

Hebrews



Focus: Use the words of **Psalm 146** to lead you in a time of worship and praise every day this week. Set your mind on things above! (**Colossians 3:2**)

FEED: It is easy for us as Christians to become shortsighted in our relationship with God, and we tend to want to study and apply only passages of Scripture that we think will benefit us personally. However, for us to truly know WHO it is we say we love, we need to study all we can about Him and how He has brought about this personal relationship to Himself. Hebrews 7 and 8 may seem a little confusing at first reading, but don't close the book. There is treasure in these passages.

Although we may not personally understand all that is involved with the law and the priesthood, we do understand our need for a mediator between us and God. As we see His overall plan of making Jesus our High Priest forever, our knowledge of Jesus grows, and godliness is rooted in our lives. Listen to these verses from the Word of God:

- **2 Peter 1:3:** "As we **know** Jesus better, His divine power gives us everything we need for living a godly life."
- **Colossians 2:6** says, "And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to live in obedience to Him. Let your **roots grow deep** into him and draw up nourishment from Him, so you will grow in faith, strong and vigorous in the **truth you were taught.**"
- And the writer of Hebrews himself said. "Let us stop going over the basics of Christianity again and again. Let us go on instead and become mature in our **understanding.**" (**Hebrews 6:1**)

Listen to what the wisest man ever said about the word of God,

"My child, listen to me and treasure my instructions. Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. Cry out for insight and understanding. Search for them as you would for lost money or hidden treasure. Then you will understand what it means to fear the Lord and you will gain knowledge of God. For the Lord grants wisdom! From His mouth come knowledge and understanding." (**Proverbs 2:1-6**)

1. From this passage in Proverbs above, circle all the action words (verbs) that apply to you.

- What is your responsibility? _____

2. Now, underline all the words that speak of benefit to you.

- What is God's responsibility? _____

3. How does the "world" believe one gains wisdom, knowledge and understanding? _____

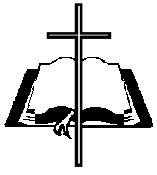
4. Why is knowing God's word such a great and invaluable investment of your time? _____

5. Is our understanding, knowledge and wisdom dependent on our intelligence? What is it dependent on? Share your thoughts.

FILL: Do you have a good grasp on how important it is to learn, know and understand the word of God? Do you believe the fact that it is this knowledge that produces godliness in us and gives us the nourishment we need to live the Christian life? Talk to God about this truth.

FOLLOW: Pray through **Proverbs 2:1-7**. What is the cry of your heart? Begin memorizing **Hebrews 12:5**





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Focus: Psalm 146

FEED: Before we read on about the priesthood and the law, a little more background information may be helpful. When the Jews entered Canaan (Palestine), their home land, they entered in groups known as tribes. These tribes were family lines tracing back to the 12 sons of Jacob (Reuben, Gad, Levi, Asher, Judah etc.). The tribes helped to organize, govern, and protect the Jewish people living there. Each tribe had their designated responsibilities.

The tribe of Levi was selected by God to be the line from which all the priests were appointed. Aaron was a priest from this line, and often the Scripture refers to the line of priests as being from him. The role of the priest was to hold the people accountable to the Law of Moses and to offer sacrifices for the sins of the people who could never measure up. The purpose of the Law was to expose the people as the sinners they were and to point out their need for a Savior. This law was called the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2). Jesus came to set us free from this law.

As we learned last week, Jesus was not from this lineage. He was from the line of Judah, who was from the line of Melchizedek. The emphasis being on the fact that everything is now new.

We have never lived under the confines of the Law, so we can not fully appreciate how radical the teaching was that the law has no more power over us, but we can relate to having a High Priest with the attributes we will study.

1. With this in mind, read **Hebrews 7:11-28** at one time, trying to get the main point of what the author is trying to communicate. _____
2. Read **Hebrews 7:11-12; 7:18; 8:7** and **10:1**. What do these verses say about the old covenant (the law) and the old priesthood? Why was there need of a new way? _____

3. According to **Hebrews 7:13**, Melchizedek did not belong to the tribe of Aaron and no priest (servant at the altar) had ever come from any other line. On what basis did the priests of Levi become priests? (v. 16) _____

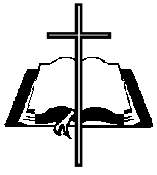
 - a. On what basis did Jesus become a high priest? _____
 - b. Why was the former regulation set aside (v. 18)? _____
 - c. What has replaced it? _____
 - d. Think about living under the law, a very detailed list of do's and don'ts. Why would that breed hopelessness? _____

4. What was the purpose of the law according to the following verses?
 - a. **Romans 3:19-20** _____
 - b. **Romans 5:13** _____
 - c. **Romans 7:7** _____
5. How did the life and death of Christ (grace) replace the law?
 - a. **Romans 3:21-22** _____
 - b. **Romans 4:25** _____
 - c. **Matthew 5:17** _____
6. Jesus brought us justification through faith instead of works (keeping the law). What did that act provide for us according to **Romans 5:1-2**? _____

FILL: Do you appreciate the freedom we have in Christ? We are not bound to obedience out of fear, but we are motivated to obey because of love. Our obedience to God's commands does not save us, but proves us as those who love God. Do you see the difference? Will you praise your High Priest for being your mediator? Is this hope drawing you near to God?

FOLLOW: If you have time, read **Romans 3-5** to gain an appreciation for faith verses the law. Keep memorizing **Hebrews 12:1-5**.





Hebrews

Embracing the Supremacy
and Sufficiency of Christ

LESSON 7, DAY 3



Focus: Psalm 146

FEED:

1. Read **Hebrews 7:20-28**. What oath did God make when he declared Jesus as a priest? _____

 a. What did this oath guarantee? _____

 b. From our study yesterday, why did the old covenant need to be replaced? _____

2. Why is Jesus' priesthood permanent? (v. 23-25) _____

 a. What is He then able to do? _____

 b. Did the law have the power to save? _____ Did the priests have the power to save? _____ Will there ever be a time when Jesus is unable to save? _____

3. What is unique about Jesus, the High Priest?
 a. **verse 26** _____
 b. **verse 27** _____
 c. **verse 28** _____
4. What have you learned about the supremacy of Christ in **Hebrews 7**? Think about it and give a complete answer: _____

5. Read **Hebrews 8:1**. What is the point of the author? _____

 a. Why do you think this is this so important to understand? _____

 b. Priests in the order of Aaron only entered the presence of the Most High (Majesty of Heaven) once per year to intercede for their people. Where does our High Priest sit? (see also **Mark 16:19**) _____
6. Read **Hebrews 8:3-6**. The writer is speaking about the contrast between the priests serving in the temple in Jerusalem and the service Jesus provides. What does every high priest do according to **verse 3**? _____

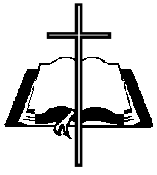
 a. Why would Jesus not be a priest if He were on earth? _____
 b. What kind of sanctuary did these priests serve in? _____
 c. Who gave Moses the instructions of how to build it? _____
7. According to **verse 6**, what is superior to both the old covenant and the earthly mediators? _____

 a. What is it founded on? _____
 b. Can you name some of those promises? _____

FILL: Meditate on the fact that we have complete access to the throne of God through our priest, Jesus Christ. What would you like to say to Him?

FOLLOW: Have you learned **Hebrews 12:5** by heart?





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Embracing the Supremacy
and Sufficiency of Christ

LESSON 7, DAY 5



Read Hebrews 7:11 through Chapter 8:13 aloud. Skim over your lesson days.

1. Write a summary statement (no more than 1-3 sentences) of what you feel are the main points of this passage.

2. Can you pick a verse or two that seems to stand out to you? _____

3. Why did you pick this verse/these verses? _____

4. What is one truth you want to always remember from your study this week? _____

5. What lesson do you believe God would want you to apply from what you've heard from His word?

6. Any other thoughts/comments? _____

Conclude this day in prayer discussing what you've written above with the Lord.

Write out your memory verse below:

