

The Coming Priest

INTRODUCTION

Christ as Priest

A) Priestly Appointment

- a. **Hebrews 5:10**
- b. **Hebrews 7:26-28**

B) Priestly Order

- a. **Greater than Moses**
 - i. **Hebrews 3:1-6**
 - ii. The Messiah
- b. **Greater than Melchizedek**
 - i. There is much here we could speculate on, but little conclusion
 - ii. We know that “Mel” was of a higher and older order than the Levitical priests
 - iii. The purpose of the writer of Hebrews mentioning Him is found in **Hebrews 7:11-16**

C) Priestly Character

- a. **Perfect**
 - i. In temptation (**2:18**)
 - ii. In sympathy (**4:14-16**)
- b. **Perpetual (eternal)**
 - i. **Hebrews 7:23-25**
 - ii. His nature secures our salvation

D) Priestly Work

- a. **As Priest**
 - i. Of God's Covenant (**8**)
 - ii. Through the Holy Place (**9:1-10**)

b. To Offer Sacrifice (9:11-14)

- i. Before God
- ii. Perfect sacrifice
- iii. Securing the Promise of God with His Covenant people (**9:15-28**)

c. Interceding for us (7:25)

- i. **Wayne Grudem**, “*This word does not mean merely ‘to stand as someone’s representative before another person,’ but clearly has the sense of making specific requests or petitions before someone. For example, Festus uses this word to say to King Agrippa, ‘You see this man about whom the whole Jewish people petitioned me’ (Acts 25:24). Paul also uses it of Elijah when he ‘pleads with God against Israel’ (Rom. 11:2). In both cases the requests are very specific, not just general representations. We may conclude, then, that both Paul and the author of Hebrews are saying that Jesus continually lives in the presence of God to make specific requests and to bring specific petitions before God on our behalf. This is a role that Jesus, as God-man, is uniquely qualified to fulfill.*”
- ii. **Louis Berkhof** says: “*It is a consoling thought that Christ is praying for us, even when we are negligent in our prayer life; that He is presenting to the Father those spiritual needs which were not present to our minds and which we often neglect to include in our prayers; and that He prays for our protection against the dangers of which we are not even conscious, and against the enemies which threaten us, though we do not notice it. He is praying that our faith may not cease, and that we may come out victoriously in the end.*”

Meditation & Application

A) WARNING!

- a. **Hebrews 10:26-31**
- b. Adding anything to Christ's finished work as Priest is frightful
- c. NOT holding on to the faith (through perpetual sin and disbelief) is frightful
- d. Sin is serious and how we deal with it before Christ the Priest bears evidence of where we are with Him.

B) The truth of Christ's priesthood (perfect, eternal, complete sacrifice) gives us hope and an anchor...

- a. If you do not sense that you are persevering come back to Him today, knowing your sin has been fully dealt with
- b. **Hebrews 10:32a; 12:1-2**
- c. Show the evidence of being one of His children...endure
- d. **Hebrews 10:36; 12:3**

C) What if the evidence is against you today? Hebrews speaks of "faith" being the answer in Chp.11. Believe in Christ and His finished work, although you do not see Him. Trust that He came as a babe in a manger to perfectly live, die, be buried and raised again FOR YOU and turn from trusting in yourself to be "good enough."