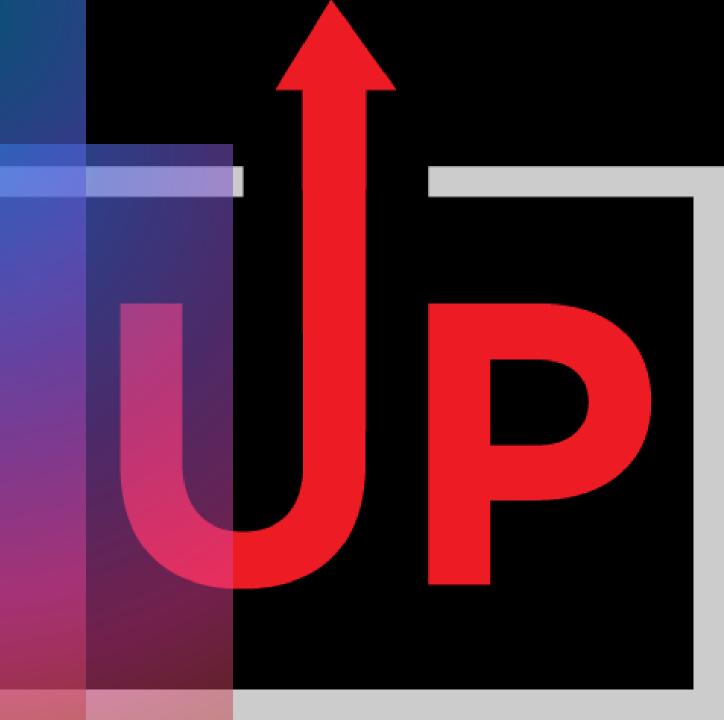


## LEVEL UP!

PERSEVERING
AND
MATURING IN
CHRIST

LESSONS FROM THE BOOK OF HEBREWS



## PRAYER FOR MINISTRY/FAMILIES:

#### FAMILY CAMP COMMITTEE

**BRIGHT** 

BUGUIS

BUSH

CALDERON

## THE LEADERSHIP OF JESUS (part 2)

HEBREWS 7: 11-25 NASB AMPC, NLT



#### **HEBREWS 7: 11-25 NASB**

• 11 Now if perfection was through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the people received the Law), what further need was there for another priest to arise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be designated according to the order of Aaron? 12 For when the priesthood is changed, of necessity there takes place a change of law also. <sup>13</sup> For the one concerning whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar. 14 For it is evident that our Lord [f] was descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests. <sup>15</sup> And this is clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek...

- <sup>16</sup> who has become *such* not on the basis of a law of <sup>[g]</sup>physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life. <sup>17</sup> For it is attested *of Him*,
- "YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER

ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK."

• <sup>18</sup> For, on the one hand, there is a setting aside of a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness <sup>19</sup> (for the Law made nothing perfect), and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God. <sup>20</sup> And inasmuch as *it was* not without an oath <sup>21</sup> (for they indeed became priests without an oath, but He with an oath through the One who said to Him...

- "The Lord has sworn
  And will not change His mind,
  'You are a priest forever");
- 22 so much the more also Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.
- 23 The former priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers because they were prevented by death from continuing, 24 but Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently. 25 Therefore He is able also to save [i]forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

#### WHO IS MELCHIZEDEK?

A. MELCHIZEDEK IS A KING.

B. MELCHIZEDEK IS A PRIEST OF THE MOST HIGH GOD.

C. MELCHIZEDEK IS GREAT. (HE RECEIVED TITHES FROM ABRAHAM.)

D. MELCHIZEDEK LIVES FOREVER.

## JESUS' LEADERSHIP IS THE SAME AS MELCHIZEDEK, THEREFORE...

1. Jesus is King- King of Peace and Righteousness.

2. Jesus is the Priest of the Most High God.

3. Jesus is Great. We must give our tithes and offerings to Him.

4. Jesus lives forever.

#### We must...

- 1. Honor Jesus as King!
- 2. Ask Jesus to intercede for you!
- 3. Give your tithes and offerings to Jesus for He is great!
- 4. Worship Jesus for He lives forever!

## THREE (3) ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS FOR SUCCESS:

1. Sound Teaching

2. Stable System/Structure

3. Solid Leadership

## JUDAISM:

01

Mosaic law (teaching)

02

Temple/ rituals (structure/system)

03

High Priest (leader)

## CHRISTIANITY:

01

Gospel/Scriptures (Teaching)

02

Prayer/Evangelism / Discipleship (Structure/System)

03

Jesus Christ (Leader)



Sound teaching + system/structure - leadership = *dysfunction* 



Sound teaching + leadership - system/structure = **no growth** 



false religion/cult

System/structure + leadership - sound teaching = false religion/cult

#### TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL



#### REUBEN

Meaning: "See, a son?"

Symbol: Water (or mandrake plant; Gen. 30:14)

Stone/Color: Turquoise (or emerald)/Greenish-blue

Jacob's Blessing: Jacob called his firstborn "the first sign of my strength, excelling in honor." But Reuben had relations with Bilhah, Rachel's handmaiden, so Jacob rebuked him saying that he is "unstable as water" (Gen. 35:22; 49:3-4 Nov).



#### SIMEON

Meaning: "Hearing" --- God has heard

Symbol: Gate, like the gate of Shechem (or a sword)

Stone/Color: Lapis lazuli (or sapphire)/Blue

Jacob's Blessing: Along with Levi, Simeon attacked the people of the city of Shechem to avenge the assault on his sister Dinah (Gen. 34:24-31). Jacob rebuked Levi and Simeon saying, "They have killed men in their anger" (Gen. 49:5-7).



Meaning: "Attached"

Symbol: Breastplate of the high priest

Stone/Color: Not represented on the breastplate/Often associated with the tabernacle colors: gold, purple, blue, and red.

Jacob's Blessing: Along with Simeon, Levi attacked the people of the city of Shechem (Gen. 34:24-31), Jacob rebuked them for the attack (Gen. 49:5-7).



#### JUDAH

Meaning: "Praise"

Symbol: Lion

Stone/Color: Carnelian (or ruby)/Red

Jacob's Blessing: "You are a lion's cub. ... The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations. shall be his\* (Gen. 49:9-10).



Meaning: "Judge"

Symbol: Snake (or scales of justice)

Stone/Color: Topaz (or beryll/Color unknown, possibly light green

Jacob's Blessing: 'Dan will govern his people... Dan will be a snake. beside the road" (Gen. 49:17-18).



Meaning: "My struggle"

Symbol: Deer (doe)

Stone/Color: Jasper/Reddish-brown

Jacob's Blessing: "Naphtali is a doe let loose; He bears beautiful fawns" (or "gives beautiful words" Gen. 49:21).



Meaning: "Good fortune" (or "warrior")

Symbol: Tents, like a battlefield camp

Stone/Color: Emerald (or diamond)/Possibly a stone with

Jacob's Blessing: Gad will be attacked by a band of raiders, but he will attack them at their heels" (Gen. 49:19).



#### Asher

Meaning: "Happy"

Symbol: Tree (or food) Stone/Color: Omyz/Black

Jacob's Blessing: "Asher's food will be rich; he will provide

delicacies fit for a king" (Gen. 49:20).



Meaning: "There is a reward"

Symbol: Donkey (or sun and moon)

Stone/Color: Chrysolite (or topaz)/Yellowish-green

Jacob's Blessing: "Issachar is a sturdy donkey.... When he sees how good the countryside is and how pleasant the land, he will bend his shoulder to the load and submit himself to hard labor" (Gen. 49:14-15 NJ).



#### ZEBULUN

Meaning: "Dwelling"

Symbol: Ship

Stone/Color: Bend (emerald)/Possibly green

Jacob's Blessing: "Zebulun will live by the seashore and become a haven for ships" (Gen. 49:13).



#### JOSEPH

Meaning: Joseph: "He will increase." Manasseh: "One who forgets." Ephraim: "Double fruitfulness."

Symbol: Sheaf of grain (or grapevine)

Stone/Color: Manasseh: Agate/Yellowish-brown. Ephraim: Jacinth/

Jacob's Blessing: Joseph is "a fruitful vine" (Gen. 49:22). Jacob also blessed Joseph's sons, Manasseh and Ephraim (Gen. 48).



#### BENJAMIN

Meaning: "Son of the right hand"

Symbol: Wolf

Stone/Color: Amethyst/Purple

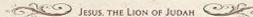
Jacob's Blessing: "Benjamin is a ravenous wolf; in the morning he devours the prey, in the evening he divides the plunder" (Gen. 49:27).

The twelve tribes of Israel were the family groups descended from the twelve sons of the biblical patriarch. Jacob, whom God renamed "Israel." The tribes are important because God worked through the tribes to fulfill. his purposes—especially his purpose of bringing from the tribe of Audah, Jesus the Savior, the Lion of Judah.

Tribe symbols are based on tradition and most reflect Jacob's blessings to his sons in Genesis 49.

In the Old Testament, the high priest wore a breastplate made of linen and gold with twelve inlaid, precious stones inscribed with the names of the tribes.

- Exodus 28:15-30 lists the stones right to left, as Hebrew is read right to left. The tribal names inscribed on the stones may have followed the order of how the tribes marched in the wilderness (Num. 2-3).
- Instead of Levi and Joseph, the tribes of Joseph's sons Manasseh and Ephraim were represented on the
- The exact identity and color of some of the stones remain uncertain.





The genealogy in the Gospel of Matthew shows how Jesus was a descendant of Judah through the royal lineage of King David (Matt. 1; Ps. 89:3-4; Isa 9:6; Heb. 7:14). Christ was born in Bethlehem as Micah prophesied: "But you. Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over krael\* (Mic. 5:2).

"Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed."-Rev. 5.5

# A. WITH JESUS, WE CAN HAVE PERFECT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

Hebrews 7: 11 NASB, AMPC, NLT

#### HEBREWS 7: 11 NASB

• 11 Now if **perfection** was through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the people received the Law), what further need was there for another priest to arise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be designated according to the order of Aaron?

#### HEBREWS 7: 11 AMPC

• 11 Now if perfection (a perfect fellowship between God and the worshiper) had been attainable by the Levitical priesthood—for under it the people were given the Law—why was it further necessary that there should arise another and different kind of Priest, one after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one appointed after the order and rank of Aaron?

## Perfect – (Greek) 'teliosis'

- a completing, a perfecting
  - 1. fulfilment, accomplishment
  - 2. the event which verifies the promise
  - 3. consummation, perfection

#### We need...

- 1. Justification forgiveness (righteous)
- 2. Sanctification cleansing (pure/holy)
- 3. Regeneration new life (born-again)

## HEBREWS 10:10 NIV

• 10 And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

#### **EPHESIANS 2: 1-5 NLT**

• 1 Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. <sup>2</sup> You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. <sup>3</sup> All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature.

 By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else. 4 But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, 5 that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!)

#### **ROMANS 6:20-22 ESV**

• <sup>20</sup> For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. 21 But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. 22 But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.

# B. WITH JESUS, WE CAN HAVE ETERNAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

Hebrews 7: 12-21 NASB, AMPC, NLT

#### **HEBREWS 7: 12-17 NASB**

• 12 For when the priesthood is changed, of necessity there takes place a change of law also. 13 For the one concerning whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no one has officiated at the altar. 14 For it is evident that our Lord [f] was descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests.

- 15 And this is clearer still, if another priest arises according to the likeness of Melchizedek, 16 who has become such not on the basis of a law of [g]physical requirement, but according to the power of an indestructible life. 17 For it is attested of Him,
- "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek."

### HEBREWS 7: 12-17 NLT

• 12 And if the priesthood is changed, the law must also be changed to permit it. 13 For the priest we are talking about belongs to a different tribe, whose members have never served at the altar as priests. 14 What I mean is, our Lord came from the tribe of Judah, and Moses never mentioned priests coming from that tribe.

• 15 This change has been made very clear since a different priest, who is like Melchizedek, has appeared. 16 Jesus became a priest, not by meeting the physical requirement of belonging to the tribe of Levi, but by the power of a life that cannot be destroyed. 17 And the psalmist pointed this out when he prophesied...

## HEBREWS 7: 18-21 NASB

• 18 For, on the one hand, there is a setting aside of a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness 19 (for the Law made nothing perfect), and on the other hand there is a bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God. 20 And inasmuch as it was not without an oath...

- <sup>21</sup> (for they indeed became priests without an oath, but He with an oath through the One who said to Him,
- "THE LORD HAS SWORN

  AND WILL NOT CHANGE HIS MIND,

  'YOU ARE A PRIEST FOREVER'");

#### 1 JOHN 5:11-13 NLT

- <sup>11</sup> And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup> Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life.
- <sup>13</sup> I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life.

### **JOHN 3:36 NLT**

• 36 And anyone who believes in God's Son has eternal life. Anyone who doesn't obey the Son will never experience eternal life but remains under God's angry judgment."

#### 1 TIMOTHY 1:16 NLT

• 16 But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners.

Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life.

#### 1 JOHN 5:20 NLT

• <sup>20</sup> And we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we can know the true God. [a] And now we live in fellowship with the true God because we live in fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ. He is the only true God, and he is eternal life.

# C. WITH JESUS, WE HAVE A BETTER LEADER. HE HAS BECOME THE GUARANTEE OF A BETTER COVENANT.

Hebrews 7: 22-25 NASB, AMPC, NLT

## **HEBREWS 7: 22-25 NASB**

- <sup>22</sup> so much the more also Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.
- 23 The former priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers because they were prevented by death from continuing...

• 24 but Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently. 25 Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

#### **HEBREWS 7: 22-25 AMPC**

- <sup>22</sup> In keeping with [the oath's greater strength and force], Jesus has become the Guarantee of a better (stronger) agreement [a more excellent and more advantageous covenant].
- <sup>23</sup> [Again, the former successive line of priests] was made up of many, because they were each prevented by death from continuing [perpetually in office];

• 24 But He holds His priesthood unchangeably, because **He lives on forever**. <sup>25</sup> Therefore He is able also to save to the uttermost (completely, perfectly, finally, and for all time and eternity) those who come to God through Him, since He is always living to make petition to God and intercede with Him and intervene for them.

#### **HEBREWS 7: 24-25 NLT**

• <sup>24</sup> But because Jesus lives forever, his priesthood lasts forever. <sup>25</sup> Therefore he is able, once and forever, to save those who come to God through him. He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf.

# JESUS IS THE LEADER WE NEED!

## Jesus is greater than High priests or human leaders.

1. He is God. (He lives forever.)

2. He is King.

3. He is the Great High Priest.

4. He forgives and reconciles us to the Father.

5. He gives us holy/perfect relationship with the Father.

6. He gives us eternal life.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Draw near to Jesus. He is all you need.

2. Thank/Praise Jesus for His Intercession and Sacrifice.

3. Serve/Submit to Jesus for He is your Great Leader and High Priest.

### LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS:

- 1. What is your personal take on the Message?
- 2. How are you going to live your life knowing that Jesus is your Great Leader and High Priest?

## MEMORY VERSE:

Hebrews 7: 24-25 NLT

• <sup>24</sup> **But because Jesus lives forever,** his priesthood lasts forever. <sup>25</sup> Therefore he is able, once and forever, to save those who come to God through him. He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf.