

King of Righteousness and Peace

Scripture:	
Announcements:	
Scripture Reading:	
RECAP:	<p>So last week we finished up chapter 6 of Hebrews.</p> <p>— We looked at the promises, oaths, and the deceleration of God as a foundation for Jesus being the anchor of our souls.</p> <p>— — We saw the hope that we have in Christ does not come naturally, it is something that we need to to work on and when we neglect to work on it our hope fades.</p> <p>— — — We saw that Jesus brings us through things in life that we can not see the outcome to. He leads us through those things in life that we don't know what is going on but He knows what is going on.</p> <p>— — — — His work as High Priest is amazing eternal work that He never stops doing.</p>
INTRODUCTION:	<p>Today we are going to focus on Melchizedek and how he has similarities to Christ.</p> <p>— We will see how Melchizedek is different from the Israelite priests.</p> <p>— — We will also understand this seemingly insignificant biblical character.</p> <p>— — — We will see how his priesthood is the priesthood that Jesus' priesthood is shaped after.</p>
Passage Begins	

Scripture:	
<p>Hebrews 7:1–10 (NASB95): 1 For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham as he was returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,</p> <p>2 to whom also Abraham apportioned a tenth part of all the spoils, was first of all, by the translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then also king of Salem, which is king of peace.</p> <p>3 Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, he remains a priest perpetually.</p> <p>4 Now observe how great this man was to whom Abraham, the patriarch, gave a tenth of the choicest spoils.</p> <p>5 And those indeed of the sons of Levi who receive the priest’s office have commandment in the Law to collect a tenth from the people, that is, from their brethren, although these are descended from Abraham.</p> <p>6 But the one whose genealogy is not traced from them collected a tenth from Abraham and blessed the one who had the promises.</p> <p>7 But without any dispute the lesser is blessed by the greater.</p> <p>8 In this case mortal men receive tithes, but in that case one receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives on.</p> <p>9 And, so to speak, through Abraham even Levi, who received tithes, paid tithes,</p> <p>10 for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him.</p>	<p>This is again one of the more difficult passages to try to understand what is being said here.</p> <p>— It can be quite confusing if it is not pulled apart and really digested.</p> <p>— — So earlier in the book of Hebrews the author told us that there is a lot more to be said about Jesus in the order of Melchizedek.</p> <p>— — — <u>READ: Hebrews 5:8–11 (NASB95):</u> 8 Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. 9 And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation, 10 being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek. 11 Concerning him we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.</p> <p>— — — — So, what we will look at in these verses is the contention between Christ and Melchizedek and this will build for what will come next which is showing that Christ is superior to Melchizedek.</p> <p>— — — — — The author takes the narrative of Gen. 14:17-20 to reveal some biblical truths to us.</p> <p>— — — — — <u>READ: Genesis 14:17–20 (NASB95):</u></p> <p>17 Then after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer (Ceddor-layo-mer) and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the valley of Shaveh (that is, the King’s Valley). 18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; now he was a priest of God Most High. 19 He blessed him and said, “Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; 20 And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand.” He gave him a tenth of all.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>So we talked a bit about Melchizedek in chapter 5 but he is not a well known figure.</p> <p>—He only shows us twice in the Old Testament but for brief moments and that is it.</p> <p>— —So, what does our passage tell us about Melchizedek in connection with Genesis 14?</p> <p>— — —What can we establish about Melchizedek and how He points to Jesus?</p> <p>— — — —Well, we know that Melchizedek is king of Salem.</p> <p>— — — — —Well, Salem means peace and so what we are give is that Melchizedek is king of peace....the city.</p>
	<p>Jesus is also the king of peace; as He bring peace with Him.</p> <p>—READ: Isaiah 9:6–7 (NASB95): 6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. 7 There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this.</p> <p>—READ: John 16:33 (NASB95): 33 “These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”</p> <p>—READ: Romans 5:1–2 (NASB95): 1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God.</p> <p>—READ: 2 Thessalonians 3:16 (NASB95): 16 Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all!</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>Melchizedek's name can be broken down in 2 parts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">— The first part is Melchci which means “king or my king” and the second part is zedek which means “righteousness.”— — So, Melchizedek's name means, “my king is righteous,” or “king of righteousness.”— — — This is a pretty lofty name for a guy who is only mentioned in the Old Testament twice.— — — — Once again we can see that this title is pointing us to Christ's life and ministry as well.
	<p>Jesus is King of King and Lord of Lords.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">— READ: Revelation 19:15–16 (NASB95): 15 From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. 16 And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”— READ: Hebrews 1:8 (NASB95): 8 But of the Son He says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, And the righteous scepter is the scepter of His kingdom.— READ: John 18:36–37 (NASB95): 36 Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, then My servants would be fighting so that I would not be handed over to the Jews; but as it is, My kingdom is not of this realm.” 37 Therefore Pilate said to Him, “So You are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say correctly that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.”

Scripture:	
	<p>Jesus is also righteousness; the embodiment of righteousness.</p> <p>—READ: 1 Corinthians 1:30–31 (NASB95): 30 But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, 31 so that, just as it is written, “Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord.”</p> <p>—READ: Philippians 3:8–9 (NASB95): 8 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, 9 and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,</p> <p>—READ: 1 Peter 2:24 (NASB95): 24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.</p> <p>— — Christ’s righteousness make us righteous if we believe, have faith in, trust, and give our lives over to Him.</p> <p>— — — Righteousness and peace are ways of the Messiah. Jesus Christ the Messiah, the savior of the world makes righteousness and peace possible to humanity. There is no other way to righteousness and peace but with Christ.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>Jesus is the King of peace, the King of righteousness, and the Great High Priest of the Most High God.</p> <p>—Melchizedek was king of Salem, or king of righteousness was ruling over peace but he was also the priest of the Most High God.</p> <p>— — This is not a normal thing for someone to be a priest and a king. This really sets Melchizedek apart from all but one other biblical figure.</p> <p>— — — Albert Mohler wrote, “Outside of Jesus and Melchizedek, Scripture identifies no one as both a king and priest. In fact, Israel markedly differentiated the roles of king and priest. No priest in the Old Testament could lawfully act as a king, and no king in the Old Testament could lawfully act as a priest.”</p> <p>— — — — We actually have an example of someone attempting this in king Uzziah.</p> <p>— — — — — READ: Isaiah 6:1 (NASB95): 1 In the year of King Uzziah’s death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>Why did Uzziah die? <u>READ: 2 Chronicles 26:16–21 (NASB95):</u> 16 But when he became strong, his heart was so proud that he acted corruptly, and he was unfaithful to the Lord his God, for he entered the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense. 17 Then Azariah the priest entered after him and with him eighty priests of the Lord, valiant men. 18 They opposed Uzziah the king and said to him, “It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the Lord, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron who are consecrated to burn incense. Get out of the sanctuary, for you have been unfaithful and will have no honor from the Lord God.” 19 But Uzziah, with a censer in his hand for burning incense, was enraged; and while he was enraged with the priests, the leprosy broke out on his forehead before the priests in the house of the Lord, beside the altar of incense. 20 Azariah the chief priest and all the priests looked at him, and behold, he was leprous on his forehead; and they hurried him out of there, and he himself also hastened to get out because the Lord had smitten him. 21 King Uzziah was a leper to the day of his death; and he lived in a separate house, being a leper, for he was cut off from the house of the Lord.</p> <p>—Mohler continued, “Thus, the death of Uzziah demonstrates the divinely designed divide between the king and the priest of Israel.”</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>This is what is shocking about Melchizedek’s title of king and priest.</p> <p>—His Kingship and his priesthood was so different from anything that Israel had seen because God had reserved that for a later time for one who is even greater than the priest of Israel and we will find out is even greater than Melchizedek; Jesus Christ His one and only Son.</p> <p>— —But there is something else that stands out about Melchizedek we should take note of.</p> <p>— — —Melchizedek is not from the line of Abraham because, well he and Abraham were contemporaries.</p> <p>— — — —So, Melchizedek was not an Israelite and he was not a Levite from the line of Aaron.</p> <p>— — — — —Yet, he was a priest of the God Most High.</p>
	<p>In the ancient pagan world they believe in multiple gods, which is called polytheism, but they also believed in a hierarchy of the gods.</p> <p>—Meaning that there were low level gods, mid level gods, and higher level gods.</p> <p>— —Melchizedek, being a priest of the Most High God, which is a name that God uses for Himself, and Abraham’s tithe tells us that Melchizedek is a priest of the one true God.</p> <p>— — —<u>READ: Psalm 47:2 (NASB95): For the Lord Most High is to be feared, A great King over all the earth.</u></p> <p>— — —<u>READ: Psalm 91:1 (NASB95): 1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High Will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.</u></p> <p>— — — —Melchizedek being a priest to the Most High God really speaks about the superiority of God. He had priests who pointed people to Him even when the priestly line was not even established.</p>

Scripture:	
	<p>So, what is our practical application? What is our take away from this passage?</p> <p>—Well, first and foremost we have to recognize the awesome, perfect plan of God in the similarities of Melchizedek and Christ.</p> <p>— —God planned this out so that 1900-2100 years later when the book of Hebrews was written we would see Christ in Melchizedek. God is in control and He unfolds His plan just as it should be.</p> <p>— — —We have a King who will rein forever in righteousness and will bring peace. He brings peace to us broken sinful humans; peace with the God of the universe and He makes us right in God’s sight.</p> <p>— — — —Jesus is the Great High Priest for all time. There is no end to His priestly roll and He is priest for everyone not just a certain group of people but all who would come to Him.</p> <p>— — — — —Live in peace with God; don’t make war with Him;</p> <p>— — — — —Live in the righteousness that God has given us through Christ; not in the filth of the world.</p> <p>— — — — —Go to the High Priest often and be in the presence of God.</p>
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