**POWER POINT**

**KOINONIA – SPIRITUAL EQUALITY PART 2**

**THE PRIESTHOOD OF CHRIST**

**A. The two main types of priesthood in the Bible are:**

1. **Aaron’s priesthood**

The order of Aaron is a priestly division in which the priests conducted sacrifices according to the laws and regulations of the old covenant. Aaron was a Levite, so the order of Aaron is also called the Levitical priesthood [the order of Levites].

### 2. **Melchizedek’s priesthood**

### Besides the order of Aaron, there are also references to the “order of Melchizedek” in the Bible. Christ is described as the “High Priest in the order of Melchizedek.”

**NOTE: Aaron’s Priesthood has been abolished**

**i) The temple in which the Levitical priesthood**

**conducted their rituals is no more.**

**John 4:20-23**  
**20**Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.”

**21**Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.

**22**You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

**23**But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.

**ii) The sacrifices offered by the Levitical priesthood are**

**no more  
Hebrews 10:1-14**

**1**For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.

**2**Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins?

**3**But in these sacrifices, there is a reminder of sins every year.

**4**For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins

.

**5**Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me;

**6**in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

**7**Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

**8**When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law),

**9**then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He does away with the first in order to establish the second.

**10**And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**11**And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins.

**12**But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God,

**13**waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet.

**14**For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

**iii) The Priest of the Levitical order are no more**

**Hebrews 7:12-19**   
**12**For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well.

**13**For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar.

**14**For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.

**15**This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek.

**16**who has become a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent, but by the power of an indestructible life.

**17**For it is witnessed of him, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

**18**For on the one hand, a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness.

**19**(for the law made nothing perfect); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.

**B.** **GOD HAS ESTABLISHED A NEW PRIESTHOOD WHICH IS IN**

**THE PATTERN OR ORDER OF THE MELCHIZEDEK PRIESTHOOD**1. **Who was Melchizedek?  
 Genesis 14:18-20**

**18** And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.)

**19** And he blessed him and said, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth;

**20** and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!” and Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

2. **The Melchizedekian priesthood was prophesied before**

**the incarnation of Jesus.  
Psalm 110  
1** The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.”

**2** The Lord sends forth from Zion your mighty scepter. Rule in the midst of your enemies!

**3** Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your power, in holy garments; from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth will be yours.

**4**The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, “You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.”

**5** The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.

**6** He will execute judgment among the nations, filling them with corpses; he will shatter chiefs over the wide earth.

**7** He will drink from the brook by the way; therefore, he will lift up his head.

**C. THE PRIESTHOOD OF JESUS IS DIFFERENT FROM THE**

**PRIESTHOOD OF AARON** 1**. Jesus’ priesthood is after the pattern of Melchizedek not**

**of Aaron**   
**Hebrews 5:6**  
**6**as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

2. **Melchizedek priesthood is a royal priesthood thus Jesus’s priesthood is a royal priesthood**   
**Hebrews 7:1-2**

**1** For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him,

**2**and to him Abraham apportioned a tenth part of everything. He is first, by translation of his name, king of righteousness, and then he is also king of Salem, that is, king of peace.

**Hebrews 7:17**

**17**For it is witnessed of him, “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

3. **Jesus’ Priesthood is an Eternal Priesthood**   
 **Hebrews 7:20-23**

**20**And it was not without an oath. For those who formerly became priests were made such without an oath,

**21**but this one was made a priest with an oath by the one who said to him “The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, ‘You are a priest forever.’”

**22**This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant.

**23**The former priests were many in number, because they

were prevented by death from continuing in office,

4. **Melchizedek’s Priesthood is superior to the Levitical**

**Priesthood of Aaron. Therefore, Jesus’ priesthood is superior to the Levitical priesthood**

**Hebrews 7:4-10**  
**4**See how great this man was to whom Abraham the patriarch gave a tenth of the spoils!

**5**And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to take tithes from the people, that is, from their brothers, though these also are descended from Abraham.

**6**But this man who does not have his descent from them received tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had the promises.

**7**It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior.

**8**In the one case tithes are received by mortal men, but in the other case, by one of whom it is testified that he lives.

**9**One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham,

**10**for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

5**. Jesus’s Priesthood is a Priesthood of Perfection**   
 **Hebrews 7:11**  
 **11**Now if perfection had been attainable through the

Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron?

6**. Jesus is our seated priest   
Hebrews 10:11-12  
11** And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins.

12 But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God.