

Mysterious Mel

Hebrews 7:1-26

In Genesis 14 we read about two alliances of kings going to war against each other, and **Lot gets taken captive**

So Abram **defeats the kings and rescues Lot**

On Abram's way back, out comes this **Melchizedek**

What?

Jesus became least for us, to become the greatest High Priest for us

The Big Question—Who was Melchizedek historically?

The writer **does not mean that Melchizedek was an angelic figure or that he was a pre-incarnate manifestation of Jesus**

Likely after God called Abraham to the Promised Land, he **met Melchizedek, whom he recognized as a kindred spirit because he also worshipped God**

Melchizedek functioned not just as a king, but as a priest

He **heard about Abraham's war and brought him provisions**

The fact of Mel's blessing and Abraham's tithe indicates **a relationship of greater to lesser**

But he wasn't eternal; there is just no mention of his birth, genealogy or death

The mystery of Melchizedek—

Vss. 13-14—Like Melchizedek, **Jesus is High Priest, and the King of Righteousness and King of Peace**

Jesus' priesthood is greater than the Levitical priesthood, because **Jesus is a King-Priest**, descended from Judah

Vss. 16-19—Melchizedek is a symbol of Christ, who truly **has no beginning or end, so He is perfect and all-sufficient**

Hebrews 5:9-10, ESV—And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,

being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek

He can **empathize with us in every way**, because He became a Man, but **as God He is eternal**

This is why **He brings a better hope than the law**

Vss. 22—**Jesus guarantees a better covenant**

So What? (Hebrews 7:25)

Jesus saves us to the “uttermost,” **completely and perfectly**

Salvation has several aspects—past, present and future

We need a faithful, eternal High Priest, with no beginning or end, who will never be replaced, greater than the Levites

Connection with Jesus—what He prays for us

Luke 22:31-32, ESV—“Simon, Simon, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers”

He **prays for faith that will not fail**, and Peter's didn't

Jesus intercedes for all who continually draw near to God

The last word—the Preacher of Hebrews

Hebrews 6:19-20, ESV—We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek

Now What?

Worship and the Word are the two ways of “drawing near” to God

Always carry an attitude of gratitude as you remember Christ's intercession for you