

GREATER THAN: A STUDY THROUGH THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

Outline of Hebrews 4:14-7:28 - Jesus is Greater Than the Priests

March

30 Hebrews 4:14-16

Jesus, our great high priest, identifies with us because he experienced every struggle and temptation that we've experienced without ever sinning. Therefore, we can come before the throne of God with confidence, knowing that Christ mediates for us before the Father.

April

06 Hebrews 5:1-10

Jesus, our great high priest, was sovereignly appointed by God, performed all the duties of a high priest, and experienced all aspects of human suffering and temptation-but did so without ever sinning. Therefore, he became the author and source of salvation for all who obey him.

13 Hebrews 5:11-14

The author of Hebrews admonishes his audience for their willful ignorance and immaturity in the faith. At this point in their faith journey, they should have progressed beyond basic teachings (milk) to more complex concepts (solid food). And it's this immaturity that has hindered their ability to discern good from evil, as well as fully understand the deeper truths of God's Word.

20 Easter Luke 24:13-35

Just hours after his resurrection, Jesus appeared to two of his disciples. However, they were kept from recognizing him since He hadn't saved Israel from Rome as they had hoped. But once Jesus shared Scripture explaining that the Messiah had to suffer *and* broke bread in communion with them, their eyes were opened and they immediately recognized Jesus.

27 Hebrews 6:1-8

The author warns his audience that spiritual stagnation will only increase their risk of doubt, disobedience and abandoning the faith completely. In doing so, they're pouring contempt upon Christ and "crucifying the Son of God all over again." To those people with hardened hearts the author provides a sobering warning: "It is impossible to be brought back to repentance."

May

04 Hebrews 6:9-12

The sobering words of 5:11 through 6:8 end with a word of encouragement. He urges believers to persevere in their faith and service, assuring them that God will not forget their labor and love for His name while encouraging them to imitate those who-through faith and patience-inherited the promises of God.

11 Hebrews 6:13-20

Through faith and patience, Abraham inherited God's promise. And as Abraham received his promise from God, those who hold on to the hope set before them can be certain to receive what God has promised them- because it is impossible for God to lie.

18 Hebrews 7:1-10

Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek the king-priest of Salem, acknowledging his authority. And since Levi-the ancestor of all Levitical priests-is a descendant of Abraham, he too paid tithes to Melchizedek. Therefore, the priesthood of Melchizedek is greater than the Levitical priesthood-and who was a high priest in the order of Melchizedek? Jesus, our perfect high priest.

25 Hebrews 7:11-22

Because the Levitical priesthood couldn't attain perfection, there was need for another priest to come-one from the order of Melchizedek. With the change of priesthood came a change in covenant: from the limited, inadequate, old covenant to the final, complete, new covenant where, "a better hope is introduced by which we draw near to God."

June

01 Hebrews 7:23-28

The author continues to contrast Jesus' superior and permanent priesthood with the temporary and flawed Levitical priesthood. While the Levitical priesthood needed to offer multiple sacrifices for the people after first offering sacrifices for their own sin, Jesus sacrificed himself for their sin once and for all-offering permanent intercession and eternal salvation.