



The Perfecting Priest Like Melchizedek

Lesson Twenty-Two • Hebrews 7:11-19

Where Are We in Hebrews 7?

Hebrews 7:1-10 → Genesis 14:18-20		Hebrews 7:11-28 → Psalm 110:4
HISTORICAL APPEARANCE (7:1-3)	LOGICAL IMPORTANCE (7:4-10)	CHRISTOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE (7:11-28)
Melchizedek the Man <i>Textual First Mention</i>	Melchizedek the Great <i>Theological Foreshadowing</i>	Another Priest Like Melchizedek Must Arise/Appear! <i>Typological Fulfillment</i>

Why Was Another Priesthood Needed?

- **Psalm 110:4 and the Christological Significance of Melchizedek.** (Hebrews 7:11-28 and Psalm 110:4)

"Now if perfection was through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the people received the Law), what further need was there for another priest to arise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be designated according to the order of Aaron?" (7:11)

*Psalm 110:4 is the prophetic song by King David about **ANOTHER** priesthood according to the order of Melchizedek.*

*Hebrews 7:11-28 is going to **APPLY** the Christological significance of Melchizedek for us as Christians!*

- **The Need for a PERFECTING Priest Like Melchizedek.** (7:11-19)

"Now if perfection was through the Levitical priesthood...what further need was there for another priest to arise...?" (7:11)

"Perfection" is key to 7:11-28: *Beginning (v. 11), middle (v. 19), and end (v. 28)!*

"Perfection" is key to entire sermon-letter: *Concept repeated **12x** from beginning to end and used **8x** in this middle section.*

1. Being **perfected** in Hebrews refers to:

PERSONAL Purity – *Moral Transformation to Be in God's Presence*

PRIESTLY Purity – *Ceremonial Qualification to Worship in God's Presence*

PURPOSEFUL Purity – *Personal Interaction with God in His Presence*

that is able to draw near to God in the Holy of holies with bold confidence! (7:11, 19; 10:1)

2. Being **perfected** applies to the following:

- **Jesus being perfected** as our **Trailblazer** in bringing many sons to glory and the **Source** of our eternal salvation, who is also the **Forerunner** in entering within the veil and the **Guarantor** of the better covenant as the **Author** and **Perfector** of the faith of believers. (2:10; 5:9; 6:20; 7:22, 28; cf. 12:2; **Note:** Jesus' personal perfection is not a moral "transformation" but a "confirmation" of His sinless righteousness.)
- **Believers** (OT & NT saints) in *being perfected* by Him as their **High Priest** according to order of Melchizedek in heaven now and one day in the New Jerusalem on earth. (10:14; 11:40; 12:23; cf. 7:11)
- **The Tabernacle in heaven** which is greater and *more perfect* Tabernacle. (9:11)
- **The Law, the OT priesthood, the sacrificial system, and the earthly tabernacle** which can *never perfect* anything or anyone to eternally enter God's holy presence. (7:11, 19; 9:9; 10:1)

Summary: God **perfects** Jesus the **God-Man** as a **Son** (2:10-11; 5:8-9; 7:28; 12:2) who is **perfected** to be our **eternal High Priest** according to the order of Melchizedek (2:10; cf. 2:17-18; 5:9-10; 7:11, 19, 28; 9:9, 11; 10:1, 14) and, thereby, **perfect God's people** to enter (7:19; cf. 6:19-20; 9:9; 10:1; 12:22-24) where **Jesus** has **already entered** as our **Trailblazer** (2:10; 12:2) and **Forerunner** (6:19-20) to be the **Source** of eternal salvation (5:9), the **Guarantee** of a better covenant (7:22), and the **Author** and **Perfector** of our faith (12:2)!

*Another priesthood is needed for **PERFECTING** God's People to enter into God's holy presence,
So another priest like Melchizedek needs to **ARISE/APPEAR!** (v. 11, 15)*

Blessings of the New Perfecting Priest Like Melchizedek

1. The New Perfecting Priest Requires a New COVENANT LAW. (7:12-14)

- The old priesthood was **REQUIRED** under the old covenant/law, but the new priesthood will require a new covenant/law. (v. 12)
- The old priesthood was from the tribe of **LEVI**, but the new priest is from the tribe of **JUDAH**. (vv. 13-14; Psalm 110:1-4)

Jesus is the **literal Son of God and Son of David** and was **declared to be Lord of all** at His resurrection, ascension, exaltation, and ultimately His session at God's right hand — *when Psalm 110:1-4 was literally fulfilled!*

2. The New Perfecting Priest Brings New LIFE. (7:15-17)

- The old priests were appointed by the externals of the **LAW** and physical genealogy which always ended in **DEATH**. (v. 16)

The Old Priesthood Was a Never-Ending Cycle of Death.

Dying priests offering dead animal sacrifices that cannot make themselves or anyone else perfect!

- The new perfecting priest is appointed by resurrection **POWER** with *literal* eternal **LIFE** like Melchizedek did *literarily*. (vv. 15, 17; Psalm 110:4a)

3. The New Perfecting Priest Offers New HOPE. (7:18-19)

- The old commandment and its priesthood was **SET ASIDE** because it could not perfect anyone or anything. (v. 18-19a)

*It was too **WEAK** and too **USELESS** to make anything perfect. (v. 18)*

Romans 8:3-4; Galatians 3:19-26

- The new hope that comes with the new priesthood is *being perfected* so we can **ENTER** into God's holy presence. (v. 19b; 4:15-16; 6:19-20; 10:19-22)

**RISE MY SOUL! For Another Priest Like Melchizedek Has Arisen to Perfect God's People
with the Hope of Entering God's Presence!**

Rise My Soul, the Lord Is Risen

Rise my soul for I am risen
Seated now with Christ my Lord
As my life belongs to heaven
Fear shall hold its sway no more
Onward, upward, t'ward the treasure
Filled with courage and endless hope
For this truth is mine forever
Christ is risen arise my soul! (Verse 4)

This Better Hope Means We Can Now Draw Near to God's Holy Presence!