

LET US FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS

Melchizedek the Priest**Hebrews 7:1–10**

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. Hebrews 12:2,3

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. Colossians 3:16

Day 1: Read Hebrews 7:1,2; Genesis 14:17–20.

1. Melchizedek was a contemporary of Abraham (Abram, before God renamed him). Read about Abraham's encounter with Melchizedek in Genesis 14:17–20. What do we learn about Melchizedek from these verses and from Hebrews 7:1,2?

2. Thinking of Melchizedek....
 - A. What are his two roles? (Heb. 1:1)

 - B. What are his two titles? (Heb. 1:2)

3. How do Melchizedek's roles and titles foreshadow Christ? See Psalm 110:2,4; Isaiah 9:6,7; 1 John 2:1; Ephesians 2:14.

Day 2: Read Hebrews 7:1–6.

4. How does a priest become a priest? (Recall Heb. 5:4–6.)

5. We know some things about Melchizedek; but perhaps more important, what don't we know? (verse 3)

6. How does what we don't know about Melchizedek make him different from Israel's priests? (vss. 5,6; Numbers 18:1,2, 6,7)

Day 3: Read Hebrews 7:4–10.

7. In his encounter with Melchizedek, what did Abraham do that showed Melchizedek's superiority?
8. What was the purpose of the tenth (the tithe) in Old Testament Israel? (vs. 5; Numbers 18:21)
9. How was Levi, the ancestor of Israel's priests, related to Abraham? (See 1 Chronicles 1:34 and 2:1.) How did the Hebrews view Abraham? (vs. 4; Gal. 3:6)

Day 4: Read Hebrews 7:4–10.

10. How is Abraham described in the last phrase of verse 6?
11. Since Abraham is described this way, because of God's words to him in Genesis 12:3, "all peoples on earth will be blessed through you," would you think that Abraham would be giving or receiving blessings from Melchizedek?
12. In fact, who blessed who in the encounter between Abraham and Melchizedek? Who does verse 7 say was greater, Abraham or Melchizedek?

Day 5: Read Hebrews 7:1–10.

13. Explain how the whole Levitical priesthood can be said to have paid a tithe to Melchizedek.

