

THE **Part 2** **INDESTRUCTIBLE** **PRIESTHOOD** *of* **CHRIST**



WALKING ON WATER
BIBLE CHURCH



"A BETTER PRIEST. A BETTER HOPE. BETTER ACCESS TO GOD."



NOT BY DESCENT,
BUT BY DIVINE POWER



NOT BY LAW,
BUT BY AN ENDLESS LIFE



NOT TEMPORARY,
BUT FOREVER



NOT DISTANT,
BUT DRAWN NEAR

ASTOR
MIKE HOLLOWAY

Hebrews 7:20-28

"You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

- Psalm 110:4



BIBLICAL
TRUTH



ETERNAL
HOPE



DRAW NEAR
TO GOD

Hebrews 7:20-28

- ²⁰ And inasmuch as *He was not made priest without an oath*
- ²¹ (for they have become priests without an oath, but He with an oath by Him who said to Him: “*The Lord has sworn And will not relent, ‘You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek’ ”*),
- ²² by so much more Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant.

Hebrews 7:20-28

- ²³ Also there were many priests, because they were prevented by death from continuing.
- ²⁴ But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priesthood.
- ²⁵ Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Hebrews 7:20-28

- ²⁶ For such a High Priest was fitting for us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens;
- ²⁷ who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.

Hebrews 7:20-28

- ²⁸ For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, *appoints* the Son who has been perfected forever.

I. The Priesthood Established by Divine Oath

- Hebrews 7:20–22 emphasizes that Christ was made priest not merely by appointment, but by Divine oath.
- The Levitical priests entered office without an oath, but Jesus was installed as Priest by the direct swearing of God Himself.
- The writer points back to Psalm 110:4: ‘The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent

I. The Priesthood Established by Divine Oath

- This oath demonstrates: The permanence of Christ's priesthood, The certainty of God's eternal plan, The superiority of Jesus over the Aaronic priests
- The Greek word ὀρκωμοσίας refers specifically to the swearing of an oath. This means Christ's priesthood is rooted in the immutable counsel of God Himself.
- Unlike temporary earthly systems, Christ's priesthood cannot fail, expire, or be replaced.

II. Jesus the Surety of a Better Covenant

- Verse 22 states: ‘By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better covenant.’
- The word ‘surety’ speaks of one who guarantees the fulfillment of an agreement. Jesus Himself guarantees the New Covenant.
- The covenant does not stand upon: Human obedience, Human priesthood, Animal sacrifices, or Earthly ordinances.
- Rather, it stands upon the finished work of Christ.

II. Jesus the Surety of a Better Covenant

- This is the first mention of the Greek word διαθήκη in Hebrews. This word means covenant and introduces a major theme that will be expanded in Hebrews chapters 8 and 9.
- The New Covenant is better because:
- It has a better Priest and It has better promises, It has a better sacrifice, It provides true, cleansing qne It grants eternal access to God.

III. The Contrast Between Mortal Priests and the Eternal Christ

- **Verses 23–24** contrast the many Levitical priests with the one eternal Priest, Jesus Christ.
- Under the Old Covenant: Priests died; Priests were replaced; Priests were temporary; Priesthood succession was necessary. Death continually interrupted the priesthood.
- **But Jesus:** Lives forever; Holds His office eternally; Never needs replacement; Never ceases His ministry

III. The Contrast Between Mortal Priests and the Eternal Christ

- The text says His priesthood is 'unchangeable.'
- The Greek word ἀπαράβατον carries the idea of permanence and non-transferability.
- Christ's priesthood does not pass to another because He remains forever.
- This demonstrates the complete sufficiency of Christ. No additional priest is needed. No earthly successor can improve upon His ministry.

IV. Christ Saves to the Uttermost

- Hebrews 7:25 is one of the greatest declarations of assurance in Scripture: **‘Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him.’**
- The phrase ‘to the uttermost’ means completely, perfectly, and eternally.
- **Jesus saves:** Completely from sin; Completely from condemnation; Completely from wrath; Completely from guilt; Completely forever

IV. Christ Saves to the Uttermost

- **Our salvation is secure because it rests upon:** The eternal life of Christ; The eternal priesthood of Christ; The eternal intercession of Christ
- Unlike earthly priests who died, Christ continually ministers for His people.

V. Christ's Continual Intercession

- **The text says:** 'Seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.'
- Jesus is alive right now interceding for believers before the Father.
- This points forward to the heavenly ministry of Christ that Hebrews later develops
- Just as the high priest entered the Holy of Holies on the Day of Atonement, Jesus entered the true heavenly sanctuary.

V. Christ's Continual Intercession

- **However:** Christ entered once for all; Christ offered Himself; Christ's sacrifice never needs repetition; Christ's ministry is eternal
- **His intercession means:** Believers are continually represented before God; Christ continually applies the benefits of His sacrifice
- **This is why believers can approach God with confidence.**

VI. Transition to Christ as High Priest

- Verse 26 introduces the title 'High Priest' (ἀρχιερεὺς) for the first major time in Hebrews.
- The argument is transitioning: From Melchizedek To the fulfillment of the Aaronic priesthood; To Christ's heavenly ministry
- Melchizedek showed: The superiority of Christ's order

VI. Transition to Christ as High Priest

- Aaron's priesthood foreshadowed:
- The sacrificial ministry of Christ. Yet Jesus fulfills every shadow and type of the Old Covenant system.
- The ceremonies of the Law pointed forward to Him. The sacrifices pointed forward to Him. The Day of Atonement pointed forward to Him. Christ is the true and eternal High Priest.

VII. Applications and Spiritual Lessons

- 1. Our salvation is secure because Christ lives forever.
- 2. We do not need another priest to mediate for us.
- 3. Christ's priesthood is superior to every earthly religious system.
- 4. God's oath guarantees the certainty of Christ's ministry.

VII. Applications and Spiritual Lessons

- 5. Believers can confidently approach God through Christ alone.
- 6. Jesus continually intercedes for His people.
- 7. The New Covenant is eternally secure in Christ.

VII. Applications and Spiritual Lessons

- **Because Jesus lives forever:**
- Grace continues forever; Intercession continues forever; Salvation continues forever; Access to God continues forever;
- The believer's confidence is not in self, but in the eternal Priest who never dies.