

Jesus Christ: Our Unchanging Priest

Heb. 7:20-28

Introduction:

- A. Hebrew Christians understood earthly priesthood -- qualifications and functions.
 - 1. High priests offered gifts and sacrifices. (Heb. 5:1; 8:3).
 - a. Presided Over Annual Atonement. (Lev. 16).
 - b. Various sin offerings. (Lev. 4).
 - c. Daily grain (meal KJV) offering. (Lev. 6).
 - 2. Common priest served at all sacrifices -- could not enter Holy of Holies.
 - 3. Priests mediated between God and man. cf. Catholic priests.
- B. All Christians need to understand New Testament Priesthood.
 - 1. Christ is our High Priest. (Heb. 3:1)
 - 2. Each Christian is a priest. (1 Pet. 2:5,9; Cf. Heb. 13:15).
 - 3. Catholic priesthood not in the picture.
- C. Hebrew writer compares and contrasts Jesus's priesthood with Levitical Priesthood.

Discussion:

- I. Jesus is Our Sacrificial High Priest.**
 - A. Both priest and sacrifice. (Heb. 8:3,4; 9:7-14,24-28).
 - B. Both atonement and sin offering. (Heb. 10:1-15).
- II. Jesus is Our Sanctioned High Priest.**
 - A. God called him to the priesthood. (Heb. 5:4-10).
 - B. God changed law to permit His priesthood. (Heb. 7:12-22).
- III. Jesus is Our Superior High Priest.**
 - A. Greater than Levi. (Heb. 7:1-11).
 - B. Both King and Priest. (Heb. 7:1,2).
 - C. Both Son and Priest. (Heb. 5:5,6).
- IV. Jesus is Our Stable High Priest.**
 - A. Not subject to death. (Heb. 7:23-25).
 - B. Not subject to human failure. (Heb. 7:26-28).
- V. Jesus is Our Suitable High Priest.**
 - A. Understands both God and man. (Heb. 2:14-18; 4:14-16; 5:7-10).
 - B. Has traveled entire route ahead of us. (Heb. 6:18-20).

Conclusion:

- A. His priesthood is unchangeable in every respect we have discussed.
- B. His priesthood is over the house of God. (Heb. 10:21).
- C. His priestly benefits are conditional. (cf. Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:7-9).