

Hebrews

Chapter Seven

FAITH COMES BY HEARING: Read Chapter Seven

SUMMARY: Verses 1-28

1. The basic premise of this chapter is to show the basis of Jesus being our High Priest. (The high priest was the one who represented the sins of the people before God in the O.T.)
2. Jesus is compared to a priest name Melchizedek. (Gen. 14:-14-18) Jesus is both appointed by God and eternal.
3. The proof of Melchizedek's greatness is seen in Abraham's response to him. Abraham give him a tithe of the spoils.
4. The tithe was a sign of great honor and respect. Out of this tithe Abraham received Melchizedek's blessing.
5. The tithe is always connected to honor and the blessing.
6. A truth is set forth here in chapter 7. The law cannot cleanse a guilty conscience or deliver from sin's power.
7. Jesus' priesthood (His ability to represent our sins to the Father and deliver us from their power) is on the basis of His eternal, indestructible life.
8. Jesus' resurrection gives us a better hope than keeping the law. Jesus' priesthood gives us a hope to draw near to God in confidence.
9. Because Jesus lives forever He is our guarantee, our hope, able to save us completely, and always lives to intercede before the Father on our behalf.
10. Jesus can do this for us because He is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, and exalted by the Father.
11. The sum of this chapter is that Jesus has been appointed and chosen by God to represent every human before the throne of God - thus Jesus' purity, holiness, and blamelessness is accounted to me.

REFLECTION

1. What verse stuck out most to you?
2. Why do you think Jesus was compared to Melchizedek? Read the story in Genesis 14. Make comparisons.
3. Why do you think the tithe is connected to honor?
4. Why did Abraham give Melchizedek tithes in Genesis 14?
5. Why is keeping rules and regulations an impossible route for clearing a guilty conscience?
6. What does Jesus being a priest mean to you?
7. What should our response be to Jesus as our priest?
8. Read verse 22 again. What do you think is meant by a 'better covenant'?
9. What is the primary difference between the Old Covenant way of knowing God and getting approval vs. the New Covenant way?

APPLICATION

1. How do you practically let Jesus be your priest?
2. if Jesus represents our sinful state before God then what is the message He puts before the Father about us?
3. How do you practically draw near to an unseen God?
4. How does Jesus representing you before the Father God impact your prayer life?
5. List the things that make you feel far from God? Can you confess those to Jesus? Let Him represent you. If Jesus is your priest you no longer have to bargain with God again.

