

MESSIAH HIGH PRIEST
(Study of the Epistle to the Hebrews)

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All Scriptural Quotations are taken from the New American Bible (1970 Version).

- [Brackets are References to Old Testament Quotes written within the Book of Hebrews]
- *(Parenthetic Italics) Imbedded within Bible Quotes are Author's Comments.*
- **Bold** and Underlined Text are Author's Emphasis.

Blue Highlights Old Testament Quotations & References, throughout the Book of Hebrews, Fulfilled by Christ Jesus.

Small Italics are Author's Footnotes.

PART I – JESUS HEBREW MESSIAH
Heb. 1 & 2

Epistle to Hebrews is Often Referred to as “Fifth Gospel of Our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ”

A. Preface

1. Offices of Hebrew Messiah (“Christ”)

The Lord’s Holy Anointed:

- a. Prophet = Speaks Forth God's Word
- b. Priest = Intercedes for Man by Atoning Sacrifice
- c. King = Supreme Ruler of God's Kingdom – Heaven & Earth

2. This is a Study of Christ Jesus' Priesthood

- a. As Revealed in the Epistle to Hebrews
- b. As Predicted & Formulated in the Old Testament
- c. As Fulfilled by Christ Jesus' First Advent
- d. Presenting God's Revelation in Jesus Christ
 - 1) Supreme & Final Revelation of All Time
 - 2) Providing the Way of Salvation to Mankind
 - 3) Ascending as Eternal High Priest

B. Introduction – Who Is Messiah Yeshua (Christ Jesus)?

Heb. 1 & 2

1. Deity of Jesus Christ

Heb. 1:1-4

- a. “In times past (*During the Old Covenant*), God spoke in fragmentary and varied ways to our fathers (*Hebrews*) through the prophets; in this, the final age (*New Covenant*), he has spoken to us through his Son (*Christ Jesus*), whom he has made heir of all things and through whom he first created the universe. This Son is the reflection of the Father’s glory, the exact representation of the Father’s being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word.”

 - 1) Christ Jesus is the Son of God
 - 2) Christ Jesus is the Word of God
 - 3) Christ Jesus is the Personal Revelation of Father God to Mankind
 - 4) God’s Son is Heir of All Creation
 - 5) God’s Son is Creator & Sustainer of Universe
- b. “When he (*Christ Jesus*) had cleansed us from our sins (*His Sacrifice on Cross*), he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven, as far superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior than theirs.”
 - 1) Christ Jesus is the Savior of Mankind
 - 2) Jesus Enthroned at Right Hand of Majesty (Father God Almighty) in Heaven
 - 3) Christ Jesus is Superior to Angelic Hosts

2. God's Son is Greater than All Creation

Heb. 1:5-14

- a. “To which of the angles did God ever say, ‘*You are my son; today I have begotten you*’? [Psa. 2:7] Or again, ‘*I (Lord God) will be his father, and he shall be my son*’? [Messianic Promise - 2 Sam. 7:14]”
 - 1) Christ Jesus is the Only Begotten Son of God John 3:16
- b. “And again, when he leads his firstborn (*Only Begotten Son of God*) into the world,

he says, 'Let all the angles of God worship him'. [e.g. Deut. 32:43] Of the angles he says, 'He makes his angles winds, and his ministers flaming fire'; [Psa. 104:4]"

- 1) Angels Worship Christ Jesus (*Prerogative Reserved for God Alone*)
- 2) Christ Jesus is Superior to All Angels
- c. "but of the Son, 'Your throne, O God, stands forever and ever; a righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You loved justice and hated wickedness, therefore God (Messiah - Son of God), your God (Father God) has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellow kings.'" [Psa. 45:7-8]"
 - 1) Christ Jesus' Divine Eternal Throne
 - 2) Christ Jesus is Superior to All Earthly Royals & Authorities
 - 3) Christ Jesus is the Supreme & Righteous Judge
- d. "And, 'Lord, of old you established the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; all of them will grow old like a garment. You will roll them up like a cloak, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end'" [Psa. 102:26-28]."
 - 1) Christ Jesus is Creator of Heavens & Earth (*God's Work*)
 - 2) Christ Jesus is Superior to All Creation (*God's Supremacy*)
 - 3) Christ Jesus is Eternal & Immutable (*Attributes of God*)
- e. "To which of the angles has God ever said, 'Sit at my right hand till I make your enemies your footstool'?" [Psa. 110:1] Are they not all ministering spirits, sent to serve those who are to inherit salvation?"
 - 1) Christ Jesus is Enthroned with Father God
 - 2) Christ Jesus is the Supreme Authority (*Position Reserved for God Alone*)
 - 3) Angels are Ministering Spirits to Inheritors of Salvation (*People Saved through Christ's Sacrifice*)
- f. *Other Examples of Scripture References to Christ Jesus' (Messiah Yeshua) Divinity*
 Matt. 17:1-6; John 1:1-14; Phil. 2:5-11; Col. 1:15-20; Rev. 22:12-16

3. Exhortation to Faithfulness

Heb. 2:1-4

- a. Be Attentive to Word of the Lord
 - 1) Lest We Drift Away
 - 2) In the Old Testament the Word was Spoken through Angles (*i.e. Ministering Spirits*) (e.g. Acts 7:53; Gal. 3:19)
 - a) Remained Unchanged with Punishments for Disobedience
- b. Warning Not to Ignore "Our Great Salvation"
 - 1) Announced First by Our Lord Jesus Christ (*Messiah & Son of God*)
 - a) Jesus Christ Superior to Angles
 - 2) Confirmed by Christ's Disciples & Witnesses (*i.e. Church*)
 - 3) Witnessed by Signs, Wonders & Works of the Holy Spirit

4. Christ's Humility & Exaltation

Heb. 2:5-13

- a. World Made Subject to Son of Man (*Christ Jesus*) - Not Angles
 - 1) "For he did not make the world to come – that world of which we speak – subject to angels."
- b. Son of Man Temporarily Made Lower than the Angles (*In Order to Live the Life of a Man*)
 - 1) "Somewhere this is testified to, in the passage that says: 'What is man (Human Beings) that you should be mindful of him, or the son of man (Jesus) that you should care for him? You (God) made him (Jesus – Son of Man) for a little

while lower than the angles (*During His Life on Earth*); you crowned him with glory and honor, and put all things under his feet.”

[Proclaimed Psa. 8:5-7 & Fulfilled Phil. 2:5-11]

- a) Son of God Became Messiah - Son of Man
 - b) Son of Man Crowned with Glory & Authority Over All Creation
 - 2) “In subjecting all things to him (*Christ Jesus*), God left nothing unsubjected. At present we do not see all things thus subject (*i.e. Current Existence of Evil/Sin*), but we do see Jesus crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death: Jesus, who was made for a little while lower than the angles,”
 - a) Messiah Suffered Death like a Man
 - b) Messiah is Exalted Above All Creation
 - After Completing His Salvific Mission (*i.e. Coming to Earth, Living a Life of Obedience; His Ministry, Suffering, Death, Resurrection & Ascension into Heaven*)
 - Subjugating All Things (*Natural & Spiritual, Principalities & Powers*) Under His Authority
 - c. Christ Jesus Tasted Death for the Sake of Man
 - 1) “that through God’s gracious will he (*Christ Jesus*) might taste death for the sake of all men. Indeed, it was fitting that when bringing many sons (*Born Again Christians*) to glory God, for whom and through whom all things exist, should make their leader in the work of salvation perfect through suffering.”
 - a) Jesus (Our Leader) was Perfected through Suffering
 - Providing the Way for Our Salvation
 - d. Jesus Not Ashamed to Call Christians: His Brothers & Children of God
 - 1) “He who consecrates (*Jesus Christ*) and those who are consecrated (*Born Again Christians*) have one and the same Father.”
 - a) Jesus Consecrates (*Sets Apart / Declares Holy*) Man (*Born Again Christians*) to God
 - Making Father God Our Father
 - 2) “Therefore he is not ashamed to call them brothers, saying, ‘*I (Messiah – Jesus) will announce your name (Yahweh) to my brothers (Christians), I will sing your praise in the midst of the assembly (Hosts of Heaven);*’ [Psa. 22:23]
 - 3) “and ‘*I (Messiah – Jesus) will put my trust in him (Father God);* and again ‘*Here am I (Jesus Messiah Son of God & Son of Man), and the children (Born Again Christians) God has given me!*’” [Isa. 8:17-18]
5. Christ Jesus: Man / Savior / High Priest Heb. 2:14-18
- a. “Now, since the children are men of blood and flesh, Jesus likewise had a full share in ours, that by his death he might rob the devil, the prince of death, of his power, and free those who through fear of death had been slaves their whole life long.” [e.g. Isa. 25:8]
 - 1) Son of God Became a Flesh & Blood Man Like Us
 - 2) Christ Jesus Died as a Man
 - 3) Christ Jesus Our Savior - Defeats Satan & Sets Us Free from Fear of Death
 - b. “... therefore he (*Jesus*) had to become like his brothers in every way, that he might be a **merciful and faithful high priest** before God on their behalf, to expiate the sins of the people. Since he was himself tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are tempted.”

 - 1) Christ Jesus Became Our Holy & Merciful High Priest

- 2) Christ Jesus Offered a Holy & Perfect Sacrifice - To Atone for Man's Sins
(*Priestly Responsibility*)
- 3) Christ Jesus Intercedes for Man to God Almighty (*Priestly Responsibility*)
1 Tim. 2:5
- 4) Christ Jesus Experienced & Understands Our Temptations
- 5) Christ Jesus Our Means to Living Godly Lives

This Yeshua (Jesus)
Son of the Most High God
Messiah, Savior & Lord
Became
Our Eternal High Priest
Enthroned at the Right Hand of Lord God Almighty

PART II – MESSIAH FAITHFUL & COMPASSIONATE HIGH PRIEST

Heb. 3:1 - 5:10

A. Christ Jesus Superior to Moses

Heb. 3:1-6

1. Who was Moses?

(Moses' Life & Ministry in Books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers & Deuteronomy)

- a. *Moses was the Lord's Anointed Prophet* *Ex. 3:4-22; Deut. 18:15-20*
- b. *Moses was Israel's Deliverer from Bondage* *Ex. 4 - 15*
- c. *Moses was Intercessor between Israel & Lord* *Ex. 18:13-27; Ex. 32:1-14*
- d. *Moses Wrote Lord's Covenant of Laws with Israel* *Ex. 19 – 31*
(God's Chosen People/Nation)
 - 1) *Civil Laws*
 - 2) *Moral Laws*
 - 3) *Spiritual/Religious Laws*
- e. *Moses Ordained the Office of Israel's Priesthood* *Ex. 28:1; Num. 18:1-7*
 - 1) *Consecrating His Brother Aaron as Israel's First High Priest*
 - 2) *Consecrating Aaron's Sons as Priests*
 - a) *Establishing Priestly Order of Succession – Descendants of Aaron*

2. Christ Jesus the Center of Our Faith

Heb. 3:1-2

- a. "Therefore, holy brothers who share a heavenly calling, fix your eyes on Jesus, the apostle and high priest whom we acknowledge in faith, who was faithful to him *(Father God)* who appointed him....."

3. God's Household

Heb. 3:2-6

- a. "..... Moses, too, 'was faithful in all God's household,' [Num. 12:7] but Jesus is more worthy of honor than he (Moses), as the founder of a house is more honorable than the house itself." *(Heb. 3:1-3)*
 - 1) Christ Jesus is the Founder of God's Household
 - a) Fulfilling Mosaic Covenant of Laws *Matt. 5:17-18*
 - b) Establishing a New Covenant *Matt. 26:26-28*
- b. "Moses 'was faithful in all God's household' [Num. 12:7] as a servant charged with the task of witnessing to what would be spoken; but Christ was faithful as the Son placed over God's house. It is we who are that house if we hold fast to our confidence and hope of which we boast." *(Heb. 3:5-6)*
 - 1) Moses was the Lord's Faithful Servant & Witness
 - 2) Christ Jesus, God's Son, is Heir & Head of God's Household
 - 3) We *(Believers in Christ Jesus)* Are That Household
- c. Christ Jesus is the Head of God's Household - Superior to His Servants (i.e. Moses)

B. Israel's Infidelity & A Warning

Heb. 3:7 - 4:13

1. Israel's Rebellion & God's Anger

- a. "Wherefore, as the Holy Spirit says: 'Today, if you should hear his *(Lord's)* voice, harden not your hearts as at the revolt in the day of testing in the desert, When your fathers *(Israelites)* tested and tried me, and saw my works for forty years. Because of this I was angered with that generation and I said, 'They have always been of erring heart, and have never known my ways.' Thus I swore in anger, They shall

- never enter my rest.” [Psa. 95:7b-11] Heb. 3:7-11
- b. Israel's Rebellion in Desert Num. 13 & 14
(*Loss Faith / Stopped Trusting in God*)
- 1) Moses Received God's Law at Mt. Sinai
 - a) Israel Ready to Conquer Promise Land
 - 2) 12 Scouts Reconnoiter Promise Land (*One from Each Tribe*)
 - a) 10 Scouts Gave Negative Report
 - Trusting in their Own Strength – Not the Lord's
 - b) Joshua & Caleb Gave Positive Report
 - Trusting in Lord to Give Them Victory
 - 3) People Rebelled Against Moses & Grumbled Against God
 - 4) Lord Sentenced Israel to Wander 40 Years in Desert
 - a) Until that Faithless Generation Died Out
 - Failing to Receive their Inheritance
 - b) Joshua & Caleb Lived to Entered Promise Land
 - Receiving their Inheritance
2. Warning to Christians Heb. 3:12-19
- a. Be Steadfast in Faith. “Take care, my brothers, lest any of you have an evil and unfaithful spirit and fall away from the living God.” (*Heb. 3:12*)
 - b. Encourage One Another. “Encourage one another daily while it is still ‘today,’ so that no one grows hardened by the deceit of sin.” (*Heb. 3:13*)
 - c. We are Partners with Christ Jesus. “We have become partners of Christ only if we maintain to the end that confidence with which we began.” (*Heb 3:14*)
 - d. Reminder that God was Angry with Israelites 40 Years in Desert
 - 1) Judging Them Harshly. “To whom but to the disobedient did he (*Lord*) swear that they would not enter into his rest? We see, moreover, that it was their unbelief that kept them from entering.” (*Heb. 3:18-19*)
3. The Word of God Heb. 4:1-13
- a. Receive Word of God in Faith
 - 1) “Therefore, while the promise of entrance into his rest still holds, we ought to be fearful of disobeying lest any one of you be judged to have lost his chance of entering. (*Heb. 4:1*)
 - 2) “We have indeed heard the good news, as they did. But the word which they heard did not profit them, for they did not receive it in faith. It is we who have believed who enter into that rest,” (*Heb. 4:2-3*)
 - b. Faith Required to Enter God's Rest
(God Rested from His Work on Sabbath. Gen. 2:2; Ex. 20:8-11)
 - 1) That Rest Does Not Refer to Israel's Entrance into Promise Land
 - 2) Sabbath Foretells of a Future Rest
 - a) An Eternal Rest with the Lord God Almighty
 - 3) “Let us strive to enter into that rest, so that no one may fall, in imitation of the example of Israel's unbelief.” (*Heb. 4:11*)
 - c. Effects of God's Word Heb. 4:12-13
 - 1) “Indeed, God's word is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword. It penetrates and divides soul and spirit, joints and marrow;”
 - a) Word of God is Living & Sharper than Any Two-Edged Sword
 - b) God's Word Penetrates & Divides:

- Soul (*Our Mind, Will & Emotions*), from
 - Spirit (*Our Spiritual Nature*), from
 - Joints & Marrow (*Our Body – Physical Nature*).
- 2) “it judges the reflections and thoughts of the heart”
 - a) Word of God Judges:
 - Our Reflections (*Motivations, Intentions & Desires*)
 - Our Thoughts of the Heart (*Conscience*)
 - 3) “Nothing is concealed from him (*Lord*); all lies bare and exposed to the eyes of him to who we must render an account.”
 - a) Nothing Concealed from the Lord Our Supreme & Final Judge

C. Christ Jesus Our Compassionate High Priest

Heb. 4:14 - 5:10

1. Jesus Christ Son of God & Our High Priest

Heb. 4:14-16

- a. “Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our profession of faith.”
 - 1) Jesus – Our Great High Priest - Passed Through the Heavens
 - a) He has Direct Access to Father God in Heaven
 - b) He is the Son of God
 - 2) Exhortation to Hold onto Our Faith
- b. “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weakness, but one who was tempted in every way that we are, yet never sinned.”
 - 1) Jesus Sympathizes with Our Weakness
 - a) He was Tempted Like Us in Every Way
 - b) He Never Sinned
 - c) He Conquered All Temptations & Sin
- c. “So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and favor and to find help in time of need.”
 - 1) We Can Confidently Approach God’s Throne of Grace
 - a) We have Direct Access to Christ Jesus!
 - To Receive Mercy & Favor
 - To Find Help in Time of Need

2. Office of High Priest

Heb. 5:1-10

High Priest is Israel's Representative Before God.

Exclusive Responsibilities of High Priest:

- 1) *Intercede Between Israelites & the Lord their God*
- 2) *Offer Sacrifices for the Atonement of Sin*

a. Israel’s High Priests

Heb. 5:1-4

- 1) “Every high priest is taken from among men and made their representative before God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal patiently with erring sinners, for he himself is beset by weakness and so must make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people.”
 - a) High Priest is Taken from Among Men
 - b) High Priest Intercedes for People
 - c) High Priest Offers Sacrifices for the Atonement of Sin
 - For His Own Sins
 - For Sins of People (Israel)

- 2) “One does not take this honor on his own initiative, but only when called by God as Aaron was.”
 - a) High Priest is Appointed by God
 - Israel’s High Priests are from House of Aaron
- b. Christ Jesus as High Priest Heb. 5:5-10
 - 1) Christ was Taken from Among Men (*Messiah – Son of Man*)
 - a) “Even Christ did not glorify himself with the office of high priest; he received it from the One who said to him, ‘You are my (Father God’s) son; today I have begotten you’” [Psa. 2:7]
 - 2) Christ was Appointed by God
 - a) “..... You are a priest forever (Eternal High Priest), according to the order of Melchizedek.” [Psa.110:4]
 - 3) Christ Intercedes for Mankind with Prayers & Supplications
 - a) “In the days when he was in the flesh, he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to God, who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.”
 - Heard by Father God because of His Reverence
 - 4) Christ’s Sacrifice for the Atonement of Sin
 - a) “Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when perfected, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him,”
 - He Learned Obedience through Suffering (*Living as a Man*)
 - His Suffering was Perfected (*Sacrifice on Cross for Atonement of Sin*)
 - He Became the Source of Eternal Salvation
 - 5) Christ from the Order of Melchizedek (*Priest & King*)
 - a) “designated by God as high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.”
 - WHO IS THIS MELCHIZEDEK?

PART III - MESSIAH'S ETERNAL PRIESTHOOD**Heb. 5:11 - 7:28****A. Call to Spiritual Renewal**

Heb. 5:11 - 6:20

Comments. The author of Hebrews firmly establishes the source (God Himself), sanctity, inerrancy and accuracy of the Word of God, to prepare the reader for his teaching on Christ's Eternal Priesthood.

- In Hebrews 4:1-13, he introduces the spiritual principle that the Word of God is living and effective, sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating and dividing soul (mind, will and emotions) and spirit (spiritual nature), joints and marrow (physical body). He exhorts us to be attentive to the Word of God, receive it in faith and obey it. He then introduces the human perspective of Christ Jesus as our compassionate High Priest (Heb. 4:14 – 5:10).
- In Hebrews 5:11–14 the Word of God is likened to spiritual food nourishing our spirit and our minds, so that we grow into mature Christians. Spiritual maturity enables us to receive and accept the mystery of Christ's Eternal Priesthood presented later in this book.
- In Hebrews 6:1-12, he challenges and encourages us to go beyond the fundamental principles of Christianity and take on the responsibilities of mature Christians, opening our minds and spirit to receive and apply God's Word.
- In Hebrews 6:13-20, he assures us that what he is about to teach concerning Christ's Eternal Priesthood is indeed the true Word of God, enforcing its supremacy and steadfastness. He then directly applies it to Christ Jesus as our Eternal High Priest.

1. Exhortation for Spiritual Renewal

Heb. 5:11-14

- a. Become Dull in Hearing Word of God
- b. Need to be Retought Fundamentals of God's Oracles (*Milk of the Word*)
 - 1) Milk is for the Immature
 - a) Ignorant of Word of God that Sanctifies
- c. Meat of Word (*Solid / Hearty Food*) is for Mature Christians
 - 1) Trained by Spiritual Discipline
 - 2) Distinguish Good (*What is of God*) from Evil (*What is of Man*)

2. Meat of God's Word

Heb. 6:1-12

- a. Let Us Progress Beyond the Fundamentals (*Milk*)
 - 1) Fundamentals Include:
 - a) Repentance from Dead Works
 - b) Faith in God
 - c) Baptisms (*Baptism of Repentance & Baptism of Holy Spirit*)
 - d) Laying On of Hands
 - e) Resurrection of Dead
 - f) Eternal Judgment
 - 2) Let Us Advance to Spiritual Maturity
- b. Privilege & Responsibility of the Mature Christian
 - 1) Seriousness of Rebellion Against Word of God.
 - a) "For when men have once been enlightened and have tasted the heavenly gift (*Salvation*) and become sharers in the Holy Spirit (*Baptized in Holy Spirit*), when they have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away (*Rebelled Against Christ*), it is impossible to make them repent again, since they are crucifying the Son of God for themselves and holding him up to contempt." (*Heb. 6:4-6*)

- 2) Produce of Mature Christian
 - a) Good Works Receive God's Blessing
 - b) Worthless Works are Destroyed
 - c. Encouragement & Challenge to Mature Christians
 - 1) “Beloved, even though we speak in this way, we are persuaded of better things in your regard, things pointing to your salvation. God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him by your service, past and present, to his holy people.” (*Heb. 6:9-10*)
 - a) Our God is Just
 - b) God Remembers Our Love of Him & Good Works to Others
 - 2) Be Zealous in Serving God
 - a) Have Assurance in God's Promises
3. God's Promise to Abraham (Ca. 2000 BC) Heb. 6:13-20
- a. God's Oath to Abraham
 - 1) “When God made his promise to Abraham, he swore by himself, having no one greater to swear by, and said, ‘I will indeed bless you, and multiply you.’ [Gen. 22:16-17]” (*Heb. 6:13-14*)
 - a) God Swore an Oath by Himself - **NO ONE GREATER**
 - b) God Can Not Lie (*God is Truth Itself*)
(*His Word is The Creative Force – What He Says Comes to Pass*)
 - b. God Fulfilled His Promise to Abraham
 - 1) Birth of Isaac Father of Israel
 - a) Heirs of God's Promise
 - c. Men Swear Oaths Using the Name of Someone Greater
(*e.g. An Official Takes an Oath of Office by Swearing on a Bible & Invoking the Name of God*)
 - 1) It Confirms & Guarantees their Oath
 - d. God Confirmed & Guaranteed that Promise by HIS Oath
 - 1) “God, wishing to give the heirs of his promise (*Israel*) even clearer evidence that his purpose would not change, guaranteed it by oath, so that, by two things that are unchangeable, in which he could not lie, we who have taken refuge in him might be strongly encouraged to seize the hope which is placed before us.” (*Heb. 6:17-18*)
 - a) God's Oath is Firmly Established!
 - b) We Can Place Our Hope in it!
 - e. God Fulfills His Oath to Israel
 - 1) “Like a sure and firm anchor, that hope extends beyond the veil through which Jesus, our forerunner, has entered on our behalf, being made high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.” (*Heb. 6:19-20*)
 - a) Our Hope (*of Salvation*) Extends Beyond the Veil (*Presence of God*)
(*Israel's Temple Worship: Entrance Beyond Veil into Holy of Holies was Exclusively Reserved for Israel's High Priest on Day of Atonement.*)
 - b) Jesus (*Our Forerunner*) Entered Beyond the Heavenly Veil on Our Behalf
 - c) Jesus is High Priest Forever According to the Order of Melchizedek!

B. Melchizedek a Type of Christ

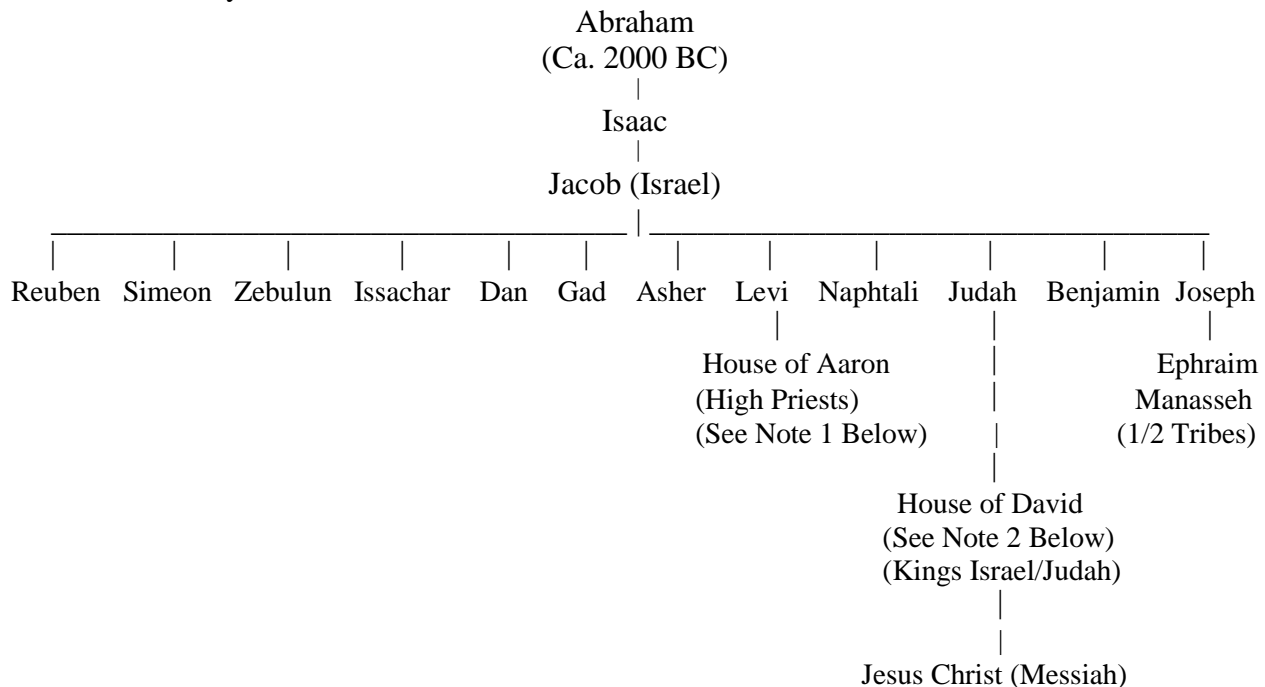
Heb. 7

God's Oath to His Son – Messiah: “The LORD (*Yahweh*) swore, and he will not repent: ‘You (*Messiah*) are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.’” Psa. 110:4

1. Who is Melchizedek?

Heb. 7:1-3; Gen. 14:17-20

- a. “This Melchizedek, king of Salem and priest of the Most High God, met Abraham returning from his defeat of the kings and blessed him. And Abraham apportioned to him one tenth of all his booty. His name means ‘king of justice’; he was also king of Salem, that is, ‘king of peace.’ Without father, mother or ancestry, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever.”
- 1) Melchizedek was King of Salem (Jerusalem) & Priest of the Most High God
 - 2) Melchizedek Met Abraham after Abraham Defeated 4 Kings & Rescued His Kinsmen & Possessions
 - 3) Melchizedek Blessed Abraham
 - a) The Blessing: “Melchizedek, king of Salem, brought out bread and wine (*Foreshadow of Messiah’s Body & Blood in Eucharist*), and being a priest of God Most High (*Prefigures Messiah – High Priest*), he blessed Abram (*Father of Isaac the Father of Israel*) with these words: ‘Blessed be Abram by God Most High, the creator of heaven and earth; And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your foes into your hand.’”
(*Gen. 14:18-20a*)
 - 4) Abraham Paid Tithes to Melchizedek
 - 5) Name Melchizedek Means “King of Justice”
- No Other Records of Melchizedek*
- a) He is King of Salem Meaning “King of Peace”
 - b) His Ancestry & End of Life are Unknown (*Like Son of God*)
 - b) He Remains a Priest Forever (*Representing an Eternal Priesthood*)

2. Ancestry & Tribes of Israel:Notes:

1. Levitical Law within the Mosaic Covenant established about 1400 BC. Moses was Aaron’s brother.
2. Lord’s Messianic Covenant with King David about 1000 BC.

3. Principles of Supremacy Heb. 7:4-10
- a. “See the greatness of this man to whom Abraham the patriarch gave one tenth of his booty! The law provides that the priests of the tribe of Levi should receive tithes from the people, their brother Israelites, even though all of them are descendants of Abraham; but Melchizedek, who was not of their ancestry, received tithes of Abraham and blessed him who had received God’s promises. It is indisputable that a lesser person is blessed by a greater. And whereas men subject to death receive tithes, Scripture testifies that this man lives on. Levi, who receives tithes, was so to speak, tithed in the person of his father, for he was still in his father’s loins when Melchizedek met Abraham.”
- 1) Lesser Pays Tithes to Greater
 - a) Abraham Paid Tithes to Melchizedek
 - b) Melchizedek Superior to Abraham
 - 2) Greater Blesses the Lesser
 - a) Melchizedek Blessed Abraham
 - b) Melchizedek Superior to Abraham
 - 3) Israelites Pay Tithes to Priests from Tribe of Levi
 - a) House of Aaron from Tribe of Levi
 - b) Melchizedek Not Abraham’s Descendant
 - Received Tithes from Abraham & Blessed Him
 - Abraham had Received God’s Promises
 - 4) Human Recipients of Tithes are Subject to Death
 - a) No Record of Melchizedek’s Death
 - b) Priestly Order of Melchizedek Remains Alive
 - 5) Abraham the Great Grand Father of Levi
 - a) Levi in Abraham’s Loins When He Paid Tithes to Melchizedek
 - Levi Paid Tithes to Melchizedek in the Person of Father Abraham
- b. Therefore: **The Order of Melchizedek is Superior to Levitical Order of Aaron**
- 1) Israel’s High Priests are from Order of Aaron
4. A New Priestly Order Heb. 7:11-21
- a. Perfection Not Achieved through Levitical Order
- 1) “If, then, perfection had been achieved through the levitical priesthood (on the basis of which the people received the law), what need would there have been to appoint a priest according to the order of Melchizedek, instead of choosing a priest according to the order of Aaron?”
 - a) High Priests are Subject to Sin & Death
 - How Can They Atone for Sins of Others before a Holy God?
 - b) Need to Appoint Another Priestly Order (Order of Melchizedek)
 - Perfect, Holy & Eternal Order
- b. When the Priesthood Changes – The Law Changes
- 1) “When there is a change of priesthood, there is necessarily a change in law.”
- c. Christ Jesus from the Tribe of Judah
- 1) “Now he of whom these things are said was of a different tribe, none of whose members ever officiated at the altar. It is clear that our Lord (*Jesus*) rose from the tribe of Judah, regarding which Moses said nothing about priests.”
 - a) Tribe of Judah Not Designated as Priests by Moses & Law

- d. The New Priest (Jesus Christ) Appointed According to Order of Melchizedek
 - 1) “The matter is clearer still if another priest is appointed according to the likeness of Melchizedek: one who has become a priest, not in virtue of a law expressed in a commandment concerning physical descent, but in virtue of the power of a life which cannot be destroyed.”
 - a) Appointed Not By Law
 - b) Appointed Not By Physical Descent
 - c) Appointed by Virtue of the Power of Life that Cannot be Destroyed!
 - 2) “*You (Messiah) are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek (Without End of Life).*” [Psa. 110:4]
- e. The Former Commandment (Levitical Order) Annulled
 - 1) “The former commandment has been annulled because of its weakness and uselessness, for the law brought nothing to perfection.”
 - a) Order of Aaron was Weak & Useless (*Officiated by Sinful Man*)
 - b) The Law Brought Nothing into Perfection
- f. Better Hope through Christ Jesus Our High Priest
 - 1) “But a better hope has supervened, and through it we draw near to God.”
 - a) Drawing Us Closer to God
 - 2) “This has been confirmed by an oath. The priests of the old covenant became priests without an oath, unlike Jesus to whom God said: The LORD swore, and he will not repent (i.e. Change His Mind): ‘You (Messiah) are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.’ [Psa. 110:4]”
 - a) Order of Melchizedek Confirmed by God's Oath

5. Eternal Priesthood of Jesus Christ

Heb. 7:22-28

- a. Jesus Christ is Our Guarantee of a Better Covenant
 - 1) “Thus has Jesus become the guarantee of a better covenant.”
- b. Christ’s Priesthood Remains Forever
 - 1) “Under the old covenant there were many priests because they were prevented by death from remaining in office;”
 - a) Priests of Old Covenant Died & Had to be Replaced
 - 2) “but Jesus, because he remains forever, has a priesthood which does not pass away. Therefore he is always able to save those who approach God through him, since he forever lives to make intercession for them.”
 - a) Christ’s Eternal Priesthood
 - Continually Providing Salvation
 - Continually Interceding in Our Behalf
- c. Jesus Christ Our Perfect & Eternal High Priest
 - 1) “It was fitting that we should have such a high priest; holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners, higher than the heavens.”
 - a) Jesus is Holy, Innocent & Undefiled (*Sinless*)
 - b) Jesus is Separated from Sinners (*Sanctified*)
 - c) Jesus is Higher than Heavens (*Enthroned at God's Right Hand*)
- d. Priestly Sacrifices (*Atonement for Sin*)
 - 1) “Unlike the other high priests, he (Jesus) has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins (*Jesus is Sinless*) and then for those of the people; he did that once for all when he offered himself.”
 - a) Levitical Priests Offered Imperfect Temporary Sacrifices
 - b) Jesus Christ Offered Himself (*On the Cross*) as Perfect & Eternal

Sacrifice!

- 2) “For the law sets up as high priests men who are weak (*Sinners*), but the word of oath which came after the law appoints as priest the Son, made perfect forever.”
- a) God’s Oath Appoints Jesus Christ (Son of God) as High Priest

Comment – Who is Melchizedek?

The person of Melchizedek is a mystery that puzzled scholars for centuries. He only appears once in Scriptures (Gen. 14:17-20), has no ancestry, no beginning and no end of life. He is referred to once again by King David in a Messianic Psalm (Psa. 110:4) written about 1000 years later.

I often thought that Melchizedek may have been a pre-incarnate visitation of the Son of God. He blesses Abraham (with whom He chose and made an earlier Covenant. Gen 12:1-3), previews His New Covenant (by presenting him bread & wine – Elements of New Covenant) and introduces His Divine Priestly Order that He will fulfill about 2000 years later.

PART IV - MESSIAH HIGH PRIEST OF NEW COVENANT

Heb. 8 - 10

Comments.

1. Summary of Messiah's Eternal Priesthood. In Hebrews 7, the author proclaims Messiah's Eternal Priesthood:
 - Established by God according to the Order of Melchizedek, a priestly order superior to the Old Covenant's Levitical Law with its Priesthood according to the Order of Aaron.
 - He explained that: "When there is a change of priesthood, there is necessarily a change in law."
 - The Old Covenant, given to Moses, is replaced by a New and better Covenant with Christ Jesus as its Eternal High Priest.
2. Word of God & Messiah's New Covenant. Scriptures teach that the Lord gave Moses the Old Covenant with its Levitical Laws, Priestly Order of Aaron and ritualistic sacrifices for the atonement of sins. If the Word of God is effectual, infallible and eternal, as taught in preceding chapters, then the Lord can not arbitrarily nullify the Old Covenant, or any part thereof, and establish a new order while remaining true to His Word. If Messiah is to provide a "new and better covenant", He must completely fulfill the Mosaic Covenant according to its prescribed laws, priesthood, rituals and sacrifices bringing it to fruition before establishing His New Covenant. The following chapters explains how Christ Jesus – Our High Priest - accomplished this requirement.

A. Overview of Mosaic Covenant (Established Ca. 1400 BC)

To Better Understand Spiritual Implications of Old Covenant & Messiah's Fulfillment.
Old Covenant Consists of 3 Basic Ingredients:

1. Israel's Tabernacle / Temple (See "Tabernacle & Temple – Parts I & II" Studies)
 - a. God's Command & Specifications to Moses Ex. 25 - 27 & 30
 - 1) Outer Court (Where People Gathered)
 - a) Altar of Sacrifice
 - b) Laver – Priests Cleanse Themselves before Entering Holy Place
 - 2) Holy Place (Sanctuary is Restricted to Priests)
 - a) Table of Showbread (12 Loaves of Bread – 1 for Each Tribe of Israel)
 - b) Lampstand (Menorah)
 - c) Incense Altar – Priests Intercede for People before Holy of Holies
 - 3) Holy of Holies (Most Holy Place) (God's Presence on Earth)
 - a) Separated from Holy Place by a Veil
 - b) Contains Ark of Covenant (Box Containing God's Laws)
 - Ark Covering (Propitiation) with God's Mercy Seat
 - Prescribed Place Where God Meets with Man
 - c) Restricted to High Priest Who Enters Only on Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) Lev. 16
 - To Atone for His Own Sins
 - To Atone for Sins of People
 - b. Construction of the Tabernacle Ex. 35 - 39
 - c. Consecration of the Tabernacle Ex. 40
 - 1) Presence of Lord (Shekinah Glory) Enters Holy of Holies Ex. 40:34-38
 - a) Lord Enthroned on Mercy Seat
2. Levitical Priesthood (See "Anointed Priest – Part I & Part II" Studies)
 - a. God's Command to Establish a Particular Priesthood Ex. 28
 - 1) Priests from Tribe of Levi the House of Aaron Num. 17:16 - 18:7

- b. Consecration & Ordination of Priests Ex. 29; Lev. 8 & 9
- c. Unique & Exclusive Duties of Priests
 - 1) To Intercede to God for Israel
 - 2) To Offer Sacrifices to God
- 3. Sacrifices (See “*Sacrifices & Offerings – Parts I & Part II*” Studies) Lev. 1 - 7
 - a. Blood Sacrifices – Clean Animals Killed, Libated & Burned on Altar
 - 1) Holocausts (Whole Burnt Offerings) - Atonement for Sin
 - 2) Peace Offerings - Fulfilling a Vow
 - 3) Sin Offerings – Forgiveness of Transgression / Cleansing from Ritual Uncleaness
 - 4) Guilt Offerings – Absolve Guilt from Transgressing Against Law
 - b. Bloodless Sacrifice
 - 1) Cereal (Unleavened Bread) - Offering of Thanksgiving

B. Heavenly Priesthood of Christ Jesus

Heb. 8:1-6

- 1. Christ Jesus’ Heavenly Sanctuary (Tabernacle) Heb. 8:1-2
 - a. “... we have such a high priest (Messiah), who has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in Heaven, minister of the sanctuary and of that true tabernacle set up, not by man, but by the Lord.”
 - 1) Jesus is Enthroned at God’s Right Hand.
 - 2) Jesus is Minister of God’s Heavenly Tabernacle
 - a) True Tabernacle Created by God
- 2. Israel’s High Priests Heb. 8:3 & 5
 - a. “Now every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; hence the necessity for this one to have something to offer.”
 - 1) Priests Offer Gifts & Sacrifices to Lord
 - a) As Prescribed by Law of Moses
 - b. “They (Israel’s Priests) offer worship in a sanctuary which is only a copy and shadow of the heavenly one, for Moses, when about to erect the tabernacle, was warned, ‘See that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.’” [Ex. 25:40]
 - 1) Priests Offer Worship in Earthly Sanctuary (*Moses’ Tabernacle & Subsequent Temples*)
 - a) Designed & Specified by Lord
 - To be a Copy & Shadow of the Lord’s Heavenly Tabernacle
- 3. Christ Jesus’ High Priesthood Heb. 8:4 & 6
 - a. “If he (*Jesus Christ*) were on earth he would not be a priest, for there are priests already offering the gifts which the law prescribes.”
 - 1) Jesus’ Priesthood is Not Earthly
 - a) As Prescribed by Moses
 - b) As Practiced by Israel’s Priests
 - b. “Jesus has obtained a more excellent ministry now, just as he is mediator of a better covenant, founded on better promises.”
 - 1) Jesus’ Ministry is More Excellent than Mosaic Law
 - a) Jesus is Face to Face with Father God in Heavenly Tabernacle

- 2) Jesus is the Mediator of a Better Covenant
 - a) Founded on Better Promises

C. New Covenant Replaces Old Covenant

Heb. 8:7 – 9:28

1. The Need for a New Covenant

Heb. 8:7-13

- a. Old Covenant Imperfect
 - 1) “If that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no place for a second one.”
- b. Prophecy of a New Covenant [Jer. 31:31-34]
 - 1) “But God, finding fault with them, says: ‘Days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers the day I took them by the hand to lead them forth from the land of Egypt (*i.e. Mosaic Covenant*); For they broke my covenant and I grew weary of them, says the Lord.’”
 - a) Israel Continually Broke Lord’s Covenant
 - Without Repentance
 - b) Lord Grew Weary with Israel’s Disobedience & Rebellion
 - 2) “‘But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will place my laws in their minds and I will write them upon their hearts; I will be their God and they shall be my people. And they shall not teach their fellow citizens or their brothers, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for all shall know me, from least to greatest.’”
 - a) God Will Instill His Laws in Minds and Hearts of His People
 - 3) ‘I will forgive their evildoing, and their sins I will remember no more.’”
 - a) Promise of Personal & Eternal Salvation
- c. Lord Declares Old Covenant Obsolete
 - 1) “When he says, ‘a new covenant,’ he declares the first one obsolete. And what has become obsolete and has grown old is close to disappearing.”

2. Worship of Old Covenant (See IV.A Above)

Heb.9:1-10

- a. “The first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary.”
 - 1) Lord Prescribed Regulations in Law for Worship
 - 2) Lord Specified Earthly Sanctuary / Tabernacle / Temple as Place of Worship
 - a) Holy Place. “For a tabernacle was constructed, the outer one, in which were the lampstand, the table, and the showbread; this was called the holy place.”
 - b) Holy of Holies. “Behind the second veil was the tabernacle called the holy of holies, in which were the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant entirely covered with gold. In the ark were the golden jar containing the manna, the rod of Aaron which had blossomed, and the tablets of the covenant. Above the ark were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the place of expiation (*Atonement*).....”
 - 3) Arrangements for Worship Prescribed by Law
 - a) “These were the arrangements of worship. In performing their service the priests used to go into the outer tabernacle constantly,”
 - Priests Officiate Constantly in Outer Court & Holy Place
 - b) “but only the high priest went into the inner one, and that but once a year,

with the blood which he offered for himself and for the sins of the people.”

- High Priest Enters the Holy of Holies Once a Year
 - On the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)
 - With Blood Sacrifices for Himself & Peoples' Sins

b. The Lord's Revelation.

- 1) “The Holy Spirit was showing thereby that while the first tabernacle was still standing (*Temple Destroyed 70 AD*), the way into the sanctuary had not yet been revealed.”
 - a) The Way into God's Sanctuary was Not Revealed Under Old Covenant
- 2) “This is a symbol of the present time (*i.e. During Temple Worship*), in which gifts and sacrifices are offered that can never make perfect the conscience of the worshiper, but can only cleanse in matters of food and drink and various ritual washings: regulations concerning the flesh, imposed until the time of the new order.”
 - a) Old Covenant Gifts & Offerings Can Not Perfect Consciences (*Heart & Mind*) of Worshipers
 - Only Ritually Cleanse in Matters of Food, Drink & Flesh
 - b) Regulations Imposed Until the New Order (*Messiah's New Covenant*)

3. Christ Jesus' Perfect Sacrifice

Heb. 9:11-28

a. Christ Became Our High Priest

- 1) “But when Christ came as high priest of the good things which have come to be, he (*Jesus Christ*) entered once for all into the (*Heavenly*) sanctuary, passing through the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made by hands, that is, not belonging to this creation. He entered, not with the blood of goats and calves, but with his own blood, and achieved eternal redemption.”
 - a) Jesus Entered God's Heavenly Sanctuary (*God's Throne Room*)
 - Once For All (*God's Eternal Sacrifice*)
 - With His Own Blood (*God's Holy & Perfect Sacrifice*)
 - Achieving Eternal Redemption
- 2) “For if the blood of goats and bulls (*Sacrifices of Old Covenant*) and the sprinkling of heifer's ashes (*Cleansing in Old Covenant*) can sanctify those who are defiled so that their flesh is cleansed, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal spirit offered himself up unblemished (*Pure*) to God, cleanse our consciences from dead works to worship the living God.”
 - a) Christ's Holy, Perfect & Eternal Sacrifice
 - b) Cleanses Our Consciences (Hearts & Minds)
 - By the Indwelling Holy Spirit. “..... I will place my law within them, and write it upon their hearts;” Jer. 31:33

b. Christ is Mediator of New Covenant

- 1) “This is why he (*Jesus Christ*) is a mediator of a new covenant: since his death has taken place for deliverance from transgressions committed under the first covenant, those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.”
 - a) Christ Fulfilled Old Covenant Sacrifices
 - b) Offering His Own Death as Promise of Eternal Life

c. God's Covenants Inaugurated by Blood

- 1) “Where there is a testament, it is necessary that the death of the testator be

confirmed. For a testament comes into force only in the case of death; it has no force while the testator is alive.”

- a) Testament Confirmed by Death of Testator
(*A Will Does Not Go Into Effect Until Owner/Testator Dies*)
 - 2) “Hence, not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. When Moses had read all the commandments of the law to the people, he took the blood of goats and calves, together with water and crimson wool and hyssop, and sprinkled the book (*Law*) and all the people,
 - a) Moses Inaugurated Old Covenant by Sprinkling of Animals' Blood
 - “Saying, ‘This is the blood of the covenant which God has enjoined upon you (*Israel*).’” [Ex. 24:1-11]
 - b) Moses Also Consecrated Tabernacle & Vessels of Worship with Blood
 - “He also sprinkled the tabernacle and all the vessels of worship with blood.”
 - 3) “According to the law almost everything is purified by blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.”
 - a) **Without The Shedding of Blood There Is No Forgiveness**
(*Without Forgiveness Man is Separated from a Holy God*)
Why Blood Sacrifices ?
 - *Blood is the Essence of Life* *Lev. 17:8-14*
- “Since the life of a living body is in its blood, I have made you put it on the altar, so that atonement may thereby be made for your own lives, because it is the blood, as the seat of life, that makes atonement.” (*Lev. 17:11*)
 - *Shedding of Blood Fulfills God’s Death Penalty for Sin*
Gen. 2:15-17; Gen. 3:17-19
- d. Christ Provides a Superior Sacrifice
- 1) “It was necessary that the copies of the heavenly models be purified in this way, but the heavenly realities themselves called for a better sacrifices.”
 - a) Old Covenant Sacrifices are Copies of Heavenly Model
 - b) Heaven’s Realities Call for Better Sacrifice
 - 2) “For Christ did not enter into a sanctuary made by hands, a mere copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself that he might appear before God now on our behalf.”
 - a) Christ Entered Heaven Itself with His Own Blood
 - Appearing Before God Almighty on Our Behalf
 - 3) “Not that he might offer himself there again and again, as the high priest enters year after year into the sanctuary with blood that is not his own; if that were so, he would have had to suffer death over and over from the creation of the world. But now he (*Jesus Christ*) has appeared at the end of the ages to take away sins once for all by his sacrifice.”
 - a) Christ Offered One Eternal Sacrifice to Take Away the Sins of Many
 - 4) “Just as it is appointed that men die once, and after death be judged, so Christ was offered up once to take away the sins of many; he will appear a second time not to take away sin but to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him”

D. Christ's Single Eternal Sacrifice

Heb. 10:1-18

1. Old Covenant Sacrifices

Heb. 10:1-4

- a. "Since the law had only a shadow of the good things to come, and no real image of them, it was never able to perfect the worshipers by the same sacrifices offered continually year after year. Were matters otherwise, the priests would have stopped offering them, for the worshipers, once cleansed, would have had no sin on their conscience. But through those sacrifices there came only a yearly recalling of sins, because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take sins away."
- 1) Sacrifices Offered Continually Under Old Covenant
 - a) Unable to Perfect Salvation
 - b) Unable to Cleanse from Sin
 - 2) Sacrifices were Only an Annual Recalling of Sins (Day of Atonement)
 - a) Self Examination for Sins
 - b) Repent & Seek Forgiveness
 - 3) Impossible for Blood of Animals to Take Away Sin

Why?

 - a) *Animals are Temporal Mortal Beings*
 - b) *Animals are Subject to Sinful Man*
 - c) *Animals are Subject to World of Sin – They Die Naturally (Curse of Sin)*
 - d) *How Can They Provide Salvation & Eternal Life to Man?*

2. Son of God's Testimony

Heb. 10:5-18

- a. "Wherefore, on coming into the world, Jesus said: 'Sacrifice and offerings you (Father God) did not desire, but a body you have prepared for me (Son of Man); Holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight in'." [Psa. 40:7]
- 1) God Did Not Delight in Animal Sacrifices

Why, If God Prescribed Animal Sacrifice Under the Law?

 - a) *Law Revealed the Seriousness & Detestability of Sin*
 - b) *Law Confirmed the Penalty of Sin – Death*
 - c) *Law Prescribed the Means of Atonement – Death of Innocent Sacrifice*
 - d) *Law Points to God's Promised Holy & Perfect Sacrifice – His Son Christ Jesus – So that the People would Recognize & Accept Him*
 - 2) **Father God Prepared a Sacrificial Body for His Son**
- b. "Then I (*Christ Jesus*) said, 'As it is written in the book (Scriptures), I have come to do your will, O God'." [Psa. 40:8-9]
- 1) Son of God Accepts Father God's Means of Salvation for Mankind
- c. "First he (*Jesus Christ*) says, 'Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in.' [Psa. 40:7] (These are offered according to the prescriptions of the law.) Then he says, 'I have come to do your will.' [Psa. 40:9] In other words, he takes away the first covenant to establish the second."
- 1) Son of Man Offers Himself According to the Prescription & Letter of the Law (i.e. Blood Sacrifice. Lev. 1 - 7)
 - a) Fulfilling all Precepts of Law (Old Covenant)
 - b) Taking Away the Old Covenant to Establish the New Covenant
- d. "By this 'will' we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."
- 1) *We (Born Again Christians) are Sanctified through Christ Jesus' Own Body*
 - 2) *Christ's One Eternal Sacrifice Offered to All Mankind*

- e. “Every other (*Old Covenant*) priest stands ministering day by day, and offering again and again those same sacrifices which can never take away sins. But Jesus offered one sacrifice for sins and took his seat forever at the right hand of God; now he waits until his enemies are placed beneath his feet.”
- 1) Jesus Christ Offered One Eternal Sacrifice for Sins of World
 - 2) Jesus (Our Lord, Savior & High Priest) Reigns with God Almighty
 - 3) Expanding His Kingdom on Earth through Us
- f. “By one offering he has forever perfected those who are being sanctified.”
- 1) Jesus Christ Offered One Eternal Sacrifice
 - 2) Jesus Christ is Our Sanctifier
 - a) Perfecting Us Who Are Being Saved
- g. The Holy Spirit’s Testimony: [Jer. 31:33-34]
- 1) “The Holy Spirit attests this to us, for after saying, ‘This is the covenant I will make with them after those days (*Christ’s Death & Resurrection*), says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts and I will write them on their minds.”
 - a) Indwelling Holy Spirit Instills God’s Laws in Our Hearts & Minds
 - 2) “Their sins and their transgressions I will remember no more.”
 - a) Christ’s One Eternal Salvation Cleanses Us from Sin
 - b) God Forgives & Forgets Our Sins
- h. “Once these have been forgiven, there is no further offering for sin.”

E. Recalling the Past

Heb 10:19-39

1. Blood of Jesus Assures Our Entrance into the Sanctuary (God’s Presence)
Heb. 10:19-25
 - a. Jesus Provides a New & Living Path into God’s Presence – His Flesh “Veil”
 - 1) “Brothers, since the blood of Jesus assures our entrance into the (*Heavenly*) sanctuary by the new and living path he opened for us through the veil (the ‘veil’ meaning his flesh), (*Heb. 10:19-20*)
 - a) Temple’s Veil into Holy of Holies
 - Separating People, Religious & Priests from Presence of God
 - b) Temple Veil Rent at Jesus’ Death (*Matt 27:50-53*)
 - Opening that Living Path for All Believers into God’s Presence
 - b. Jesus Our Great Priest Over the House of God (*Heaven’s Sanctuary*)
 - 1) “and since we have a great priest who is over the house of God, (*Heb. 10:21*)
 - a) We are Encouraged to Confidently Approach the Lord Our God
 - Our Hearts & Minds Purified by Christ
 - b) We are Encouraged to Hold Firm to Our Profession of Faith (*Christ Has Died, Christ Is Risen, Christ Will Come Again*)
 - Place Our Faith / Trust in the Lord
 - c) We Should Assemble Together & Encourage One Another
 - To Love & Good Works
 - Anxiously Awaiting “The Day” - Christ’s Second Coming
2. A Call to Righteousness & Warning Against Rebellion Heb. 10:26-31
 - a. A Warning. “If we sin willfully after receiving the truth, there remains for us no further sacrifice for sin only a fearful expectation of judgment and a flaming fire to consume the adversaries of God.” (*Heb. 10:26-27*)

- 1) Do Not Reject Gospel of Jesus Christ
- 2) Do Not Rebel Against Jesus Christ
- b. Penalty for Rejection of Mosaic Law
 - 1) Death Without Mercy
- c. Greater Penalties for Person Who:
 - 1) Disdains the Son of God
 - 2) Considers Christ's Blood Covenant Ordinary
 - 3) Insults the Spirit of Grace
 - 4) God's Warning: "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, [e.g. Deut. 32:35 & 41] and 'The Lord will judge his people.'" [Deut. 32:36] (*Heb. 10:30*)
 - a) "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." (*Heb. 10:31*)

3. Recalling Past Persecutions

Heb. 10:32-39

- a. Reminds Jewish Christians of Their Persecution Because of Faith in Jesus
- b. Exhorts Them to Remain Faithful
 - 1) Remain Confident in Lord
 - a) You Will be Rewarded
 - 2) Be Patient to Do God's Will
 - a) You Will Receive Lord's Promises
 - 3) Promise of Second Coming: "For, just a brief moment, and he (*Messiah*) who is to come will come; he will not delay." [Hab. 2:3] (*Heb. 10:37*)
- c. Exhortation to Live by Faith: "My just man will live by faith, and if he draws back I take no pleasure in him." [Hab. 2:4] (*Heb. 10:38*)
 - 1) ".....**Have Faith and Live**" (*Heb. 10:39*)

PART V - THE WAY OF FAITH
Heb. 11 - 13

A. Importance of Faith

Heb. 11

- "Faith is confident assurance concerning what we hope for, and the conviction about things we do not see." (*Heb. 11:1*)
- "Because of faith the men of old were approved by God" (*Heb. 11:2*)
- "Through faith we perceive that the worlds were created by the word of God, and that what is visible came into being through the invisible." (*Heb. 11:3*)

1. People of Faith Prior to Mosaic Law

Heb. 11:4-12

a. Abel (Son of Adam & Eve)

Heb. 11:4; Gen. 4:1-7

- 1) By Faith Abel Offered Sacrifice to God Greater than Cain's
 - a) Cain's Sacrifice was Produce from Soil (*Works*)
 - b) Abel's Sacrifice was Finest of His Flocks (*Blood Sacrifice*)
- 2) Confirming Man's Comprehension of God's Precept for Atonement of Sins
- 3) Attesting to His Acceptance of God's Precept
- 4) Martyred – Yet His Faith Lives in Every Believer
(Abel's Offering Fulfilled by Messiah's Sacrifice)

b. Enoch

Heb. 11:5-6; Gen. 5:23-24

- 1) Lived a Just Life by Faith – Pleasing to God
- 2) Taken by God Without Dying
- 3) "... without faith, it is impossible to please him (God). Anyone who comes to God must believe the he exists, and that he rewards those who seek him"
(Heb. 11:6)

(Prefigures Rapture of Church, Justified by Christ's Blood, Received by Faith)

c. Noah – By Faith:

Heb. 11:7; Gen. 6 - 9

- 1) Believed & Obeyed Word of God
- 2) Condemned the World for its Unbelief
- 3) Saved His Household from Destruction (Noah Father of All Nations)
- 4) Inherited Justice through Faith

(Prefigures Messiah's Salvation of His Household from All Nations of World)

d. Abraham – By Faith:

Heb. 11:8-12; Gen. 12 - 23

- 1) Obeyed God When Called
- 2) Journeyed to Unknown Land to Receive His Inheritance (Promise Land)
- 3) Lived in Tents with Heirs Isaac & Jacob (Israel)
(Prefiguring Israel's Nomadic Tabernacle)
- 4) Looking for City of God
(Fulfilled by God's Eternal Dwelling with Man in Heaven)
- 5) Sarah (Abraham's Wife) Conceived Child (Isaac) in their Old Age
 - a) "As a result of this faith, there came forth from one man, who was himself as good as dead, descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and the sands of the seashore." (*Heb. 11:12*)

- 6) The Lord's Blessing: "...I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the communities of the earth shall find blessing in you." Gen. 12:1-3

(All Communities of Earth Blessed by a Descendant of Abraham – Jesus Christ Israelite & Savior of the World – Fulfilling this Blessing)

2. God's Promised Inheritance Heb. 11:13-16
- a. All Died in Faith
 - b. Did Not Obtain the Promise – Saw & Saluted it from Afar
What Promise?
 - 1) *To Live Eternally in God's Presence*
 - 2) *Fully Redeemed from All Sin*
 - 3) *Openly Commune with God – Enjoying Him Forever*Why? To Obtain the Promise - Sin & Death had to be Conquered!
 - c. Acknowledged Themselves as Strangers & Foreigners on Earth
(i.e. Belonging to God)
 - d. Searching for a Better & Heavenly Home
 - e. God is Not Ashamed to be Called Their God
 - f. God Has Prepared a City for Them (*An Abode Awaiting Messiah*)
3. People of Faith Under Abrahamic Covenant Heb. 11:17-29
(God's Chosen People - Israel)
- a. Abraham Obeyed God by Offering His Son Isaac (Promised Son) Gen. 22:1-19
 - 1) “He reasoned that God was able to raise from the dead, and so he received Isaac back as a symbol.” (*Heb. 11:19*)
(Prefigured Father God's Offering of His Son Jesus as a Holy & Perfect Sacrifice – Raising Him from the Dead)
 - b. Patriarchs: Isaac, Jacob (Israel) & Joseph Gen. 24 – 50
 - 1) Confirming God's Covenant by Faith
 - c. Moses – By Faith: Ex. 2 - 15
 - 1) Parents Disregarded King's Edicts & Hid Infant Moses
 - 2) Moses Chose God's Enslaved People Over Egypt's Luxuries
 - 3) Moses Left Egypt (Man's Kingdom)
 - 4) Moses Delivered Israel from Bondage
(Prefiguring Messiah's Deliverance of Mankind from Bondage of Sin)
 - 5) Moses & Israel Celebrated 1st Passover
 - a) Sprinkling Lamb's Blood
 - b) Saving Israel's First Born from Angel of Death
(Prefiguring Messiah – Paschal Lamb of God)
 - 6) Israelites Crossed Red Sea
(Symbolizing Baptism into a New Covenant)
4. People of Faith Under Mosaic Law Heb. 11:30-39
- a. Israel's Conquest of Promise Land Joshua 1 – 12
 - 1) Walls of Jericho Fell by Faith
 - 2) Harlot Rahab Escaped Destruction by Faith
 - b. Israel's Judges: Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah Judges 3 – 16
 - 1) Delivered & Judged Israel by Faith
 - 2) Performed Great Exploits by Faith
 - c. David (King of Israel & Judah) 1 Sam. 16 – 31 & 2 Sam.
 - 1) Conquered Kingdoms by Faith
 - d. Samuel & Prophets
 - 1) Accomplished Heroic Deeds by Faith
 - e. Litany of Faithful throughout the Age
 - 1) Endured Persecution & Martyrdom by Faith

- f. “The world was not worthy of them” (*Heb. 11:38*)
 - g. All Men & Women of Faith
 - 1) Approved by God
 - 2) Yet Despite their Faith, They Did Not Obtain the Promise
What Promise?
 - a) *To Live Eternally in God’s Presence*
 - b) *Fully Redeemed from All Sin*
 - c) *Openly Commune with God – Enjoying Him Forever*
- Why? To Obtain the Promise, Sin & Death had to be Conquered!

5. God’s Better Plan

Heb. 11:40

- a. “God had a better plan, a plan which included us. Without us, they were not to be made perfect.”
 - 1) A Plan Which Included Us (*Heirs of God from All Nations of Earth*)
Rom. 8:14-17; Gal. 4:4-7
 - a) *“Each one of you is a son of God because of your faith in Christ Jesus.”*
Gal. 3:26
 - 2) A Plan Perfected in Christ Jesus Who Conquered Sin & Death
 - a) How did Jesus Conquer Sin & Death?
 - *By Living a Sinless Life*
 - *By Fulfilling the Law & Prophets*
 - *By Offering Himself as a Holy & Perfect Sacrifice*
 - b) How did Jesus Conquer Death (Curse of Sin)?
 - *By Victoriously Rising from the Dead*
 - c) *Before His Death and Resurrection, Sin and Death Ruled Over Mankind; Therefore, God’s Promise of Eternal Life Could Not Be Obtained by the Faithful. Christ Jesus’ Death and Resurrection Freed Mankind from the Law of Sin and Death. We, as Adopted Sons of God, are Heirs of That Promise, Perfecting God’s Plan.*

B. God’s Treatment of His Sons

Heb. 12

1. Focus of Our Faith

Heb. 12:1-4

- a. We are Surrounded/Encouraged by these Witnesses (*See V.A Above*)
 - 1) Keep Away from Sin
 - 2) Persevere in Faithfulness
- b. Our Focus: “let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who inspires and perfects our faith. For the sake of the joy which lay before him he endured the cross, heedless of its shame. He has taken his seat at the right of the throne of God.” (*Heb. 12:2*)
 - 1) He Endured the Cross for Us
 - 2) He is Enthroned with God Almighty
 - 3) He is the Source of Our Faith
- c. Word of Encouragement: “Remember how he (*Jesus Christ*) endured the opposition of sinners; hence do not grow despondent or abandon the struggle.” (*Heb. 12:3*)
 - 1) Remember How Christ Endured Opposition from Sinners
 - 2) Do Not Grow Despondent
 - 3) Do Not Abandon the Struggle

2. We as Sons of God Heb. 12:5-13
- a. We are Disciplined by Father God
- 1) “..... My sons, do not disdain the discipline of the Lord nor lose heart when he reproves you; ‘For whom the Lord loves, he disciplines; he scourges every son he receives.’ [Prov. 3:11-12]” (*Heb. 12:5-6*)
 - 2) Accept & Endure Discipline
 - 3) Discipline Proves Our Legitimacy as Sons of God
 - 4) The Lord’s Discipline:
 - a) Corrects Us
 - b) Strengthens Us in Our Walk of Faith
 - c) Trains Us to Perform the Works of God
 - d) Produces Fruit of Peace & Justice in Our Lives
 - e) Prepares Us to Share in His Holiness
- b. Words of Encouragement
- 1) Accept Lord’s Discipline
 - 2) Discipline Produces Spiritual Health & Strength

3. Penalties for Disobedience / Rewards for Obedience Heb. 12:14-29
- a. Admonitions
- 1) Strive for Peace with All Men
 - 2) Strive for Holiness
 - 3) Keep from Sin
 - 4) Respect What is Sacred
- b. Words of Encouragement
- 1) God is Not Unapproachable as Under the Old Covenant
 - 2) Draw Near to the Living God
 - a) Heavenly Jerusalem (City of God)
 - b) Myriad of Angels
 - c) Assembly of Saints
 - d) God & Judge of All Creation
 - 3) Draw Near to “.....Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood which speaks more eloquently than that of Abel.” (*Heb. 12:24*)
- c. Listen to Lord
- 1) God Spoke to Israelites at Mount Sinai
 - a) Israelites Refused to Listen and were Punished
 - b) His Voice Shaking Earth
 - 2) Lord Speaks to Us from Heaven
 - a) Listen & Receive His Word
 - b) His Voice Shakes Heaven & Earth - Created Things Will Pass Away
 - c) Remain Unshakable in Faith
 - 3) Receive an Unshakable Kingdom “.... hold fast to God’s grace, through which we may offer worship acceptable to Him in reverence and awe. For our God is a consuming fire.” (*Heb. 12:28-29*)

- C. Final Exhortation & Blessing** Heb. 13
1. Love Fellow Christians Always
 2. Do Good Works
 3. Honor Marriage in Every Way
 4. Be Generous

5. Remain in Faith
 - a. God's Assurance: "I will never desert you, nor will I forsake you" [Deut. 31:6 & 8] (*Heb. 13:5b*)
 - b. Our Immutable Lord: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever" (*Heb. 13:8*)
6. Encourage & Pray for One Another
7. Imitate Lives of Faithful
8. Avoid Strange Teachings (Inconsistent with Word of God)
9. Worship God: "Through him (*Jesus*) let us continually offer God a sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips which acknowledge his name." (*Heb. 13:15*)
 - a. Confess Jesus Christ as Our Personal Lord & Savior
10. Obey Church Leadership
11. Peace of God: "May the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd (*i.e. Jesus Christ*) of the sheep by the blood of the eternal covenant, Jesus our Lord, furnish you with all that is good, that you may do his will." (*Heb. 12:20-21a*)
12. The Lord's Will for Us: "Through Jesus Christ may he (*God*) carry out in you all that is pleasing to him. **To Christ be glory forever! Amen.**" (*Heb. 13:21b*)

