

“JESUS IS SUPERIOR TO...” SERIES

THE OBEDIENT SAVIOR

HEBREWS 5:1-9

1For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: 2Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity. 3And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins. 4And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron. 5So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. 6As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. 7Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; 8Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

Introduction

I love a hero. My Saturday mornings as a child were filled with all sorts of hero's on TV. There was Mickey Mouse, Steve Canyon, Gene Autry, the Road Runner and the Lone Ranger. While each of these heroes were different, they each possessed a quality that made them stand out from all the others.

As I grew, I found new heroes. Audie Murphy became one of my favorites because of his “true life” courageous actions against a much larger force. He placed his concern over his life for the many that were being killed. He offered himself freely.

Later I heard exploits of soldiers that would jump on a grenade, knowing their own lives would be lost, in order to protect their fellow soldiers.

Yes, I love a hero.

Hero's as a group are not common. Some are tall while others are short. Some are fat and others are skinny. Some are men, while others are women. Different backgrounds, education, social status and nationalities.

But one common thread I have found in most of these heroes. They are obedient. Each one was obedient in being where they were supposed to be, doing what they were supposed to be doing and obeying those in leadership above them.

Today we look at Jesus being obedient.

LIMITATIONS OF BEING A HIGH PRIEST

1For every high priest taken from among men is ordained for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins: 2Who can have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way; for that he himself also is compassed with infirmity. 3And by reason hereof he ought, as for the people, so also for himself, to offer for sins. 4And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.

There were five qualifications to being a high priest

1. The high priest must be appointed by God to represent men before the LORD.
2. The high priest must offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.
3. The high priest must be able to deal with men in compassion.
4. The high priest must offer sacrifices for his own sins
5. The high priest must be God appointed and not self-appointed.¹

CHRIST THE TRUE HIGH PRIEST

5So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee. 6As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. 7Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

Christ was appointed by God to represent men before the LORD.

Who is Melchisedec?

"For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the most high God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings, and blessed him; to whom also

¹ Preacher's Outline and Sermon Bible – NT Commentary, Hebrews-James

Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation King of righteousness, and after that also King of Salem, which is, King of peace" (Hebrews 7:1-2).

1. Facts:
2. His name means "king of righteousness."
3. He was king of Salem, which means "king of peace." Salem was the site of the future Jerusalem.
4. He was priest of God Most High (Genesis 14:18).
5. As the greater to the lesser, He conferred a blessing upon Abraham (Genesis 14:19).
6. Abraham paid tithes to him (Genesis 14:18-20).
7. He is without genealogy (Hebrews 7:3).
8. He has the honor of being called a "great man" in God's Word (Hebrews 7:4).
9. He is a "type" of Christ. Some believe he actually was the preincarnate Christ.
10. He is said to be eternal (Hebrews 7:3), a priest forever (Psalm 110:4), and a heavenly king (Hebrews 8:1).

AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

7Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared;

In the Garden, Jesus approached God with submission, loud cries and tears.

Luke 22:39-46 And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him. 40 And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation. 41 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, 42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done. 43 And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. 44 And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. 45 And when he rose up from prayer, and was come to his disciples, he found them sleeping for sorrow, 46 And said unto them, Why sleep ye? rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation.

8Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;

Even knowing the pain that was to come, Jesus submitted: “nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.”

Even though Jesus would be betrayed in just a few minutes, Jesus submitted: “nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.”

Even though His disciples would scatter and deny knowing the Rabi, Jesus submitted: “nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.”

Even though Jesus would face a horrendous death at the hands of the Romans, with the Jewish elite looking on and mimicking Him, Jesus submitted: “nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.”

Conclusion

There is only one real question today...Are you obedient to the LORD?

Christians today visit the church one time a week and think they have been obedient. It is kind-of like visiting someone in jail. “How are you God?” “How have they been treating you in here?”

To Obey Is Better Than Sacrifice

Song by Keith Green

Lyrics

To obey is better than sacrifice
I don't need your money, I want your life
And I hear you say that I'm coming back soon
But you act like I'll never return

Well you speak of grace and my love so sweet
How you thrive on milk but reject my meat
And I can't help weeping at how it will be
If you keep on ignoring my words
Well you pray to prosper and succeed
But your flesh is something I just can't feed

To obey is better than sacrifice
I want more than Sundays and Wednesday nights

'Cause if you can't come to me everyday
Then don't bother coming at all
To obey is better than sacrifice
I want hearts of fire, not your prayers of ice
And I'm coming quickly to give back to you
According to what you have done
According to what you have done
According to what you have done

Bob Crowder