

Pastor Jeremy Marrone  
Monday Night Bible Study  
Lakewood Church  
August 16, 2021

**Hebrews 5**  
“In the Order of Melchizedek”

Adam → “human” and “of the ground” [Hebrew: Adamah] → God brought two from one.

***The garden was like a temple.***

Adam & Eve = “Priests” of the Garden. They were to “Tend” to God’s creation; To take care of it... to rule over it with wisdom. (Genesis 1:28)

→ The garden is symbolic of a temple. It’s the place where God and humans have connection and relationship.

- The first command God gave to humans was to be fruitful and multiply.
  - The second command was to rule over God’s “GOOD” creation. To be PRIESTS (protectors of God’s good world).
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This is EXACTLY what the priests would do in the temple for Israel. They would “Tend” to God’s temple. They would carefully protect, clean, and keep the temple “in order” so the people could come to the place where God and human beings would connect... where heaven and earth met.

\*This is the purpose for ALL human beings.

**The reason God created us is to be co-managers with Him in His good world.**

- Sin means to “miss the mark.” Greek: ***Hamartia*** (to shoot an arrow and miss the bullseye)
  - Adam and Eve were removed from the garden because they had become BAD managers of God’s Garden because of sin. FALLOUT.
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**Hebrews 5:1**

Every high priest is selected from among the people and is appointed to represent the people in matters related to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

- Burnt offering: general atonement of sin and devotion to God.
  - Grain offering: recognizing God's goodness and providence.
  - Peace offering: two parties would eat together as a sign of commitment to each other's future prosperity.
  - Sin offering: atonement for unintentional sin.
  - Guilt offering: to make reparations for one's sins.
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<sup>2</sup> He (the priest) is able to deal gently with those who are ignorant and are going astray, since he himself is subject to weakness. <sup>3</sup> This is why he has to offer sacrifices for his own sins, as well as for the sins of the people. <sup>4</sup> And no one takes this honor on himself, but he receives it when called by God, just as Aaron was.

<sup>5</sup> In the same way, Christ did not take on himself the glory of becoming a high priest. But God said to him, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father."

<sup>6</sup> And he says in another place, "You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."

- Melchizedek was the king & priest of SHALEM during the lifetime of Abraham, the father of faith.
- Abraham had won a great victory against the enemies of his family, 4 kings that had decided to try and forcefully take Abraham's nephew Lot into captivity. (Genesis 14)
- When Abraham returned home, he and his family passed through SHALEM.
- This is the root name for Jerusalem. (Jeru-Shalem)
- Melchizedek blessed Abraham with a feast and with a special blessing for his faithfulness to God.
- And then Abraham blessed Melchizedek with 1/10 of his wealth. This is called the "tithe." Which means one-tenth.

In the story, Melchizedek represents Jesus.

Abraham represents ALL people who will put their faith in the One, TRUE God.

Jesus blesses those who, by faith, have become the priesthood. Anyone who believes God by faith and is becoming the kind of human God wants to manage His world.

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<sup>7</sup> During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

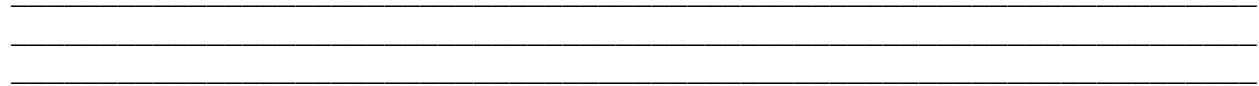
God chose priests from the nation of Israel. They were to serve Him. But they failed as a nation.

Because they failed, God came to earth Himself, in Jesus, and became the perfect priest. (To restore what Adam and Eve had failed)

After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup> There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup> Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

<sup>4</sup> Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

<sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"



<sup>8</sup> Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered

<sup>9</sup> and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

<sup>10</sup> and was designated by God to be high priest in the order of Melchizedek.

Well, WHO'S IN THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK? Jesus.

And who did Melchizedek BLESS? Abraham.

And ANYONE who comes from the order of Abraham!! (that's YOU and ME).

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Leviticus 21 – WHO could be in the earthly priesthood? Who could be a temple priest in Israel?

<sup>16</sup> The Lord said to Moses, <sup>17</sup> “Say to Aaron: ‘For the generations to come none of your descendants who has a defect may come near to offer the food of his God. <sup>18</sup> No man who has any defect may come near: no man who is blind or lame, disfigured or deformed; <sup>19</sup> no man with a crippled foot or hand, <sup>20</sup> or who is a hunchback or a dwarf, or who has any eye defect, or who has festering or running sores (leper)... <sup>21</sup> No descendant of Aaron the priest who has any defect is to come near to present the food offerings to the Lord. He has a defect; he must not come near to offer the food of his God.

But WAIT... if Jesus is in the order of Melchizedek and He’s blessing all the people who will be “priests” and calling those people (who is really US) to tend to His good world... then who are THOSE PEOPLE?!

Who did Jesus HEAL?

1. Two blind men: Matthew 9
2. A paralytic: Mark 2
3. A man’s withered hand: Luke 6
4. A crippled man at Bethesda: John 5
5. A crippled woman hunched over: Luke 13
6. Calls Zacchaeus out of a tree: Luke 19
7. Blind man at Bethsaida: Mark 8
8. The woman with the issue of blood: Mathew 9
9. A man with leprosy: Luke 5

**1 PETER 2:9 - But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.**

JESUS is inviting YOU and ME to be like HIM in His world.

<sup>11</sup> We have much to say about this, but it is hard to make it clear to you because you no longer try to understand. <sup>12</sup> In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!<sup>13</sup> Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. <sup>14</sup> *But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.*

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