> But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, from you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. - -</p>

<p><b>7:15-16</b> <i>And this is clearer still, if <b>another priest</b> arises according to the likeness of <b>Melchizedek</b>,<sup>16</sup> who has become such not on the basis of a law of physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life.</i></p>	<p><b>another</b> 'ετερος heteros (Str. 2087) 98x. This word is often used interchangeably with the Greek word <i>allos</i> (Str. 243) 155x meaning another of the same kind. But they each have a root meaning that is different from each other.</p> <p><i>Allos</i> is more properly used to mean another of the same thing or kind. <i>Heteros</i> is more properly used to mean another of a different kind. Heteros as a root word is used in English to specify another of a different kind, such as heterosexual referring to sexual partner of a different kind (male with female or female with male). Homosexual refers to another of the same kind (male with male or female with female).</p> <p>Consider the English dictionary that lists 47 English words that use this Greek root (hetero- ) to reflect two things that are different from one another such as heterodoxy vs orthodoxy.</p> <p><b>"another priest"</b> Here it is referring to a priest of a different kind. (Melchizedekian vs Levitical)</p>	
<p><b>7:17</b> <i>For it is attested of Him, "YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE <b>ORDER</b> OF MELCHIZEDEK."</i></p>	<p>Christ is a "hetero" priest. He is not a Levitical priest, but of an entirely different <b>order</b> of priest, namely of <b>the order of Melchizedek</b>.</p> <p>Ps 110:4 <i>The LORD has sworn and will not change His mind, "You are a priest forever according to <b>the order of Melchizedek</b>."</i></p> <p><b>order</b> ταξις taxis (Str. 5010) 9x; meaning series, succession, a distinctive class, well regulated.</p>	
<p><b>7:18-19</b> <i>For, on the one hand, there is a setting aside of a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness<sup>19</sup> (for <b>the Law made nothing perfect</b>), and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God.</i></p>	<p>The Law was entirely unable to redeem anyone from the wrath of God, because every sin (physical, mental, intent, desire, etc.) requires God's perfect and complete justice along with the retribution necessary to resolve the offense created by His creatures against His absolute and complete holiness and righteousness. The Law was defective in its ability to redee men to God!</p> <p>Apart from the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, we humans are clueless about the scope and depth of our own natural born depravity.</p>	<p><b>Gal 3:23-26</b> <i>But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed.<sup>24</sup> Therefore the Law has become our <b>tutor</b> to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.<sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, <b>we are no longer under a tutor</b>.<sup>26</sup> For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.</i></p>
<p><b>7:20-21</b> <i>And inasmuch as it was not without an oath<sup>21</sup> (for they indeed became priests without an oath, but He with an oath through the One who said to Him, "<b>THE LORD HAS SWORN</b> AND WILL NOT CHANGE HIS MIND, 'YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER'" Ps 110:4);</i></p>	<p>The Levitical priesthood was a <b>bilateral covenant</b> which did not redeem men to God, but rather kept some men connected to God through types and shadows of the reality of faith in God's provision. It was not permanent and it became a stumbling stone to most Hebrews because man's natural, fallen, depraved nature efficiently deceives men regarding their own goodness without their being able to see their own depravity.</p> <p>Human merit is <b>the universal religion of man</b>. Man says to himself; I can be good enough to merit God's favor! This is the stumbling block of man's natural religious error. This is Satan's great lie. Satan thoroughly knows that this religious doctrine is heretical and leads billions of men to eternal damnation! Satan delights in this deception that causes many billions of men to be lost.</p>	
<p><b>7:22</b> <i>so much the more also Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.</i></p>	<p><b>Jer 31:31-33</b> <i>"Behold, days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,<sup>32</sup> not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them," declares the Lord. <sup>33</sup>But <b>this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days</b>," declares the Lord, "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.</i></p>	
<p><b>Greatness of the New Priest</b></p>		
<p><b>7:23-24</b> <i>The former priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers because they</i></p>	<p>The Levitical priests were mortal and served as priests in the Tabernacle/Temple of God for a lifetime career, thus needing a</p>	

<p>were prevented by death from continuing, <sup>24</sup>but Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood <u>permanently</u>.</p>	<p>continuing supply of new priests as older priests passed on in death. Christ as a different type of priest of the order of Melchizedek fills His role forever.</p>	
<p><u>permanently</u> <i>απαράβατον</i> <i>aparabaton</i> (Str. 531) <b>1x</b>; meaning not transient; not to be superseded, unchangeable. Clearly you could also throw in here the attribute of God regarding His <u>immutableness</u>.</p>		
<p><b>7:25</b> <i>Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.</i></p>	<p>Since Christ is an eternal priest, He is able to intercede for us throughout eternity. He is <u>the</u> High Priest, not just an High Priest! Christ's intercession for His brethren, all of God's elect (OT, NT, Tribulation &amp; Millennial saints) is eternal and fixed forever.</p>	<p><b>Job 16:18-22</b> <i>"O earth, do not cover my blood, and let there be no resting place for my cry. <sup>19</sup>Even now, behold, my witness is in heaven, and my advocate is on high. <sup>20</sup>My friends are my scoffers; My eye weeps to God. <sup>21</sup>O that a man might plead with God As a man with his neighbor! <sup>22</sup>For when a few years are past, I shall go the way of no return."</i></p>
<p><b>7:26</b> <i>For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, <u>holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners</u> and;</i></p>	<p>Following are the necessary qualifications of our own Great High Priest necessary to advocate for us before the Holy God: 1<sup>st</sup> to be entirely "<b>holy</b>", separated unto the Holy God; 2<sup>nd</sup> to be "<b>innocent</b>" of any and all sin while never harming any person. 3<sup>rd</sup> to be "<b>undefiled</b>" while having lived amongst men, all of whom were tainted by sin. 4<sup>th</sup> to be "<b>separate from sinners</b>", not within the counsel of others, dedicated to God the Father.</p>	
<p><b>7:27</b> <i>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.</i></p>	<p>The blood of Christ, offered once for all, is sufficient for all because it is entirely pure and separate from the weakness and sinfulness of men. Truly we have here the sacrifice of the one without sin for those who are sinners throughout. This extreme substitution of purity and innocence is the only solution to the redemption of wicked men under the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit.</p>	<p><b>Heb 9:13-25</b> - - <sup>15</sup><i>For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were committed under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance. - -</i> <b>Study this reference deeply!</b></p>
<p><b>7:28</b> <i>For the Law appoints men as high priests who are weak, but the word of the oath, which came after the Law, appoints a Son, made <u>perfect</u> forever. See HO #0969</i></p>	<p>The old system under the Mosaic covenant was a type, a shadow of the reality of God's plan illustrated for us to realize the actual nature of our rebellion in sin against our Creator God. This old system was a distant and blurred picture of God's real plan that can only be seen and understood as we come to realize the perfections of Christ Jesus the man of God's purpose.</p>	<p><b>Heb 5:8-10</b> <i>Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. <sup>9</sup>And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation, <sup>10</sup>being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.</i></p>
<p><b>Summary/Conclusions/Comments:</b> <b>Heb 8:1-2</b> <i>Now the main point in what has been said is this: we have such a high priest, who has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, <sup>2</sup>a minister in the sanctuary and in the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.</i></p>		

**Important Quote(s)**

The Scriptures have much to say upon the union that exists between Christ and His people. "At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and Ye in me, and I in You." (Jn 14:20). "But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit" (1 Cor 6:17). "For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones . . . This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church" (Eph 5:30, 32). What an astonishing thing it is that there should be a union between the Son of God and worms of the earth! - infinitely more so than if the king of Great Britain had married the poorest and ugliest woman in all his realm. How immeasurable is the distance between the Creator and the creature, between Deity and mortal man! How wonderful beyond words that sinful wretches should be made one with Him before Whom the seraphim veil their faces and cry, "Holy, holy, holy!"

A. W. Pink; *Free Grace Broadcaster - Union with Christ*; p. 2