

# The Book of Hebrews Speaks to Christian Men about Living with Integrity and Honesty in Today's World.

Week Three

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Date:

## Introduction:

Honesty – Truthfulness, Not deceptive or fraudulent; genuine, Equitable; fair, Sincere; frank: Of good repute; respectable. Virtuous; chaste.

Integrity – Steadfast adherence to a strict moral or ethical code. Moral soundness, The state of being unimpaired.

Author: Unknown (likely Paul)    Timing: 65-70AD    Audience: Near converted Jews

The book of Hebrews was written to reconcile OT Law with NT Grace for Messianic Jews and Gospel-exposed Judaism-practicing non-believers. The superior covenant from God via his Son and Grace is proclaimed. Christian of Men today struggle with the true meaning of Salvation. This study focuses on a higher level of Integrity & Honesty implied by Grace and sanctification.

Chapters 1 thru 3 of Hebrews established the character of the Son of God, “Jesus Christ” and what happens to those who do not heed God’s intentions for humanity. Under Law believers tend to have a carnal rule-based perspective of their faith. This promoted a life focused on avoiding wrath or punishment. Under Grace we see the character of a “believing” man turning more spiritual and altruistic with a goal to be Christ-like. Chapters 4 thru 6 describes Grace’s promise of eternal life in heaven, an advanced doctrine of perfection or grace and Christ as the ultimate high priest.

Chapters 7 and 8 shows Christ is the perfect and faultless high priest of believers

## Chapter 7

**7:1** For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him;

**7:2** To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace;

**7:3** Without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; abideth a priest continually.

1. a) Who was Melchizedek? (Shem, Christ?) Gen 14:18, Psa 110:4, Gen 5:32 Christophany/Theophany?

**7:4** Now consider how great this man *was*, unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils.

**7:5** And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham:

**7:6** But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises.

2. a) Why did Abraham pay tithes? b) Was Levi born yet? c) Who was of the family of Levi?

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7:7 And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better.

7:8 And here men that die receive tithes; but there he *receiveth them*, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth.

7:9 And as I may so say, Levi also, who receiveth tithes, paid tithes in Abraham.

7:10 For he was yet in the loins of his father, when Melchizedek met him.

7:11 If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need *was there* that another priest should rise after the order of Melchizedek, and not be called after the order of Aaron?

3. a) Explain, “less is blessed of the better.” b) What is being said in this passage?

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7:12 For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law.

7:13 For he of whom these things are spoken pertaineth to another tribe, of which no man gave attendance at the altar.

4. a) What tribe made sacrifices at the altar or the tabernacle? Isa 66:21 b) What other tribe is being spoken of? Jer 31:31-34 c) Who was the person of significance of that tribe?

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7:14 For *it is* evident that our Lord sprang out of Judah; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.

7:15 And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude [similar, an exact facsimile, representation] of Melchizedek there ariseth another priest,

7:16 Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life.

7:17 For he testifieth, Thou *art* a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

5. a) What is the similitude? Heb 7:3 b) What is the carnal commandment? Heb 10:1 c) What is the significance of being a priest forever?

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7:18 For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof.

7:19 For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope *did*; by the which we draw nigh unto God.

6. a) Why didn't the Law [rules] make anything perfect? Heb 7:12 [Clark] b) Why can faith [grace] make things perfect? 2 Cor 4:18, Heb 11:1, Rom 3:31

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7:20 And inasmuch as not without an oath [a solemn declaration] *he was made priest*:  
 7:21 (For those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, The Lord swore and will not repent, Thou *art* a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek:)  
 7:22 By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament [covenant, agreement].  
 7:23 And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death:

7. a) Who gave an oath? [Gen 22:16-18 God's oath to Abraham of seed and soil... God the Father's oath in Psalm 110:4 is repeated in verse 21.] b) Did Levitical priests give an oath?
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7:24 But this *man*, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood.  
 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.  
 7:26 For such a high priest became us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;  
 7:27 Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.  
 7:28 For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated forevermore.

8. a) Describe His unchangeable priesthood. Isa 9:6 b) How does Jesus intercede for us? 1 Tim 2:5, John 14:16 c) Discuss, "became us," "offered up himself," and "word of the oath." Psa 110:4
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## Chapter 8

8:1 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such a high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;  
 8:2 A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

1. a) What is the importance of verse one to us? Rev 3:21 b) Describe "sanctuary" and "tabernacle."
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8:3 For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore *it is* of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer.  
 8:4 For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law:

2. a) What were the sacrifices for? Lev 7:37 b) What is verse four saying about sacrifices?
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**8:5** Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, *that* thou make all things according to the pattern showed to thee in the mount.

**8:6** But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

**8:7** For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second.

3. a) What is verse five saying about the Law? Heb 10:1 b) What second covenant? Joh 3:16  
c) Talk about Law vs. Grace, Carnal vs. integrity, political correctness vs. honesty. Phi 4:8
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**8:8** For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

**8:9** Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued Shadows of the divided kingdom and the carnal law that failed to provide a lasting obedience to God not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord.

**8:10** For this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

**8:11** And they shall not teach every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

**8:12** For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

**8:13** In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old *is* ready to vanish away.

4. a) WOW... Powerful Stuff!!! Scripture quotes Scripture Jer 31:31-34 b) Talk about acting from the heart rather than the mind. c) How well do you think the 1<sup>st</sup> century Jews are taking this so far? d) The “old is ready to vanish away;” how? Isa 51:6, 2 Cor 5:17
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### Summary:

Chapters 7 and 8 of Hebrews tells 1<sup>st</sup> century Messianic and non-believing Jews that Jesus Christ has taken his rightful place as the perfect, final, and everlasting high priest that has paid the one and only price for the sins of mankind. The new covenant of Grace must now pour forth from their hearts & souls and not their minds! FROM OUR HEARTS & SOULS AND NOT OUR MINDS!

Next week, Chapters 9 and 10 show how Christ provides access to the true tabernacle in heaven and is the perfect and only sacrifice for the remission of sins.

Thank you for attending

Pat Turner