

The Book of Hebrews
Melchizedek: A Type of Christ
Hebrews 7:1-10 (page 841)

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Melchizedek's priesthood is superior to Aaron's because (Heb 7:1-3):

- His priesthood is a royal priesthood - he is a king! (v 1)
 - Salem = the ancient name for Jerusalem (Ps 76:2)
 - His royalty is mentioned four times in vs 1-2
- He is a priest of the Most High God (v 1)
 - El Elyon = God the highest God

Significance: Jesus is the perfect king and perfect priest

- His priesthood is universal, not national, in scope (v 1)
Significance: Jesus is not just the Messiah of Israel, but of the whole world!
- His priesthood was one of righteousness and peace (v 2)
 - Melchizedek = melech - "king" Salem (Shalom) - "peace"*Significance:* Jesus is true righteousness and true peace (1 John 2:1; Acts 3:14; Rom 5:1; Eph 2:14; Col 2:20)
- His priesthood was not hereditary, but personal (v 3)
 - Melchizedek's origin and parentage are irrelevant to his priesthood

Significance: Jesus' priestly qualifications were not due to His earthly lineage, but because of His personal worth, His quality.

- His priesthood was eternal, not temporary (v 3)
 - Melchizedek's priesthood had no time or temporal boundaries

Significance: Jesus' priesthood is eternal
(Heb 5:6; 6:20; 7:17, 20)

Melchizedek's priesthood is proven to be superior because (Hebrews 7:4-10):

- Abraham voluntarily tithed to Melchizedek (v 4)
- The one to whom Abraham paid tithes - Melchizedek - was superior to the one to whom Abraham's descendants paid tithes - the Levitical priests (v 5-6; Num 18:21-26)
- The greatness of Melchizedek was recognized by Abraham whose acceptance of the blessing acknowledged his superiority (vs 7)
- Melchizedek's priesthood is greater because it is permanent (v 8)
- The Levitical priesthood has acknowledged Melchizedek's superiority through Abraham's prior actions (vs 9-10)

Point:

Melchizedek is a type of Christ and has a superior priesthood to Aaron and the Levitical priesthood.