

# Hebrews Lesson 31

## Chapter 7

10 March 2025

**Vs 4** “<sup>4</sup> Now consider how great this man was...”

**How many people in the bible does God call “great?”**

1. **Melchizedek** (Heb 7:4)
2. **Abraham** (Gen 12:2)
3. **David** (2 Sam 7:9)
4. **John the Baptist** (Lk 1:15)
5. **The great woman of Shunem** (2 Kings 4:8)

**The theme of Hebrews 7: the ministry of our High Priest toward us will never end.**

“**Liveth**” (vs 8)

“**Endless life**” (vs 16)

“**For ever**” (vs 21)

“**Unchangeable**” (vs 24)

“**Ever liveth**” (vs 25)

“**Evermore**” (vs 28)

### TITHING

1. Abraham gave tithes to Melchizedek
2. It was a voluntary offering
3. It was “**the tenth of the spoils**” (Heb 7:4)
4. Melchizedek “**received tithes of Abraham**” (Heb 7:6)
5. Men that die (sinners) receive tithes (vs 8). This is no excuse not to give.
6. Men tithed before the law and under the law (vs 4, vs 9)
7. There is no New Testament command for a Christian to tithe.
8. Abraham tithed to Melchizedek without being commanded by God.
  - a. This is the true spirit of tithing: a grateful heart and a desire to give back to God for his many blessings.
  - b. Preachers ought to preach more about the goodness of God. It would produce Christians who want to give back to God.
    - i. Preaching Jesus is better than preaching tithing.

### Hebrews 7:12-16

- The priesthood has been changed; therefore, the Levitical law does not pertain (vs 12).
- Melchizedek pre-dated the Law and was not a member of the tribe of Levi and never served that altar (vs 13). Nevertheless, he was a priest.
- Jesus Christ was also not a member of the tribe of Levi. He descended from the tribe of Juda, which was not a priestly tribe (vs 14). Nevertheless, He is our High Priest.
- Jesus is “**another priest**” similar to Melchisedec (vs 15).
- Jesus’ priesthood is “**not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life**” (vs 16).
  - **Carnal**: pertaining to the flesh. Not a reference to sinful living.
  - The law was a set of carnal commandments established by God to govern the Israelite society. Men were to adhere to the law to govern their flesh.
    - The law was holy, good, and right, but it was not able to save the soul and impart spiritual life.

**Vs 17** “**For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.**”

- Who is testifying? “**Our Lord**” (vs 14). This verse looks to Psalm 110:4 once again.

- Psalm 110 is crucial to the book of Hebrews. It is referenced six times (Heb 5:6, 10; 6:20; 7:11, 17, 21).

**18-19** The Old Testament law is disannulled by a better hope.

- The law was weak and unprofitable (vs 18)
- The law made nothing perfect (vs 19)
- The object of this epistle to the Hebrews: bringing believers to perfection (chapt 1 and 2).
  - The law cannot accomplish this.

### **Romans 7:10-13**

- The law is holy, just, and good. It can show a man that he is a sinner.

### **Galatians 3:21-25**

- The law cannot give life (vs 21).
- The law was a schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ (vs 24).
  - The law shows a man he's not holy, just, or good.
  - The law brings a man to Christ so he can be perfected by Christ, the new hope (Heb 7:19).

### **Hebrews does not direct anyone to return to the law.**

- After you've come to Christ, returning to the law wouldn't make sense. The law would still point you to Christ.
- The law requires that you offer sacrifices at the temple in Jerusalem. That is not possible.
- **Hosea 3:4-5**, during the Tribulation, the Hebrews will not be able to adhere to the law. They will abide without a sacrifice until the end of the Tribulation when their true King, Jesus Christ comes to Earth.
- Even if a man could keep part of the law, the law could not perfect that man's heart. See Matthew 5:21-22 and 5:27-28. Only Christ can perfect a man's heart.
- The law made it possible to have an orderly society filled with reprobates with bad hearts.
- During the millennium people with bad hearts will obey the law of Jesus Christ ruling with a rod of iron. They will obey for the same reasons they obeyed the Old Testament law: fear of the punishment.
- With Jesus in my heart, I can learn to live right without being forced to. I could do wrong, but I don't want to.

**“<sup>19</sup> For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope *did*.”**

- The law cannot perfect my heart. Jesus Christ can.

**“...by the which we draw nigh unto God.”**

- In Christ, I can approach the throne of grace and obtain mercy. (Heb 4:16)