

The Superiority of the Priesthood of Christ

Heb. 3:1

Introduction:

- A. The priesthood has been in the news lately.
 - 1. The scandal in the Catholic church.
 - 2. The conference in Rome to deal with it.
- B. The Bible knows nothing of a Catholic-style priesthood.
- C. The Bible speak of two kinds of priests.
 - 1. The Old Testament priests with their high priest.
 - 2. The New Testament priests with their high priest.
 - a. All Christians are priests (1 Pet. 2:5, 9)
 - b. Jesus is the high priest (text)
- D. The Book of Hebrews shows the superiority of Priesthood of Christ.

Discussion:

- I. Jesus Is a More *Suitable* High Priest.**
 - A. He has experienced Godhood and manhood (Heb. 2:14-18; 4:14-16; 5:7-10).
 - B. He has lived on earth without sin (Heb. 4:15)
 - C. He is our forerunner into heaven (Heb. 6:18-20).
- II. Jesus Is a More *Stable* High Priest.**
 - A. Not subject to death (Heb. 7:23-25).
 - B. Not subject human failure (Heb. 7:26-28)
- III. Jesus is a More *Sacrificial* High Priest.**
 - A. Both priest and sacrifice (Heb. 8:3,4; 9:7-14, 24-28).
 - B. Both the atonement and sin offering (Heb. 10:1-15).

Conclusion:

- A. Jesus is our only mediator (1 Tim. 2:5).
- B. Jesus is priest over house of God (church) (Heb. 10:21).
- C. Jesus' priestly benefits are conditional (Cf. Acts 2:38; 1 John 1:7-9).