

JESUS, THE SOURCE OF SALVATION

HEBREWS 5:5-9

5 So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

6 as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. 8 Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. 9 And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,

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Introduction

If I asked you this question; “What are the qualifications and duties of a pastor”, what would be your response? Explaining the qualifications would be fairly simple as we have The Apostle Paul’s instruction to Timothy for the pastor in 1 Timothy 3:1-7. Titus 1:5-9, and 1 Peter 5:1-4. By comparing these passages, they explain the duties of the pastor/elder. However, we will save that study for another day.

For the Hebrew, their thorough understanding of the duties and roles of the priest was very important to them in their daily life. The audience of this epistle would have understood the first four verses of this chapter in defining three qualifications of the Levitical priest as:

The high priest is ordained by men concerning the ministry of God (v. 1)

Offer both gifts and sacrifices behalf of himself and the people (v. 1)

Have compassion on those they serve, for those that do not understand, those that have drifted away (v.2)

In the verses we will look at today, the writer explains how Christ exceeds meeting the requirements for being the high priest. The writer does not go in the same order of qualifications found in the first four verses.

Jesus’ Ordination As High Priest

5 So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; *6 as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”*

Jesus was ordained and divinely appointed by God to perform the role of the Great High Priest. This was in fulfillment of the Old Testament prophesy found in the Psalms:

Psalms 2:7 I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

Psalms 110:4 The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Jesus' Compassion as the High Priest

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered.

Generally, compassion is a learned response from being in similar situation and empathizing with the one going through the trial or tribulation.

The question might be asked, "Since Jesus was the "God Man" and therefore had no sin, How could he possibly be able to show compassion on those that were away from the Lord or suffering of the afflicted?" If Jesus knew no sin, how could He possible empathize with the sinner?

In the previous chapter, the writer argues the point that Jesus, as the High Priest, suffered and understood the suffering and infirmities of those He came to serve and save.

Hebrews 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

Throughout the days on the earth, Jesus suffered physically and had mental anguish. We have many of His recorded prayers where He prayed with great passion. He subjected himself and did not run from the trials placed upon Him.

Christ's ultimate suffering through His compassion in Gethsemane and on during the trials, and crucifixion are evidence of His fulfilling the role of a compassionate High Priest.

"...My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death" (Mark 14:34)

"...Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt." (Mark 14:36)

"...Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" (My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?)

"...he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother!" (John 19:26-27)

The Gift and Offering of Jesus the High Priest

⁹And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him,

The priests and the High Priest would take the gifts and offerings of the people and present them unto the LORD for His approval.

Concerning Jesus, instead of offering up gifts and the sacrifice for sin, as the High Priest would do on the Day of Atonement, Jesus offered Himself, the perfect sacrifice for the sin of all mankind.

Conclusion

In this passage we see Jesus as the Son of God

We see Jesus as fulfilling the role as the High Priest of God

We see Jesus as the “eternal” high priest, “*You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.*” (v. 6).

We see Jesus as the “savior”. “...he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him.” (v. 8)

Do you know Him today? I mean not just having a head knowledge of Jesus the High Priest. Do you know him enough to have a personal relationship with the Creator and God of the universe?

03/27/16 He's Alive Matthew 27-28:1-10