

Hebrews: The Crossing Point is a six part Adult Bible Study suitable for Small Groups or Private Study; Especially helpful to new believers in understanding God's overall plan for redemption through Jesus Christ.

Hebrews: I call it the "BETTER BOOK" because Jesus is better than....



Ron Singleterry Hebrews: The Crossing Point-Part 3
Adult Bible Study
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Hebrews: The Crossing Point

-Part 3

Hebrews Chapters 5, 6, and 7

The Calling of God not of Man in leadership [Chapter 5: 1-4]

God established priests, pastors, and other positions in the ministry for a reason.

It would have been more efficient and spectacular if God had put angels in the position of pastoring churches, but he didn't do it that way. We get a glimpse of the reason why in these first 4 verses.

It is clear that the position is "*called of God*" and that no man should ever take that honor upon himself.

Melchisedec [Chapter 5: 5-10]

Hebrews 5:6 "Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec..."

Hebrews 5:10 "...called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec".

Hebrews 5: 7-9 speaks of human/physical emotions of Jesus as He fulfilled His priestly role; and then in obedience He laid Himself on the altar.

Review of Melchisedec: His name is first mentioned in [Gen. 14: 18](#) as king of Salem (peace). He was a king-priest (name means king of righteousness) which allows him to be thought of as a type or foreshadowing of Jesus Christ.

We have no Biblical record of when he was born (beginning of days) or when he died (end of days). This sets up the picture of our eternal High Priest.

Hebrew tradition (but not recorded in the Bible) says that Shem, one of Noah's sons, was Melchisedec. When you look at the time line in Genesis you see that it is possible. *He was a patriarchal priest that predates the Hebrew Levitical priest established from the descendents of Abraham.*

Trail Note:

*No person should take on the
Pastor/Leader position unless he is "called"
of God.*

The Scolding [Chapter 5: 11-14]

Hebrews 5:11-14

Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing.

For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

The author of Hebrews offers a *resounding lecture concerning the Jews, who should be maturing in spiritual knowledge continuously need the foundations explained and established of the faith regarding Jesus.*

The author had a hard time accepting that the educated Jews (Pharisees) could not or would not see and understand the entire fulfillment of prophecy when Jesus came.

The passion of his writing towards the Jews and the logical persuasion he uses indicate that most likely Paul, the highly educated Pharisee, was the author.

Permanently Family [Chapter 6: 1-6]

Hebrews 6:4-6

For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

Jesus' sacrifice completes the atonement for our sins. We do not have any part in the sacrifice: we only have the task of repentance.

Just as the high priest offered once a year the sin offering and could not go back in to do it over again, it is impossible for us to get perfect forgiveness for our sins and then go back, lose it and have to get redemptive forgiveness all over again.

Once we have repented and accepted the perfect sacrifice of Jesus we are permanently in His family.

We can sin and get out of fellowship but we cannot get out of our relationship!!! After salvation our repentance then will be to get forgiveness of sin that breaks our fellowship with God.

As a born-again believer, we ask forgiveness for sins to restore fellowship with Christ, not to lose and then restore our relationship again.

God's promises come True [Chapter 6: 13-20]

God promised Abraham the blessing. Abraham was patient and he saw a small portion of God's promise fulfilled. Through God's Word we see that God's promise was fulfilled.

Trail Note:

Jesus redeemed us once and for all.

We get impatient with God's timing. If we had a video screen that could look into the future to show us how God would fulfill some of His promises to us, it would strengthen our faith wouldn't it?

If we take God's Word as absolute truth we wouldn't need a magic video screen to strengthen our faith. We need to understand plainly *Hebrews 6: 18* "*in which it was impossible for God to lie...*"

Jesus: Better than Melchisedec [Chapter 7: 1-10]

The Levites [priests] were chosen under the Law of Moses because of the family they were born into, not because of their spiritual and Godly behavior.

The Great High Priest, Jesus, is better than all of the priests of the Levites that served under the Law.

Their priesthood was for a short period of time and then they died, but our Great High Priest, Jesus, is eternal and is alive.

Jesus: Messiah [Chapter 7: 11-22]

Jesus, the Son of God, the Promised Messiah, ***brought a new testament.***

The order of the priesthood under the Old Testament was the Levites (starting with Aaron). These priests could not make anything perfect.

Jesus was of the tribe of Judah. He was prophesied in *Gen. 49: 8-10*, in *Ruth 4: 11-15* [review the lineage of Matthew 1] and *Isaiah 11: 1-10* to be of the tribe of Judah and that He would make things perfect in our relationship with God through His sinless life, death on the cross, and His resurrection three days later as He predicted before his death.

Revelation 5: 5 confirms this through His divine revelation to John. We see that Jesus was not the Messiah just because He said so or because He did miracles. He was chosen before the foundation of the world!

Jesus: Better than any earthly Priest [Chapter 7: 23-28]

Jesus, the sinless High Priest, is better than any earthly ordained high priest.

The Old Testament Law made sinful men priests that had to first offer sacrifices for their own sins before they could make the sacrifice for all of the Hebrew people. These men could only offer for atonement for the few years of their lives, but we have Jesus, the better High Priest that ever lives to make intercession.

Hebrews 7:24-25

But this man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood.

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

Trail Note:

Jesus was the ONLY way ever given for salvation.

I am glad that Jesus does not have to get forgiveness before He can atone for my sin!!!