**Lesson Seven**

[**Hebrews 7**](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7&t=NKJV)

**First**, a few introductory remarks before our study of [Hebrews 7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7&t=NKJV).

[Hebrews 5:9-11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+5.9-11&t=NKJV)

And having been made perfect, He [Jesus Christ] became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal [aionian] salvation,

being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Concerning him we have much to say, and it is hard to explain, since you have become dull of hearing.

In [Hebrews 6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+6&t=NKJV) the writer indicates that a deeper understanding of the High Priesthood of Christ will enable one to move **from milk to meat**, i.e., from immaturity to maturity with regard to the understanding of things surrounding the second coming of Christ.

Here is an easy way to think about **MILK DOCTRINES AND MEAT DOCTRINES** and to determine **what is included in milk doctrine category and what is included in the meat doctrine category**.

**Milk Doctrines: Doctrines associated with Christ’s first coming (as Savior)**.

**Meat Doctrines: Doctrines associated with Christ’s second coming (as exalted King-Priest after the order of Melchizedek)**.

The writer earnestly desires that they [and we] be in diligent pursuit of this knowledge, so they [and we] may 'realize the full assurance of hope until the end.' This will remedy their [our] problem of being sluggish and dull of hearing.

In other words, even though one has become dull of hearing, a proper understanding of the hope out ahead will fix that problem. When we have that hope, it binds/anchors us to Jesus who is in the presence of the Majesty on High where He has become our High Priest, after the Order of Melchizedek.

Now let's learn more about Christ's High Priestly ministry – after the ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK.

But before we study about Melchizedek in [Hebrews 7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7&t=NKJV), let's read the account of Abraham and Melchizedek in [Genesis 14:8-24](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Genesis+14.8-24&t=NKJV).

**Read** [Hebrews 7:1-10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.1-10&t=NKJV).

What have we learned about Melchizedek, the King of Salem?

He is the King of righteousness and peace.

Made like the Son of God – without Father, Mother, beginning of days or end of days.

Remains a priest perpetually.

Abraham met him after the battle of the Kings.

Melchizedek blessed Abraham, to whom God has given great promises.

Abraham paid the tithe to Melchizedek

Even the Levitical Priest of Israel can be said to have paid tithes to Melchizedek because Levi was in the loins of father Abraham when Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek.

Melchizedek was greater than Abraham and greater than the Levitical Priesthood.

**Read** [Hebrews 7:11-12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.11-12&t=NKJV).

Since perfection [God's purpose] could not come through the Law and the Levitical Priesthood, it was necessary for another priest to arise, which was not of the order of Aaron, but after the order of Melchizedek. And when the change in the priesthood was made, it was necessary the entire legal system, on which the Levitical system was based, be changed also – **a new covenant**.

**Read** [Hebrews 7:13-14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.13-14&t=NKJV).

Christ, our Melchizedek order priest, belongs to the tribe of Judah which has no connection with priests. This is one proof that a change in the Priesthood was made.

**Read** [Hebrews 7:15-19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.15-19&t=NKJV).

To make it clearer, this Melchizedek priest has become such, not on the basis of regulations as to ancestry, but by His power of an indestructible life, for it is testified ([Psalm 110:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.4&t=NKJV)),

*"THOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK."*

The former commandment [Levitical system] had to be set aside because it was weak and ineffective in accomplishing God's purpose. The Law never made anything perfect.

Now there is the bringing in of a better hope through which we draw **near** to God.

**Read** [Hebrews 7:20-22](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.20-22&t=NKJV).

The Priesthood of Christ differs dramatically from the Levitical Priesthood in that it was instituted with an oath:

The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind, "Thou are a Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." ([Psalm 110:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Psalm+110.4&t=NKJV))

By contrast the descendants of Aaron assumed their jobs without an oath. Because of this oath Christ Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant since it secures His permanence as our High Priest.

**Read** [Hebrews 7:23-25](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.23-25&t=NKJV).

No Old Testament priest ever functioned in a permanent way. When one died another replaced him. But the permanent Priesthood of Jesus gives Him the capacity to carry His saving work to completion. His saving work refers to our ongoing sanctification, or salvation of our souls.

To save completely those who come to God through Him tells us He can see us through every trial and difficulty, right to the end of the road. "He always lives to intercede for them [us]."

As we come to His Throne of Grace, we will find that our Captain and High Priest can get the job done! He can lead us victoriously into the glory of the many sons. In this way **He brings many sons to glory – He saves completely**.

Please read [1 Peter 1:3-9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=1Peter+1.3-9&t=NKJV) which addresses to some degree the **reward of the inheritance** and the **soul aspect of salvation.**

**Read** [Hebrews 7:26-28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+7.26-28&t=NKJV).

He [Jesus Christ] is the kind of High Priest we need. His character is utterly without blemish and He has been exalted above the heavens. Unlike the Levitical high priests, Jesus did not need to daily offer sacrifices for His own sins, and then for theirs. Jesus, offering Himself once as a sacrifice for the sins of the people, was sufficient. The Law appointed High Priests who were limited by human weaknesses. But after the Law was set aside, God appointed His High Priest by an oath and His Son has been made the perfect High Priest forever.

**Read** [Hebrews 8:1](https://www.blueletterbible.org/search/preSearch.cfm?Criteria=Hebrews+8.1&t=NKJV).

We do have such a high priest, seated at the right hand of the Majesty on High. He ministers to us in the true Tabernacle pitched by God, not man. The source and place of ministry is now in Heaven.